

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 honor the saints associated with the Advent season and ask for their prayers during our preparation for Confirmation

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 <u>late forms</u> or Confirmation Name papers | |
| - <i>Icebreaker at tables/groups: What are your family's Christmas traditions?</i> | |
| 2. Opening Prayer for the Advent Season (Rachel/Joe/Paul) | 5 min 6:55 |
| Blessing of the Advent wreath & " <u>O Come, O Come Emmanuel</u> " | |
| 3. Preparing Our Hearts for Christmas (Rachel/Joe/Paul) | 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 handout 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 (3 priests maybe including Father Jason) | 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 ask for prayers from the saints associated with the Advent season</i> | |
| 6. Group transfers back to Parish Center | 10 min 8:15 |
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| 7. Reminders and Closing Prayer (Rachel/Paul/Joe) | 5-10 min 8:25 |
| - book/journal homework (textbook pp. 66-69, journal pp. 55-56) | |
| - next class Tr A Mon 12/8 w/ families, 6:30 Mass in Q of Angels Ch, stay to 8:30 (HFH)
Tr B Mon 12/8 all-school Mass, class only 1 day Wed 12/10 <u>or</u> Thurs 12/11 | |
| - sing " <u>People, Look East</u> " Advent carol – Ms. Hohner's favorite! | |

Homework & Reminders for Candidates:

- Homework textbook pages 66-69; journal pages 55-56
- **bring back to next class** your folder, your Bible, your book, your journal, any forms or Confirmation Name reflections still out
- next class is **Monday, December 8** (Track A / Religious Ed) or **Wednesday OR Thursday, December 10 or 11** (Track B / Catholic Schools) including Mass for IC
- **service hours** forms due in early February: can help at Santa Breakfast, Tree Sales!