



ADVENT CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES 2025

St. John the Baptist Primary School



Classroom Activities

Our students will prepare their hearts for the birth of Jesus through several different Advent activities and prayers in their classrooms. Classes will “light” their Advent wreath candle each Monday, as well as complete many fun and meaningful art projects to learn about Advent and Christmas. School-wide, students may try to find Mary (a plush doll hidden around school) each day, and will earn an “I found Mary!” note when they find Mary and complete an act of kindness for another student or staff member. Using an Advent calendar of Saints of the Day, our students will learn about these saints by engaging in fun activities to celebrate these Saints’ feast days. Above all, we will continue practicing virtues, especially hope, peace, joy, and love, this Advent season.

Advent Prayer

4, 3, 2, 1, Count the weeks ‘til Jesus comes.
Each week we add another light.
Our hope for Jesus is growing bright.
We pray, we share, we do our part...
To welcome Jesus into our heart.

Bambinelli Sunday

A beloved annual tradition at the Basilica in Rome in preparation for Christmas is the Blessing of the Bambinelli (baby Jesus). This was first instituted by St. John Paul II on the Third Sunday of Advent; the children of Rome are encouraged to bring the baby Jesus from their Nativity sets to St. Peter’s Square. Following the Sunday Angelus address, the Pope blesses the figurines.

Now celebrated in other churches around the world, this Advent tradition is a way for children to connect their Nativity scene at home to the celebration of Christmas at their church. At the Basilica, it is observed on the Fourth Sunday of Advent. <https://www.nationalshrine.org/>

We invite our students to **bring their baby Jesus to school on Wednesday, Dec. 17th, to receive a similar blessing** after the 8 am Mass! We will also be singing following the blessing. **Parents are welcome to attend this Mass and stay after to sing with us.** *Please remember to label your baby Jesus by either marking the item or the ziplock bag it is in. Teachers will open up the bags for baby Jesus to be blessed.