

Ideas for Living Joyfully: Forty Days of Celtic Advent & the Twelve Days of Christmas 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>Practice Grace. No need to do them all or every day. Let the Holy Spirit speak to your heart!</i></p> <p><i>Nativity journey – Place Mary and Joseph in one corner of the room; the wise men in another; the shepherds, another. Keep Jesus hidden. Set up the stable with animals, and enjoy helping each figure journey to Bethlehem.</i></p>					<p>November 15 Breathe and listen. How is God preparing you for Christ's birth?</p>	<p>16 Enjoy your favourite photos, share them with a friend or family member and tell stories.</p>
<p>17 Say Hi to a person standing on the fringes. <i>Move Mary & Joseph closer.</i></p>	<p>18 Take a loved one on a walk, outside or down memory lane or both</p>	<p>19 Smile at people you see, whether you know them or not, and enjoy their smile!</p>	<p>20 List what you are thankful for, tell God, tell each other.</p>	<p>21 Make a meal for someone in need or visit someone who is lonely.</p>	<p>22 CS Lewis Day Appreciate an animal companion today Aslan Lives!!</p>	<p>23 Give someone you love a long hug.</p>
<p>24 Welcome a new person at church. <i>Move Mary & Joseph closer</i></p>	<p>25 Read or Tell stories to loved ones.</p>	<p>26 Turn off recorded music and sing some favorite songs with loved ones.</p>	<p>27 Write a gratitude note to a family member or friend, hide it in their pocket or lunch.</p>	<p>28 Call a friend & tell them one thing you appreciate about them.</p>	<p>29 Color a picture with a child in your life.</p>	<p>30 Take a break from the internet and look out the window. Just look. What do you see?</p>
<p>December 1 Kneel down when you talk to a child <i>Four-week Advent begins</i></p>	<p>2 Take a friend to tea. Leave the smartphone in your bag.</p>	<p>3 Play a game from childhood or with a little person in your life.</p>	<p>4 Send a loved one on a treasure hunt Today. Give them clues & giggle a lot</p>	<p>5 Say Hi to people behind the counters. Wish them a good day.</p>	<p>6 Notice the eye-color of people close to you and marvel at beauty</p>	<p>7 Light candles for whatever place or situation breaks your heart</p>
<p>8 <i>Move the Wise Men closer.</i> What journey are you on?</p>	<p>9 Take a walk and enjoy the Christmas lights.</p>	<p>10 Listen to and share some favourite music that makes you smile.</p>	<p>11 Enjoy grilled cheese & tomato soup or another comfort dish.</p>	<p>12 Read a story out loud to your friend, child, parent, or spouse.</p>	<p>13 Notice the really small things in life, like bugs or dust bunnies.</p>	<p>14 Take a break from your smartphone and all screens this evening.</p>
<p>15 Gaudete Sunday Read Mary's Song: Luke 1:46-55. Light a pink candle for JOY <i>Move Mary & Joseph closer.</i></p>	<p>16 Put a secret encouraging note in a loved one's bag. Describe how they are gift to the world and you!</p>	<p>17 The "O" Antiphons: Wisdom (Isa. 11:2-3) Who is a voice of wisdom in your life? Thank her or him.</p>	<p>18 Lord (Isa 33:22) Ask God how he wants to be the Lord of your life. Listen. <i>Move the Wise Men closer.</i></p>	<p>19 Root of Jesse (Isa 11:10) Write memories of God's faithfulness in your life on paper ornaments & hang them on the tree.</p>	<p>20 Key of David (Rev. 3:7) What door of your life do you need God to open & bring grace? God has the key to every door.</p>	<p>21 Morning Star (Isa 9:2) Pray for God's light to shine in a situation that is breaking your heart.</p>
<p>22 King of Nations (Isa 9:6) Listen to Handel's "For Unto us a Child is Born" What does Christ's birth mean?</p>	<p>23 Emmanuel (Isa 7:14) How is God with you? Sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (all the verses!).</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve Adopt someone who needs a family or be adopted. Receive love. <i>Mary & Joseph enter the stable</i></p>	<p>25 Feast of the Nativity Make a joy list. <i>Put Jesus in the Nativity; add the Shepherds, too</i></p>	<p>26 The Twelve Days of Christmas Begins! John 1:1-5 Genesis 1:3 The Wise Men journey closer each day...</p>	<p>27 St. Stephen's Day The First Martyr Psalm 139:11-12</p>	<p>28 The Holy Innocents Pray for children around the world Matt. 19:14</p>
<p>29 Isaiah 58:10</p>	<p>30 Isa 60:19</p>	<p>31 Ps 43:3</p>	<p>January 1 Matt 5:14-16</p>	<p>2 John 8:12</p>	<p>3 1 Peter 2:9</p>	<p>4 Romans 8</p>
<p>5 Epiphany Eve Luke 4:1-21 <i>Move the Wise Men to the stable</i></p>	<p>January 6 – February 1 Epiphany and Epiphanytide Chalk your lintels and the lintels of friends' houses with the Epiphany blessing 20+C+M+B+19. CMB represents the names of the three wise men (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar), and also the Latin phrase, <i>Christus Mansionem Benedicat</i> – Christ Bless this House!</p>					

How we spend our days is how we spend our lives. Annie Dillard
Calendar created with joy by Susan Forshey at ContemplativeCottage.com. Please share freely.