



First Sunday of Advent

NOVEMBER 30

★ Today's Gospel » Matthew 24:37-44 ★

"Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (24:42).

Choose your own word to fill in the blank in each sentence.

Oh, no! I fell asleep and missed the _____.

John's party was yesterday? I thought it was _____.

I was late to the drawing. Sara won a _____.

I was playing _____ and forgot all about the show.

Wouldn't you hate to miss a big event because you fell asleep or forgot about it or weren't ready in time?

Jesus told us to **ALWAYS** be ready for him to come. He wasn't talking about being dressed up or having a clean room. He meant that we should always behave like one of his followers. Then, we will always be close to him, and will not have to worry about being ready.

Jesus didn't mean you should never go to sleep. He meant always keep yourself ready to meet him. **SO, SLEEP TIGHT TONIGHT!**





First Thursday of Advent

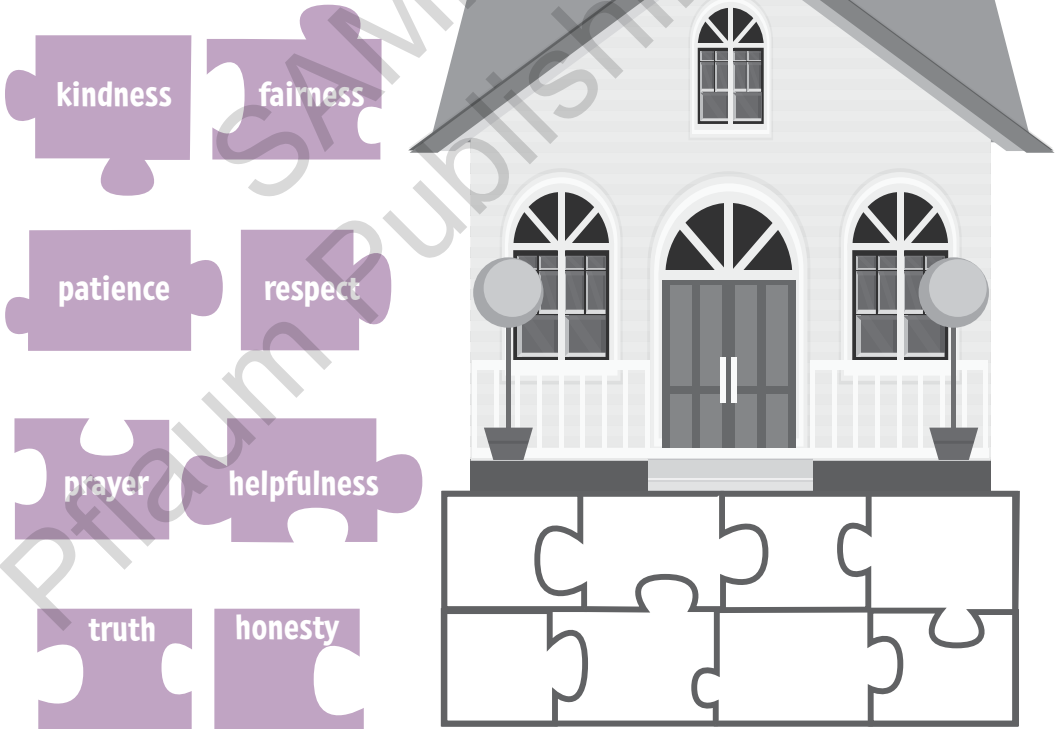
DECEMBER 4 ★ SAINT JOHN DAMASCENE

★ Today's Gospel » Matthew 7:21, 24-27 ★

Jesus said, "The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock" (7:25).

Jesus told a story about a man who built his house on rock and a man who built his house on sand. When the rain and winds came, the house built on sand fell down! But the one built on rock did not.

Each rock stands for a way God wants you to live. **Write the words from these rock puzzle pieces in their correct spots under the house so your house stays strong.**





Second Tuesday of Advent

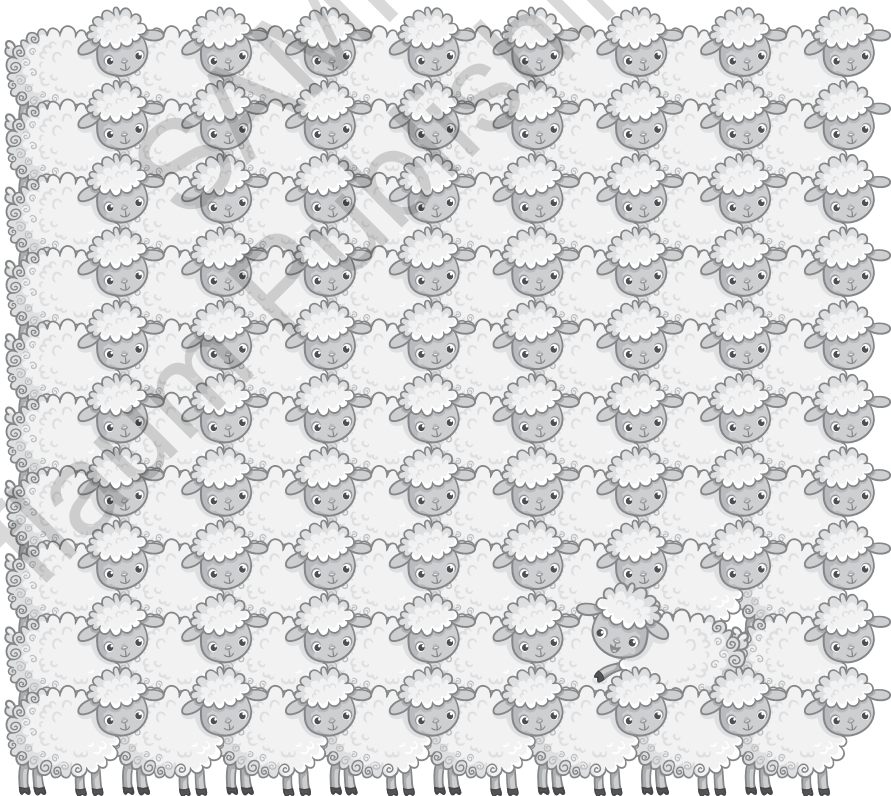
DECEMBER 9 ★ SAINT JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN

★ Today's Gospel » Matthew 18:12-14 ★

Jesus said, "If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray?" (18:12)

Jesus is our shepherd, and you are one of his sheep. Even if you were in a room with 100 people, Jesus could pick you out. He knows everything about you—your name, your favorite games, what you like to eat—everything. If you ever quit following Jesus, our shepherd, he would come find you. You are special to him.

★ Look at this flock of sheep. **See if you can find Levi, the one sheep who is different from the rest.**



Levi and Holly

[PART 3]

"A journey!" Levi cried.

"Traveling is such fun!

Ira takes us all around
and often lets us run.

"To where will Joseph journey?

Once there, what will you do?

Are others going with you?

Do you think I could go, too?"

Holly said, "Have you not heard
the order of the Emperor?

All must go to their hometowns
where they must register.

"Joseph is from Bethlehem,
a good long trip, you see.

That's why I must go along,
to carry Sweet Mary."

"But she's with child," said Levi,
"and the journey will be hard.
You'll need me there to help you.
While you rest, I'll be on guard."

"It isn't up to me," said Holly.

"Our masters must decide.

I'll ask Joseph, you ask Ira.

By their word we must abide."

1

**Who do you think
"Sweet Mary" is?**

2

**What child is Mary
going to have?**

**Does Levi get to go on
the journey with Holly?
Find out on page 29.**





Third Thursday of Advent

DECEMBER 18

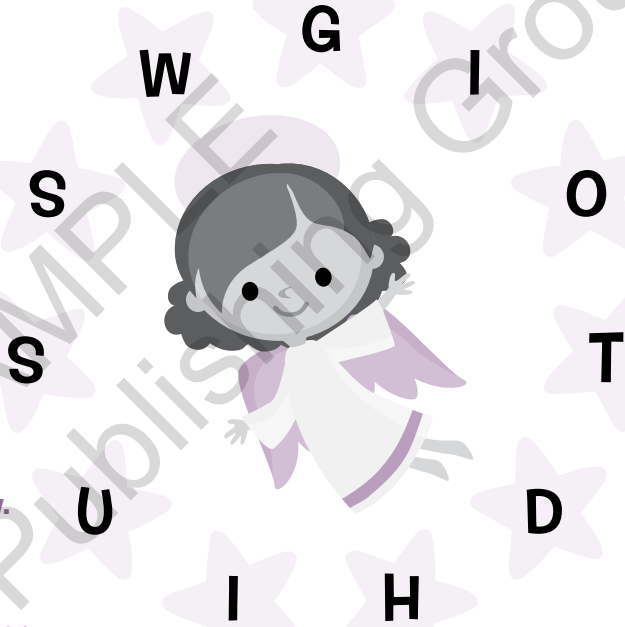
★ Today's Gospel » Matthew 1:18-25 ★

While he was asleep, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel told him that Mary's baby was from God and this was fulfilling the prophecy from years before: "The virgin shall bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel" (1:20-23).

Emmanuel?

But the angel told Mary to name her son Jesus! Why would the angel tell Mary one thing and Joseph another? Sounds like they were going in circles!

Beginning with the G, write every other letter in the circle on the lines below. Continue around the angel until you've used all the letters. The answer you get will explain the meaning of both names, Jesus and Emmanuel.





LEVI
SAYS...

The names Jesus and Emmanuel mean the same thing. The angel wasn't leading them in circles after all!



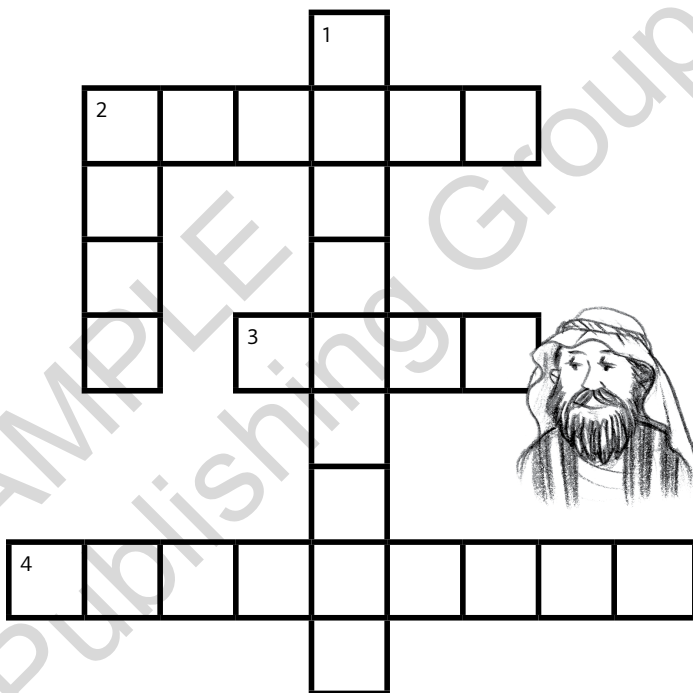
Fourth Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 21

★ Today's Gospel » Matthew 1:18-24 ★

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took Mary as his wife (1:24).

Throughout Advent, we have heard about people who did not understand exactly what God was asking them to do or what was happening. But they did God's will anyway. **See if you can remember some of them from these clues.**



ACROSS

- 2** I did not know if I should take Mary as my wife when she was with child.
- 3** I was confused when I was told I would be the mother of God's Son.
- 4** I found it hard to believe I could have a baby because I was very old.

DOWN

- 1** I questioned the angel who told me my wife and I would have a son.
- 2** I was not sure Jesus was the Messiah until he sent me word of his good works.

Remember, God always tells you the right thing to do. **SO, LISTEN CAREFULLY.**

