

This session's objectives:

- To frame Advent as a time of preparation for the three-fold coming of Jesus
- To offer the opportunity for meaningful Confession during the Advent season in the context of lifelong spiritual growth and preparation for celebrating Christmas
- To foster the choosing of a Confirmation Name and the research skills needed to find good information about the chosen saint

This session's program:

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| 1. Name-tag pick-up and Icebreaker | 10 min 6:45 |
| - students pick up nametags, turn in late forms; <i>check in re: Conf. Name progress</i> | |
| - <i>Icebreaker at tables/groups: What are your family's Christmas traditions?</i> | |
| 2. Opening Prayer for the Advent Season (Rachel/Joe/Anne) | 5 min 6:55 |
| Blessing of the Advent wreath & <u>"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"</u> | |
| 3. Preparing Our Hearts for Christmas (Rachel/Joe/Anne) | 20 min 7:00 |
| - Advent as preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ: past, present & future | |
| - prepare our homes/lives to celebrate Christmas (<i>refer to icebreaker responses</i>) | |
| - prepare our hearts in Advent to receive Jesus this Christmas | |
| - video promoting <u>Advent Confessions</u> | |
| - use Advent Confessions <i>handout</i> with wreath-based graphical organizer | |
| - making an Examination of Conscience, steps to confession | |
| - <i>students make notes on the wreath graphic about their Examination of Conscience responses – bring to church to help them with their Confession!</i> | |
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| 4. Group transfers to Queen of Angels Church | 10 min 7:20 |
| 5. Advent Confessions (Fr. Jason & maybe 3 visitor priests) | 45 min 7:30 |
| - <i>table leader catechists help to monitor behavior and send students to confessions</i> | |
| - <i>students who have gone to Confession or are waiting can pray quietly and/or come to the gathering space in the back for an Advent Saints worksheet which (at the option of the teacher) can become an <u>in-class activity</u> for Track B, an opportunity to practice saint research skills for the Conf. Name reflection</i> | |
| 6. Group transfers back to Parish Center | 10 min 8:15 |
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| 7. Reminders and Closing Prayer (Rachel/Joe/Anne) | 5-10 min 8:25 |
| - <i>book/journal homework (textbook pp. 66-69, journal pp. 55-56)</i> | |
| - <i>Confirmation Name reflection due next week! Tr A Mon 12/9 Tr B Th 12/12-ish</i> | |
| - <i>sing "<u>People, Look East</u>" Advent carol – Ms. Hohner's favorite!</i> | |

Homework & Reminders for Candidates:

- Homework textbook pages 66-69; journal pages 55-56
- **bring back to next class** your **Confirmation Name reflection**; your folder, your Bible, your book, your journal, any forms still out
- next class is **Monday, December 9** (Track A / Religious Ed) or **Wednesday & Thursday, December 11 & 12** (Track B / St M School) or (**shifted dates due to Wed. Advent Confessions**) **Thursday & Friday, December 12 & 13** (Track B / Q of Angels School) – *Conf. Name reflection due during 2nd half of session for Tr B*
- **service hours** forms due in early February: can help at Santa Breakfast, Tree Sales!