



Church of Our Lady Help of Christians

NAVAN ROAD PARISH,
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6th December 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for registering your child for the Sacraments of First Penance and First Holy Communion. You will have received a candle. This candle can be used at home for family prayer. Consider setting up your home crib during this Advent Season and lighting the candle beside it. This can be your Sacred Space at home if you wish to use it as a focal point for family prayer.



BAMBINELLI SUNDAY-12th December

You can bring the Baby Jesus from your crib to any Mass on the 12th December to be blessed. Bring it home, wrap it up. On Christmas Morning open it as your first present and place in the Crib as a family. Attending Mass regularly is the best preparation for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. You are always welcome.

Making a simple Advent wreath at home might also be something you would like to do in preparation for Christmas. You will need: three purple colour candles, one pink and one white, some evergreen leaves and the lid of a circular sweet/biscuit box/large plate.

Arrange the candles in a circle inside the outer rim of the lid.

Place the white candle in the middle.

Arrange the greenery in between the candles.

The first purple candle (HOPE) was lit this week for the first week of Advent

The second purple candle (LOVE) was lit this xSunday 5th December

The third pink candle (JOY) is lit Sunday 12th December

The fourth purple candle (PEACE) is lit 19th December

The White candle is lit Christmas Eve./Day- this represents Jesus.



THE CHRISTMAS TREE



The Christmas Tree will be in the Church around the 10th December. Feel free to bring a decoration for the tree to represent your family. When you come to visit the Church, stay to light a candle, visit the Crib and say a prayer.

REMEMBER YOUR BAPTISM

Your Baptism was your first step in being a Christian. First Communion is the next big step. Can you find your Baptism candle? Look at the photos. Parents, tell your children about the day, who was there, stories etc. Tell them what you know about your own baptism, e.g. godparents, the church.

FIVE FINGER PRAYER (Pope Francis)

- Our thumb is closest to our heart – pray for the people close to your heart, your family and your friends, the special people in your life.
- Our forefinger gives directions – pray for people who lead us and point us in the right direction – teachers in school, coaches in sport, doctors/nurses.
- Our middle finger is the tallest – pray for our leaders who guide us – pray for God to guide them and make them wise and strong.
- Our ring finger is the weakest – pray for the weakest people in our society – people who are ill or suffering, poor and struggling.
- Our little finger comes last – when we have prayed for other people, we pray for ourselves as well – we pray for God’s care and protection and strength.

PRAYER TO GUARDIAN ANGEL

Angel sent by God to guide me,
Be my light and walk beside me;
Be my guardian and protect me;
On the path of life direct me.

LOOK- Activity Sheets

You will have received the LOOK Activity sheets for Advent and Christmas. This sheet will be available from the Church every week throughout the year. Please take one when you are visiting the Church.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son,
And to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be,
World without end.
AMEN

PRAYER TO JESUS

Christ be with me.
Christ be beside me.
Christ be before me.
Christ be behind me.
Christ at my right hand.
Christ at my left hand.
Christ be with me everywhere I go.
Christ be my friend, for ever and ever. AMEN