

Going GREEN for Advent

The first Divine to human conversation was God's instructions to Adam to love and care for the earth and everything on it (Gen. 1:28). As we prepare for the coming of our Lord and Saviour, we can do so in a loving way to another wonderful gift from God, the earth.

Below is an advent calendar with daily Gospel readings and an idea you can reflect on and practice to make the world a cleaner place for baby Jesus and all the generations ahead of him.

I can do all things through him who strengthens me. (Phil. 4:13)

SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL JUSTICE



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Nov. 29</p> <p>Mk 13:24-37</p> <p>Be mindful of idling your vehicle as you bustle about. Don't snuff out the sun!</p>	<p>Nov. 30</p> <p>Mt 4:18-22</p> <p>Regifting is OK! Be like James and John and mend broken items rather than toss them in the trash.</p>	<p>Dec. 1</p> <p>Lk 10:21-24</p> <p>Create less trash. Be grateful for what you have. Don't worry about presents and BE present!</p>	<p>Dec. 2</p> <p>Mt 15:29-39</p> <p>Be mindful of food waste over the season. Share leftovers with friends and family or those in need.</p>	<p>Dec. 3</p> <p>Lk 10:1-9, 17-20</p> <p>Carry a reusable bag and reuse any plastic bags you have. Let's keep God's creatures safe.</p>	<p>Dec. 4</p> <p>Lk 10:38-41</p> <p>Keep plastic bottles out of the dump. Get a reusable water bottle. If you're on the go like Martha, you'll have to hydrate!</p>	<p>Dec. 5</p> <p>Jn 6:57-63</p> <p>Eat local! Manna from California has a big footprint. Consider buying more local foods from small businesses.</p>
<p>Dec. 6</p> <p>Mk 1:1-8</p> <p>Conserve water by eating less meat. Industrial meat farms use a lot of water and are one of the worst pollutants to ground-water.</p>	<p>Dec. 7</p> <p>Lk 12:35-37, 42-44</p> <p>Conserve energy by turning your lights off when you're not using them.</p>	<p>Dec. 8</p> <p>Lk 1:34-38</p> <p>Try cloth diapers if you have a baby at home. They are much gentler on the environment and have less chemicals against your baby's skin.</p>	<p>Dec. 9</p> <p>Mt 11:28-30</p> <p>Make your burden light and use simple wrapping. Metallic "paper" and glitter are single use plastics!</p>	<p>Dec. 10</p> <p>Mt 11:7-15</p> <p>Don't fall for cheap fashion that ends up in landfills. Even donated clothing often gets thrown out.</p>	<p>Dec. 11</p> <p>Mt 11:16-19</p> <p>Use refillable containers to buy bulk food items at natural food stores or the bulk barn.</p>	<p>Dec. 12</p> <p>Mt 17:9-13</p> <p>Don't know where to get local honey this time of year? Consider buying fair trade imported goods.</p>
<p>Dec. 13</p> <p>Jn 1:6-8, 19-28</p> <p>Don't leave outdoor lights on all night. Natural darkness is needed for many of God's nocturnal creatures.</p>	<p>Dec. 14</p> <p>Mt 21:23-27</p> <p>Everything comes from God. We are made from dust and are part of the earth. Let's make it clean in this season of new birth.</p>	<p>Dec. 15</p> <p>Mt 21:28-32</p> <p>Climate change is real! We are using the resources that 3 planet earths would be required for us to be sustainable!</p>	<p>Dec. 16</p> <p>Jn 17:6-19</p> <p>It's not yours! Take it easy on the planet today by trying to use as little energy as possible.</p>	<p>Dec. 17</p> <p>Mt 1:1-7, 17</p> <p>Seven generations! Think of your great-grandchildren's grandchildren and keep the planet clean for them.</p>	<p>Dec. 18</p> <p>Mt 1:18-25</p> <p>Consumers hold the power! Don't support wasteful packaging and large carbon footprints.</p>	<p>Dec. 19</p> <p>Lk 1:5-25</p> <p>In seclusion because of COVID-19? Wear a reusable mask. God wants you to be safe and to keep others safe!</p>
<p>Dec. 20</p> <p>Lk 1:26-38</p> <p>Feminine hygiene products have a high footprint. Consider using more natural products with fewer chemicals.</p>	<p>Dec. 21</p> <p>Lk 1:39-45</p> <p>Support PWRDF and their goals of empowering women in other countries.</p>	<p>Dec. 22</p> <p>Lk 1:46-56</p> <p>Real or artificial tree? Consider getting a young tree from your local nursery and reusing it until it gets too big - then plant it!</p>	<p>Dec. 23</p> <p>Lk 1:57-66</p> <p>Can't hear Zechariah? Perhaps you hear the earth groaning? Make your coffee at home and put it in a reusable travel mug.</p>	<p>Dec. 24</p> <p>Lk 2:8-20</p> <p>Jesus was laid in a manger before the shepherds came. Humble is OK. You don't have to upgrade your technology if it still works fine.</p>	<p>CHRISTMAS DAY</p> <p>Jn 1:1-14</p> <p>Replace your light bulbs with LEDs and let the light shine!</p>	<p>SABBATH DAY</p> <p>Don't forget to take some time to unwind.</p> <p>Both our planet and yourself need time to rest and rejuvenate.</p>

May you have a blessed Christmas!