

A FAMILY OF *Faith*



December English Guide Year 1

- ❑ **VERSE OF THE MONTH:** Luke 1:38: Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.
 - ❑ Parent’s Guide: Pages 72, 75
 - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 63, 64

- ❑ **SAINT OF THE MONTH: SAINT NICHOLAS**
 - ❑ Parent’s Guide: Pages 76, 94-95
 - ❑ Children's Activity Book: Pages 79-81

Overview Lesson 5 In the Fullness of Time

In this Lesson we see the beauty of God’s plan unfold in the moment the Word became flesh: The Annunciation. Mary said yes to God, and God became man: a baby in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Jesus is Emmanuel, or God with us.

- ❑ **WORDS TO KNOW:**
 - ❑ **Parent’s Guide: Page 80**
 - ❑ **Children's Activity Book: Page 82**

- ❑ **Activities and Key Concepts Lesson 5 Parent’s Guide: Page 79**

- ❑ **Your Catholic Home: Advent Wreath** Parent’s Guide: Page 74, 75, 81, 93 Activity Book: Pages 65-72. The Advent wreath is a tradition in the Catholic Church that dates back to the Middle Ages. It is a practice that is rich with meaning and helps us focus our time of waiting during Advent on Christ so we don’t lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas – the joyful day that Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, was born.

If your family does not have an Advent wreath, now would be the perfect time to get one! You can place it on your kitchen table or another place where you frequently gather. You can also make a simple one with evergreens, three purple candles and one rose candle arranged in a circle, and a white candle in the center. Don’t worry if Advent has already begun – it’s okay to start in the middle! Light one purple candle on the first Sunday, two purple candles on the second, two purple candles and the rose candle on the third Sunday, and all four candles on the fourth. As the lights grow brighter and the Light of the World grows closer, ask God to prepare your hearts to receive Him at Christmas and when He returns at the end of time.

BY THE END OF THIS MONTH, YOUR CHILDREN SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- ❑ **Recite this month's Scripture Memorization.**
 - ❑ Parents Guide: Page 72, 75
 - ❑ Children's Activity Book: Pages 63, 64

- ❑ **Define this month's Words to Know.**
 - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 80
 - ❑ Activity Book: Page 83

- ❑ **Explain how the Blessed Virgin Mary "undid" the sin of Eve:**
 - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 82-92
 - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 73 (Answers in Parent's Guide: Page 84-85), 74, 75, 76 (Answers in Parent's Guide: Page 90), 77, 78.

- ❑ **Tell about Saint Nicholas:**
 - ❑ Parent's Guide: Pages 76, 94-95,
 - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 79- 81.

- ❑ **Experience the Joy of Christmas:**
 - ❑ Parent's Guide Pages 88-90, 96.
 - ❑ Participating in and celebrating Christmas Mass, rejoicing as a family in the Birth of Our Lord spending time thanking God for his birth and singing Christmas Carols, other family traditions, sharing with those who may have a special need of the awareness of the gift of the Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

December in Review

THIS MONTH YOU EXPLORED AS A FAMILY THE QUESTIONS:

- ❑ **How did God keep His promise to humanity?**
 - ❑ Parent's Guide: **The Annunciation Scripture p. 82-85, The Immaculate Conception p. 86-87**
 - ❑ Activity Book: **Mary Is the New Eve p. 73-75** (Answers in Parent's Guide: **The Annunciation Scripture p. 84-85**), **Mary Is the New Eve p.76** (Answers in Parent's Guide: **The Incarnation p. 90**).

- ❑ **When and how did God Himself enter the world?**
 - ❑ Parent's Guide: **The Incarnation 88-90, December Gospel Coloring Pages 91-92,**
 - ❑ Activity Book: **Crossword Puzzle p. 76** (Answers in Parent's Guide: **The Incarnation p.90**) **Crossword Puzzle p. 77-78.**

- ❑ **Why did God decide to become a man?**
 - ❑ Parent's Guide: **The Incarnation p. 88-90, December Gospel Coloring Pages p. 91-92**
 - ❑ Activity Book: **Crossword Puzzle p. 76-78** (Answers in Parent's Guide: **The Incarnation p. 90**)

In Lesson 5 Your children learned that:

- ❑ **The Annunciation was God’s announcement to Mary that she had been chosen to be the Mother of the Son of God.**
 - ❑ Parent’s Guide: **The Annunciation Scripture** p. 82-85,
 - ❑ Activity Book: **Mary Is the New Eve** p. 73-75 (Answers in Parent’s Guide: Page **The Annunciation Scripture** p. 84-85)

- ❑ **Mary’s “yes” to God “undid” the sin of Eve.**
 - ❑ Parent’s Guide Pages: **The Annunciation Scripture** p. 82-85,
 - ❑ Activity Book: **Mary Is the New Eve** p. 73 (Answers in Parent’s Guide: **The Annunciation Scripture** p. 84-85), **Mary Is the New Eve** p. 74-75, **Crossword Puzzle** p.76 (Answers in Parent’s Guide: **The Incarnation** p. 90).

- ❑ **God preserved Mary from Original Sin from the moment of her conception:**
 - ❑ Parent’s Guide: **The Immaculate Conception** p.86-87,
 - ❑ Activity Book: **Mary Is the New Eve** p. 73-75 (Answers in Parent’s Guide Pages 84-85), **Crossword Puzzle** p. 76 (Answers in Parent’s Guide: **The Incarnation** p. 90).

- ❑ **God Himself entered into human history by sending His only beloved Son, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, to become human.**
 - ❑ Parent’s Guide: **The Incarnation** 88-90, **December Gospel Coloring Pages** p. 91-92
 - ❑ Activity Book: **Crossword Puzzle** p. 76-78 (Answers in Parent’s Guide: **The Incarnation** p. 90)

- ❑ **Recommended Activities:**
 - ❑ Parent’s Guide: Pages 74, 75, 76, 77, 80, 81, 82-85, 86-87, 88-92, 93, 94-95, 96, 97.
 - ❑ Activity Book: Pages 64, 65-72, 73 (Answers in Parent’s Guide: Page 84-85), 74, 75, 76, (Answers in Parent’s Guide: Page 90), 77, 78, 79-81, 82.

Suggested Weekly Learning Goals December

Weekly Teaching for Parents	
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Introduce Words to Know: Parents discuss words to know with their children on Parent Guide page 80. Teach their children what the words mean. ❑ Understand Words to Know: By the end of the week, the children should know how to explain and define the words to know. ❑ Get to know St Nicholas: Parents and children should read the brief biography of St Nicholas on Parent Guide pages 94-95 ❑ Learn Scripture Verse: Begin reciting daily the Scripture verse for the month. <i>“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” (Luke 1:38)</i>
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Parent and Child Activities: Parents should choose one or more activities to teach Advent preparation in Parents Guide pages 81-93, lead the children through this activity. ❑ Learning Goals for the Week: The child should have an understanding of the Annunciation and the Immaculate Conception, and their effects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ That the Annunciation was God’s announcement to Mary that she had been chosen to be the Mother of the Son of God. ❑ That Mary’s yes to the angel undid the sin of Eve. ❑ That Mary was born without original sin, so that she could bear the Son of God.
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Learning Goals for the Week: The child should have an understanding that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ God entered human history by sending His Son Jesus to be our Savior. ❑ Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Trinity, is fully God and fully man. ❑ God became man to restore our friendship with Him, so that we would know His love, to be a model of holiness, and to allow us to share in His divine life, making us sons and daughters of God. <p style="margin-left: 20px;">They should also be able to answer the question, what are the four reasons that the Son of God became man?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ To restore our friendship with God ❑ So that we would know God’s love ❑ To be a model of holiness ❑ To allow us to share in God’s divine life and to make us sons of God ❑ Your Catholic Home: Parents should teach their children about the tradition of the advent wreath and how it helps us focus on the true meaning of Christmas. Of course, actions are always better than words, so if it is possible for you to get an advent wreath and use it with your family that would be great! Don’t worry if Advent has already begun, you can start in the middle.