

# Christmas Calendar 2014-15

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>December 25</b> Today, celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him . . . including the fact that he was born to die for us.	<b>26</b> On this Feast of St. Stephen the Martyr, pray for Christians throughout the world, who suffer hardship and persecution because of their faith.	<b>27</b> Today is the Feast of St. John the Evangelist. Honor John by reading a favorite passage from his Gospel and reflecting on how it is different in style from the other three Gospels.
<b>28</b> Celebrate today's Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph with a special family dinner. Learn about the World Meeting of Families coming to the U.S. in September at <a href="http://worldmeeting2015.org">worldmeeting2015.org</a> .	<b>29</b> Today is the feast day of St. Thomas Becket, who was martyred for defending the principles of religious liberty. Pray to him for the protection of our religious liberty from contemporary threats.	<b>30</b> Consider year-end charitable gifts to organizations that promote the life and the dignity of the human person. Discuss steps you can take that will allow greater giving in the coming year.	<b>31</b> Resolve to do at least one thing to strengthen your family's faith in the New Year whether through increased prayer, sacramental participation, or acts of stewardship and charity.	<b>January 1</b> Today, honor the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God and patroness of our nation, by attending Mass and praying the Rosary for world peace.	<b>2</b> On this, their feast day, learn about and pray through the intercession of Sts. Basil and Gregory, who were named Doctors of the Church because of their profound theological and spiritual influence.	<b>3</b> January is Poverty Awareness Month. Help the poor in your area by giving some time, goods, or basic necessities to your local St. Vincent de Paul group.
<b>4</b> Today, on the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, National Migration Week begins. Pray for the protection of refugee families fleeing persecution that they may find refuge and comfort.	<b>5</b> Today is the Memorial of St. John Neumann, an immigrant to the U.S., known for his ministry to other immigrants. Discuss your family's cultural roots and pray for new immigrants.	<b>6</b> As National Migration Week continues, discuss how new immigrants enrich the life of the Church in the U.S. through their traditions of popular piety.	<b>7</b> Improve your poverty awareness by using the interactive map at <a href="http://povertyusa.org">povertyusa.org</a> to learn how many people in your state and county live below the poverty line.	<b>8</b> Pray today that immigrants, refugees, migrants, and people on the move are treated with dignity, respect, welcome, and belonging.	<b>9</b> Pray today for all families living in poverty and facing hunger. Read the snapshots of poverty at <a href="http://povertyusa.org">povertyusa.org</a> and discuss ways your family can help.	<b>10</b> Seek out and welcome immigrants in your parish, school, and neighborhood. Help plan and sponsor a multicultural festival at your school or parish.
<b>11</b> On this Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, retell the stories of your children's baptisms and renew your baptismal promises by reciting together the Apostle's Creed.	<p>“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel. —Mt 1:23</p>					