

Together We Teach Together We Teach Together We Teach

Advent is a time of preparation.

- We invite you to come together as a family and PRAY... around your dinner table or your Advent Wreath or Christmas Tree.
- We invite you to come together as a family and SHARE one way you can bring the light of Christ to someone in need.

How you are making room and preparing a path to receive Jesus this Christmas? After your family comes together *at home* to PRAY AND SHARE, we invite you to write down on our Advent Prayer Card, some unique way you are sharing this Advent Season.



Bring your Advent Prayer Card *to church* between now and Christmas to share with our larger community.

- Place your Advent Prayer Card on the PRAY/SHARE display boards located in the prayer niche in the middle on the south side.
- Then we invite you to visit the crèche before or after mass. When you arrive at the crèche near the altar, take some straw and place it inside the crèche scene as a visible sign that we are preparing to receive Jesus's light and love at Christmas.

A wonderful list of suggestions for "being with" others during Advent, one for each of the twenty-five days before Christmas is included on the backside of this sheet.

Finally, consider personally inviting two or three other families to participate as we embrace this Advent Season.

TOGETHER WE TEACH!

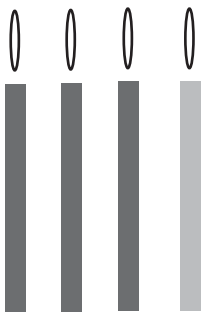
Questions, comments, or suggestions

Contact Deacon Steve Wodzanowski steve@stjosephparish.org or 206-965-1646

Suggestions for “Being With” or Present for Others

Here are two possible ways to be with someone: (a) be physically present with another or (b) be present “in spirit” by deliberately sending prayer, compassionate thoughts, and kind feelings toward another person or group. Either approach could be appropriate for each of the following suggestions.

- Be with someone who needs you.
- Be with a person who gives you hope.
- Be with those who live in terror and fear.
- Be with an older person.
- Be with someone who has helped you to grow.
- Be with one who is in pain.
- Be with a war-torn country.
- Be with yourself.
- Be with someone who has written to you.
- Be with a child.
- Be with a refugee who is fleeing from harm.
- Be with an enemy or someone you dislike.
- Be with a farmer losing his or her land.
- Be with someone who has terminal illness.
- Be with the homeless.
- Be with those who suffer from substance abuse.
- Be with hungry children.
- Be with a coworker.
- Be with those whose hope is faint.
- Be with world leaders.
- Be with someone in your family.
- Be with men and women in prison.
- Be with someone working for justice.
- Be with those who are abused and neglected.
- Be with your loved ones.



(Prayer) God of love, you were so generous to send the presence of your son to dwell among us and to tell us who you are. Encourage me during this Advent season to let go of my busyness and my hurriedness so that I can be with others in a loving and thoughtful way. Convince me that “being” is as important as “doing.” Thank you for your strengthening presence ... for being there ... through the kind acts of others. Amen.