

**St. Aloysius Religious Education 2018-2019**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

4:00pm Welcome (*To ensure accuracy, **class attendance must be accurately recorded by a catechist and not another student - class attendance is an official document retained by the parish and the diocese***)

4:05pm We Gather - in Prayer at the prayer table  
(*use colored table covering for appropriate liturgical season*)  
Use the Gospel Reading “Hearing the Word” from the previous Sunday in Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families book in the prayer box

4:10pm Review previous lesson using Sharing Faith (*chapter test in student book*)

4:15pm **Chapter #6 & #7** **“The Liturgical Year” & “Ordinary Time”**  
**The signs and symbols of the Church year, from the Advent wreath to the Paschal candle, continue to remind us of all Jesus did for our sakes.** During the Liturgical seasons, the Church desires to relive “the greatest events of salvation history in the ‘today’ of her liturgy. (ccc1095) By living and celebrating the Church year, we keep Christ at the heart of all our days. Ordinary Time is the 2-part season between Christmas and Lent and between Pentecost and Advent. At this time, the Church also keep the memorials of many Martyrs and Saints, whose witness to the faith should increase our fidelity to our baptismal vocation!

**Chapter #14**

**“Christmas”**

**Advent is a season of joyful expectation and preparation for the coming of the Son of God, a spiritual gift of hope!** Christmas - God keeps his promise ... “*For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*” (Isaiah 9:6) God **has opened his heart for us...** let us stand in front of the manger in Bethlehem and gaze with wonder on Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and angels and the holy child, Jesus, our Lord. *Please share with your class your preparations and feelings for the arrival of your own children, nieces’ nephews, and siblings! Ask the children to interview their parent or guardian- see attached.*

- *We Respond –*

Assemble Advent wreaths (*RE will provide metal candle rings, artificial garland, ribbons and 4 candles and meaning of the Advent Wreath handout*).

- *We Respond –*

“*Advent: Celebrating the Season*” – DVD 15 min.

- *We Believe -*

Discuss the meaning of the Liturgical Year (colors) chart on page 61, and some symbols of the Liturgical season (*this is not in the book*).

**Advent = purple candle**

**Christmas = white & gold star**

**Ordinary Time = green leaves**

**Lent = purple cross**

**Triduum = white cross with red trim**

**Easter = white lily & gold.**

4:55pm

Closing Prayer –

“Living God, we thank you for the gift of life eternal, and for all those who having served you well, now rest from their labors. We thank you for all the saints remembered and forgotten, for those dear souls most precious to us. Today we give thanks for those who during the last twelve months have died and entered into glory. We bless you for their life and love, and rejoice for them “all is well”.

“Jesus, mindful of all those souls who have gone on ahead of us, teach us to follow their example to the best of our ability:

to feed the poor in body or spirit,

to support and comfort the mourners and the repentant,

to encourage the meek and stand with them in crises,

to affirm those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

to cherish and learn from the merciful,

to be humbled by, and stand with, the peacemakers

Let us clearly recognize what it means to be called the children of God, and to know we are to be your saints neither by our own inclination nor in our own strength but simply by the call and the healing holiness of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Ask the children to say a petition aloud for someone or something they would like to pray for.

***“How do you remember and celebrate important events during the year”?***

***“How will I share my commitment to the teachings of Jesus”?***

## 5<sup>th</sup> grade Advent Wreath



### each box/bag contains:

- 15 Metal candle rings wrapped in artificial garland
- 15 **54" pink ribbon**
- 15 **54" purple ribbon**
- 15 Boxes of Candles (*3 purple candles and 1 pink candle in each box*)
- 15 Advent Wreath prayer sheets

Have each student wrap/weave a **pink ribbon** and a **purple ribbon** around the metal candle ring that is already wrapped in artificial garland.

*Give the children an Advent Wreath prayer sheet and their box of candles at the end of class – so they do not break the candles prior to bringing them home!*

## The Advent Wreath

The Advent Wreath is very symbolic. The evergreens used for the wreath itself are a reminder of continuous life. The shaping of them into a circle reinforces that meaning. The circle is also a sign of everlasting life as well as the eternity of God.

The four candles, *three purple and one pink*, mark the Sundays of Advent before Christmas. The purple candles are reminders that this should be a time of prayer and sacrifice to prepare us for the coming of Christ among us. On the third Sunday, the pink candle is lit to announce *Gaudete* Sunday; a Sunday of rejoicing for Christ is coming near. With the lighting of that candle, the light has won out over the darkness (three candles lit vs. the one that remains unlit). Contrary to the dimming light of day (*as we enter the winter season*) the light of the Advent wreath grows brighter as Christ draws near!

The candles are traditionally lit in the following order: purple, purple, pink, purple. The first is called the "*Candle of Hope*." It symbolizes faith in God keeping his promises to humanity. The second is called the "*Candle of Preparation*," reminding Christians to "get ready" to receive God. The third candle is the "*Candle of Joy*." It recalls the angels joyfully singing that the birth of Christ is near. The fourth candle, the "*Candle of Love*," reminds Christians that God loves them enough to send his only Son to Earth. The "Christ Candle," a white candle in the center is a sign of purity, stands for Jesus Christ himself, the sinless savior.

The Liturgical vestments at Mass match the colors of the candles.

The **Advent Wreath** is a sacramental that draws us into prayer. As your family prepares for the approaching celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ – Christmas – say the following prayers each week when lighting the candles:

### First Week (purple candle of Hope)

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever. ~AMEN.

### Second Week (purple candle of Preparation and purple candle of Hope)

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. ~AMEN.

### Third Week (pink candle of Joy, purple candle of Preparation and purple candle of Hope)

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord. ~AMEN.

### Fourth Week (purple candle of Love, pink candle of Joy, purple candle of Preparation and purple candle of Hope)

Father, all-powerful God, your eternal Word took flesh on our earth when the Virgin Mary placed her life at the service of your plan. Lift our minds in watchful hope to hear the voice which announces his glory and open our minds to receive the Spirit who prepares us for his coming. We ask this through Christ our Lord. ~AMEN.

*5<sup>th</sup> grade*



*Please interview your parents or grandparents or guardians and bring the following information to Religious Education next week to share.*

*1. What preparations did your parents make for your arrival?*

*2. How did your parents feel as they awaited your arrival?*

*3. Why did they select your name?*