

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

December 2021

Our Lady of the Snows Church
Regina Moreno, Pastoral Associate



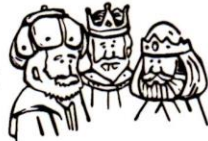
Thoughtful Moments

Immaculate Conception

On December 8th, we celebrate the conception of Mary in St. Anne's womb without Original Sin. This is the patronal feast of the United States. In addition to attending Mass (it's a Holy Day of Obligation), pray a joyful Rosary to celebrate.

The Magi's Gifts

To help combat consumerism at Christmas, some families limit the number of gifts to three in honor of the gifts of the Magi. Consider giving children one gift that is their heart's desire, a piece of clothing that is not just sensible, and one gift that will help them grow (a book or sports accessory, for example).



"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary, his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength" (Isaiah 40:28-29).



Is Heaven worth the wait?

To many children, a day off from school or a family vacation is like heaven in itself. Sacrificing and doing penance to work toward Heaven after death is too abstract a concept to motivate them toward holiness. Yet, the season of Advent is designed to turn our eyes to Heaven so we can be ready when Jesus comes to bring us there. So how can we help youngsters understand how great Heaven really is?

All good things start there. *"Every good endowment and every perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17).* If all good things on Earth come from Heaven, imagine how great it is at the source.

Our life in Heaven will be more wonderful than the most wonderful experience on Earth.

The company is best there. When we get there, we will have joyful reunions with beloved grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends who have died before us.

We get to mingle with the saints and angels.

Best of all, we get to be with Jesus and His Father forever.

The one who loves us best is there. As much as earthly parents love their children, it's nothing compared to the love God has for each of us. He is the perfect parent – our true Father – and He is waiting for us in Heaven.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Advent is a season of waiting and preparation for the Savior who comes on Christmas. It is a reminder that there is a greater purpose to our lives. So, the Church encourages us to make our hearts

Why do Catholics celebrate Advent?

ready during Advent.

We know that Jesus will come at our death and he will come at the end of time. The season of Advent encourages us to make the necessary preparations so we can joyfully greet Jesus whenever we meet Him next.

