

November 19, 2020

This may be my last reflection to you until after Christmas, as I know that the College will be taking an extended break this year. You've been working hard this past semester, and now it is time for you to take a break. I hope that you have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas break.



I want to share with you today about the various seasons in the Church Year. The Church Year begins with the season of Advent, and it always has four Sundays. This year Christmas is a full four weeks after Thanksgiving. So, I urge you to take time during Advent to prepare for Jesus' birthday in your heart.

Many families put up an Advent Wreath in their homes during Advent. The wreath consists of evergreen leaves and has four candles in it. Three of the candles will be decorated with purple ribbons for the various Sundays in Advent, and one pink ribbon for the third week of Advent. Families will often light the candles before their evening meal (one candle for each week of Advent). The wreath helps us to keep Advent in focus, rather than thinking about what we want for Christmas.

The Sundays of Advent are a good time to reflect on the meaning of each week and to think of God calling us to let our light shine and bring hope to the world. This year the Conference of Presentation Sisters is hosting a series of online discussions during Advent to encourage single Catholic women to consider becoming a Sister. The topics for the four weeks include: "Mary Pondering" "How can this be?" "Behold I am the Handmaid of the Lord" - "Let It Be Done to Me...."

Do you know anyone who might be interested? If so, *encourage* them to contact Sister Vicky Larson at (651-955-1740).

You, also, might want to talk to Mary as she prepared for the birth of Christ, and think about what might happen in your own life.

God bless you and your family!

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