



One week of Advent is almost gone. How's your Advent going so far?

This Friday is St. Nicholas' Day. It's a great chance to learn about the real Santa (Saint) Claus (Nicholas), and our Advent guide can help you celebrate this special feast day.

Find an Advent Spotify playlist, a Catholic Telegraph Christmas movies review, recipes, special Advent events, Advent traditions to celebrate with your family, and so much more in this guide.

It truly is everything you need to have an incredible Advent with your family!

Click [here](#) to get your free guide today!

the ultimate

guide to

advent



EVENTS

NEW DAY GRIEF SUPPORT

MONDAYS, NOW - DECEMBER 16, 1-3PM

A journey from grief to healing – presented by The Community of the Good Shepherd. The program is a structured way for adults to work through the tasks of grief when mourning the death of a loved one from any cause. Community of Good Shepherd Church, Montgomery
For registration, please call Kathy Teipen at 489-7489.

LIFE SIZE NATIVITY WITH FARM ANIMALS AND HUNDREDS OF NATIVITY SETS, NOW – JANUARY 1

St. Francis Seraph Courtyard, Downtown Cincinnati, 1-7PM; International Christmas Display including a miniature London Village, St. Nicholas and Santa Clause scenes, a train, and more! , Franciscan Friars, Christian Moerlein Events Center, Downtown, Cincinnati: Weds-Thus 4-10M, Fri 4-11PM, Sat Noon -11pm, and Sun 1-6PM.

MASS AND HEALING SERVICE

DECEMBER 4, 7-8:30PM.

Healing includes the physical, spiritual, emotional, psychological, and relational aspects of our lives; it is not limited to a physical cure. You can receive prayer for yourself or for those you care about. Lighthouse at St. Ignatius Parish, Renewal Center, Monfort Heights
[Click here](#) for more information.

FAIR TRADE SALE

DECEMBER 7, 9AM-3PM

One of the largest Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Ethical Trade Sales in the United States. It will feature a visit from Santa, beautiful handcrafted items, gourmet coffee and food. There will also be entertainment and local sellers, story time and pictures with Santa. University of Dayton's Curran Place
[Click here](#) for more information.

ST. JOSEPH LADIES SOCIETY ANNUAL COOKIE SALE

DECEMBER 7, 9AM-1PM

Home-made cookies and candy will be sold for \$7.00 per pound; Christmas ornaments and other craft items will also be available for sale. Free admission, plenty of off street parking.
St. Joseph Church, Hospitality Room, North Bend
For more information call 941-3661.

SENSORY-FRIENDLY MASS

DECEMBER 7, 5-6PM and DECEMBER 14, 4:30-5:30

In an effort to embrace and welcome our church members with Autism, Down Syndrome, and other special needs, several parishes in the Dayton area will host Sensory Friendly Liturgies. While these Masses are modified for those with sensory issues, all are welcome.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Sensory Friendly Liturgies or to host a Mass at your parish.

12/7 at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Centerville
12/14 at St. Albert the Great, Dayton

GLENMARY HOME MISSIONERS PRESENTS

A CHRISTMAS CONCERT FEATURING THE

CINCINNATI BRASS BAND

DECEMBER 8, 2PM

Welcome the Advent season with this annual free and festive holiday concert. All donations benefit Glenmary's ministry in Mission Land, USA.
Corpus Christi Church, Cincinnati

ARCHDIOCESE ADVENT CALENDAR 2019

[Check out](#) all the opportunities to make this a joyful advent!

DID YOU KNOW THERE ARE LATE MASSES OFFERED ON SUNDAYS?

St. Cecilia Parish, Cincinnati, 8:15PM; Bellarmine Chapel, XU, 10PM; Immaculate Conception Chapel, UD, 8:30PM, St. Mary's, Oxford, 8:30PM

CATHOLIC

WORLD

NEWS

IT'S ABOUT TIME!

The Pope wrote a letter about the importance of the Christmas Nativity, and it's the letter we've all been waiting for.

HITTING THE BIG TIME

Aleteia picked up this story on our visit to prison to hear the Concert for Hope. Yeah, we're a national story. No big deal.

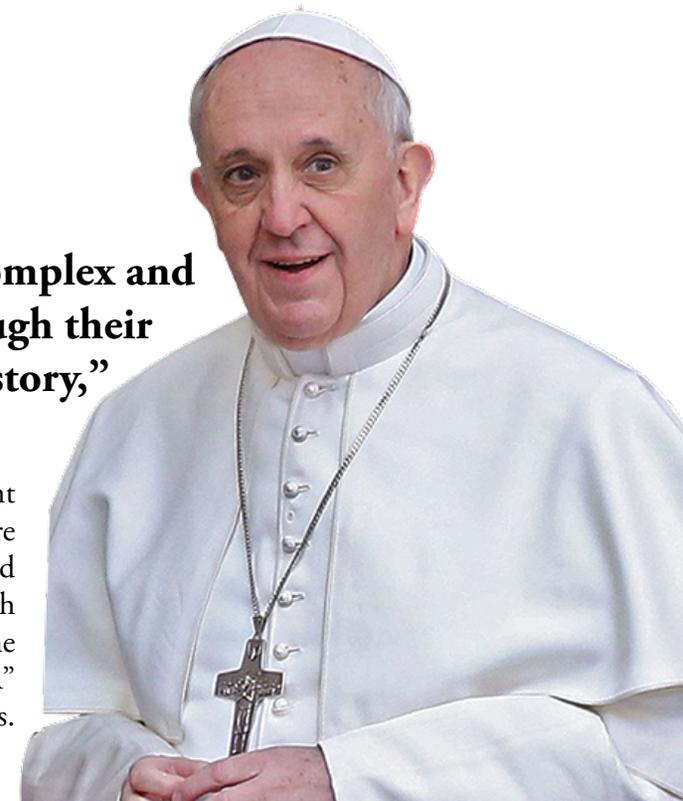
THE NORBERTINE'S GOT ONE TOO!

Apparently digital advent guides are all the rage this year.

[Click on any headline to read more](#)

“We are called to recognize in every person with a disability, even with complex and serious disabilities, a unique contribution to the common good through their original life story,”

Vatican City, Dec 3, 2019 / 10:03 am (CNA) - Pope Francis said Tuesday that disabled people make important contributions to humanity, and called discrimination against them a sin. The pope added that disabled people are not members of humanity's minor “leagues.” “Recognize the dignity of each one, knowing that it does not depend on the functionality of the five senses.” Pope Francis sent his message on the 2019 World Day of People with Disabilities, the theme of which is “the future is accessible.” The Gospel teaches the dignity of every person, the pope said, adding that everyone must work to fight a culture which considers some people to be part of “Serie A” and others “Serie B,” a reference to the major and minor Italian soccer leagues.



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**MATTHEW 3: 1-12**

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

GOSPELS & SAINTS

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER**1506 - 1552****FEAST DAY DEC. 3**

Born in Javier, Kingdom

of Navarre in present-day Spain, he was a companion of Saint Ignatius of Loyola and one of the first seven Jesuits who took vows of poverty and chastity at Montmartre, Paris, in 1534. He led an extensive mission into Asia, mainly in the Portuguese Empire of the time and was influential in evangelization work, most notably in India. The Goa Inquisition was proposed by St. Francis Xavier. He also was the first Christian missionary to venture into Japan, Borneo, the Maluku Islands, and other areas. In those areas, struggling to learn the local languages and in the face of opposition, he had less success than he had enjoyed in India. Xavier was about to extend his missionary preaching to China when he died on Shangchuan Island.

