



# Martha Justice Ministry Advent Calendar 2023



Sunday December 3	Monday December 4	Tuesday December 5	Wednesday December 6	Thursday December 7	Friday December 8	Saturday December 9
 <p><b>First Sunday of Advent: Hope</b> Isaiah 64:8 "... we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hands."</p>	<p>As we enter Advent, we reflect this week on what gives us hope.</p> <p>How is God guiding us to embrace hope at this time?</p>	<p>The <b>UN Climate Conference, COP28</b>, is underway in Dubai. We pray that leaders act urgently to protect our common home. We pray the <a href="#">COP28 Prayer</a></p>	<p><b>National Day of Remembrance and Action to End Violence Against Women</b></p> <p>We pray for an end to violence against women, in memory of those who have lost their lives.</p>	<p>In <a href="#">Laudate Deum</a>, Pope Francis calls us to protect the planet and those most impacted by the climate crisis. We pray for Pope Francis and all those taking up his call to care for creation.</p>	<p><b>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b></p> <p>Mary shows us the way of a life guided by faith and love. We pray for those who stand up for justice and peace around the world.</p>	<p>We invite you to sign the <a href="#">Laudato Si Movement petition</a> to the President of COP28 inspired by Pope Francis' <i>Laudate Deum</i> and <i>Laudato Si'</i>.</p>
December 10	December 11	December 12	December 13	December 14	December 15	December 16
 <p><b>Second Sunday of Advent: Peace</b> <b>Human Rights Day</b> Mark 1:8 "I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."</p>	<p>Pope Francis calls us to "Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace." We pray <a href="#">Pope Francis' Peace Prayer</a></p>	<p><b>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</b> On this feast day, we honour all Indigenous peoples and pray for the implementation of the <a href="#">UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</a>.</p>	<p>The work for peace requires a range of tools and responses grounded in grassroots realities. We pray for those working with communities for lasting peace.</p>	<p>We pray for <a href="#">Development and Peace- Caritas Canada</a>, which for 55 years has connected peace and justice work by listening to and amplifying the voices of partners in the Global South.</p>	<p>Groups like <a href="#">Amnesty International</a> call on us to protect human rights and ensure the release of political prisoners around the world. We reflect on ways we can support this important work.</p>	<p>Land defenders around the world are being threatened and killed, particularly Indigenous. We invite you to sign the <a href="#">Development and Peace letter</a> to protect land defenders in Honduras.</p>

December 17



**Third Sunday of Advent: Love**

Luke 1:46b-47

“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...”

December 18

With Pope Francis’ [A Prayer for the Earth](#), we pray: “Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature...”

December 19

As Thomas Berry says, “The natural world demands a response that rises from the wild unconscious depths of the human soul.” (*The Great Work*, 55) We reflect on how we can deepen our connection with the Earth.

December 20

In John O’Donohue’s “[A Blessing for Presence](#)” he prays: “May you take time to celebrate the quiet miracles that seek no attention.” We reflect on those quiet miracles we experience.

December 21

**Winter Solstice**  
On this start of winter, the shortest day, darkness slowly opens to light. We enjoy this time for rest and contemplation.



December 22

As Mary, pregnant and vulnerable, and Joseph had to flee their homes in the face of danger, we pray for all refugees and migrants on their difficult journeys. May they receive welcome and hospitality.

December 23

As [Fr. Richard Rohr](#) says, “There is a deep relationship between the inner revolution of prayer and the transformation of social structures and social consciousness.” We reflect on the ways prayer and the work of justice are mutually enriching.

December 24



**Fourth Sunday of Advent: Joy  
Christmas Eve**

Luke 1:37 “For nothing will be impossible with God.”

December 25  
Christmas Day!

“Glory to God in the highest heaven...”  
Peace and Blessings to All!

