

MOM TO MOM GROUP

December 2014

Volume 2, Issue 4

Christmas is on it's way



As we are preparing ourselves for Christmas we are gifted with our Adventen journey,

which is preparing us for the coming of Christ. This preparation should not just contain external duties, but more importantly our inner preparedness for this Holy event.

What we have started last month, in eliminating our daily noises and distractions, can be explored deeper. Try to eliminate the unnecessary out of your daily schedules and find time each day to pray, read the Bible and live in the

moment, even if it is just for a few minutes.

As a family we have been working more and more towards conscience prayer time and Bible reading, especially during this time of year. It has lead to a better family unit and helped to calm our hectic world by discerning what is really urgent or necessary.

I hope you have a peaceful and Merry Christmas.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS:

- Feast Day of St. Nicholas (Dec. 6)
- Christmas Eve (Dec. 24)
- Christmas (Dec. 25)
- New Years Eve (Dec. 31)
- Epiphany (Jan. 6)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Christmas is on it's way</i>	1
<i>Our Advent Table</i>	1
<i>Mary's Star Path</i>	2
<i>Lantern Walk Pictures</i>	2
<i>Next Months Topic</i>	2

Our Advent Table

Our Nature table has changed into an Advent table, which works in a similar way as an Advent calendar. We call it Mary's Star Path.

Mother Mary walks over the month of December on a path made of stars where she will end, on the 24th of December, in the manger with her husband Joseph. The stars, after she steps off them, are placed each day in the sky to show the star filled heavens at the end of her journey when Baby Jesus will be born.

Our children, and myself, love this Advent table, it sets the perfect mood for Advent and the anticipation of the coming of our Lord.



Mary's Star Path

Supplies Needed:

- Blue cloth, large enough to cover the table and to pin as a backdrop for the scene
- Gold card for the stars
- Some pieces of bark or wood for making a stable
- Mary and Joseph crib figures
- Collection of natural objects, like stones, crystals mosses, small evergreen branches, fir cones etc.
- small wooden animals, or made from wool, plasticine or beeswax

To make the star path, first you must find a place where you can set up the scenery, remember that pets might climb across it or small children can pick off the smaller items.

After deciding on a suitable spot, lay the blue cloth across the shelf and have some of it cover the wall behind the shelf, as it will serve for the sky.

At the far side of the shelf or table improvise a scene with pieces of bark or wood for a stable.

Now cut some smaller and a few larger stars out of the gold card for the star path. The larger stars will serve for Sundays, while the weekday stars will be smaller.

Lay out a winding path towards the stable with those stars. The path should show a clear picture of the four weeks in Advent.

Add the stones, crystals, mosses, evergreens and the animal figurines into the scene. Be careful not to

add to many as not to crowd Mary's way.

Find a certain time of the day when Mother Mary can move from one star to the next; we like to do this before bedtime.

After Mary moves onto the next star, the one she stood upon is placed with double sided tape into the sky.

When Christmas arrives the sky is filled with beauty ready to receive the Child when He appears.



Our Lantern walk pictures from November 11th, on St. Martin's Day.

Next Months Topic

Our topic for the month of January will be:

“How to Keep Teenagers Within the Faith” - guest speaker Jim O'Connell

Please Note

- No Craft Group meeting this month!
- Please feel free to send me pictures from your baptisms, communions or other religious celebrations with some text so I can add them into our newsletter. If there are any other additions that you would like to see in the newsletter please feel free to mail them to me as well!

For more information contact the Cathedral Office or Maggie at Mom2Mom@kaska.net

St. Joseph Cathedral
145 Lowell Street
Manchester, NH 03104