

Date	Day	Colour	Theme
13 December 2020	3rd Sunday of Advent	Purple (violet) or deep blue	Joy

Bible verse: - Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126, 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28, John 1 6-8, 19-28

This Sunday is the third Sunday in the season of Advent. Joy, or rejoicing, is our theme this week and today's Children's Church uses the letter that St Paul wrote to Christians in Thessalonica to help us begin thinking about what God's joy is and to remember that we can 'pray without ceasing'. Joy comes from remembering to trust God in everything, to trust in God's love for us even when life gets tough. Not easy at times but a great habit to get into!

How do we 'pray without ceasing'. Well, we sometimes forget to do this but maybe a starting place is to recall at different times of the day that God is present with us and handing over to God every situation we find ourselves in. These might be times of fun, happiness, leisure, creativity or tricky times like unhappy friendships, times when we must make hard decisions or when we are feeling sad about something that's happened.

Remember:- 'Rejoice always, pray without ceasing because this is God's will for you.' 1 Thessalonians

Further Activities

- 1) Watch the Children's Church video for this week. Read the story from the Bible.
- 2) Have you made a prayer corner yet?
- 3) Colouring sheet

4) Maybe you'd like to make an Advent wreath like the one in the picture below for your homes. Here is a link you can use to bless your Advent wreath at home.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/advent/about-advent/advent-links-to-explore-and-share/blessing-an-advent-wreath/>

5) Make a Gratitude wall. Use post it notes to write or draw something that you are thankful for each day (or more often if you'd like to).

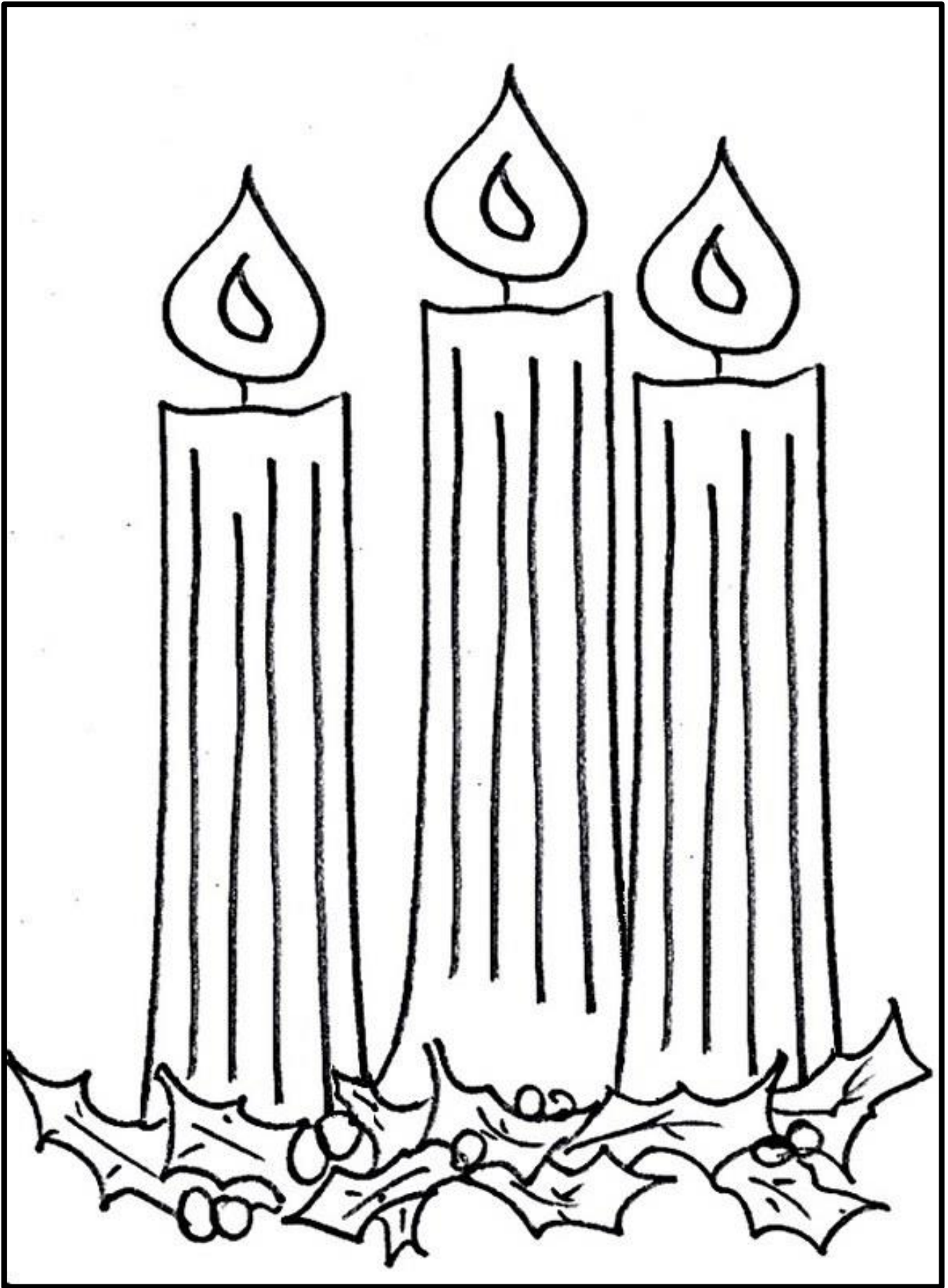
6) I'd love to see photos if you're allowed to email them in. Ask your parents to help you. The address is:-
families@graftoncathedral.org.au

Examples of thankfulness post-its

Dear God,
Thank you for
my family and
my friends.

Dear God,
Thank you for
loving me.

Dear God,
Thank you for
our home and
food to eat.



Joy



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Some extra activities you might like to do with your grown-ups in the lead up to Christmas.

Who can you do these activities for? Is there someone who would like a homemade Christmas decoration or biscuits?