



***Nurturing Faith...  
Every Day in Every Way***

November 29, 2020

Isaiah 64:1-9  
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Mark 13:24-37



***First Sunday of Advent***

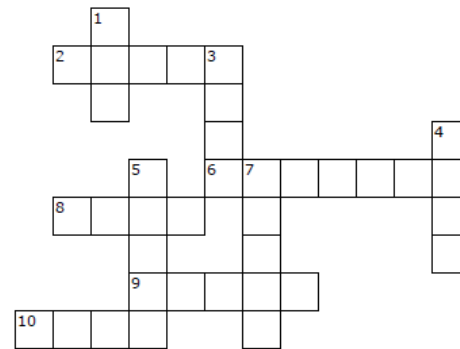
Hello friends! Today, I want you to think waaayyyy back to when you started the new school year. I know, it was a long time ago, but I bet you can still remember it. Can you think of the things that you and your family did to get ready to begin the new school year? Maybe you bought school supplies? New notebooks and crayons? Did you have to go online and find your schedule and get set up for virtual learning? Why did you do these things? Yes! So you'd be prepared when the day finally came for you to begin classes. (Thank your grown-ups!!)

In our gospel lesson from Mark, Jesus is doing the same thing...trying to prepare his disciples. He tells them to be awake and alert, to be ready. Nobody likes to be caught off-guard.

Just like we have the first day of school, today is the first day of the Church new year! Today is the first Sunday in Advent. This time of Advent prepares our hearts and minds for hearing stories about Jesus and the lessons that he teaches us. Advent actually means "coming." It's a time of preparation. Jesus says in today's Gospel that he is coming back someday; we just don't know when. In fact, NO ONE but God knows when that will be. But, just like the disciples, we must be ready. We can ready ourselves by reading and talking about the stories that remind us of what Jesus' life and ministry are meant to do, then when we know these stories and listen to Christ's teachings, we'll know how to respond...by sharing that Good News with others.

Loving God, your Son teaches us all that we need to know about living our best lives. Help us to follow his teachings so that we can share his love with others. Amen.

***Crossword Puzzle***



**ACROSS**

- 2. To keep an eye on; to guard
- 6. An adult male chicken
- 8. To have information about something; to be aware of something
- 9. To be in a period of rest such as when we go to bed at night
- 10. A particular moment in the day, such as eight o'clock

**DOWN**

- 1. A period of 24 hours
- 3. A period of sixty minutes
- 4. The loud cry of an adult male chicken
- 5. The place where a person or family lives
- 7. The person who has something such as property

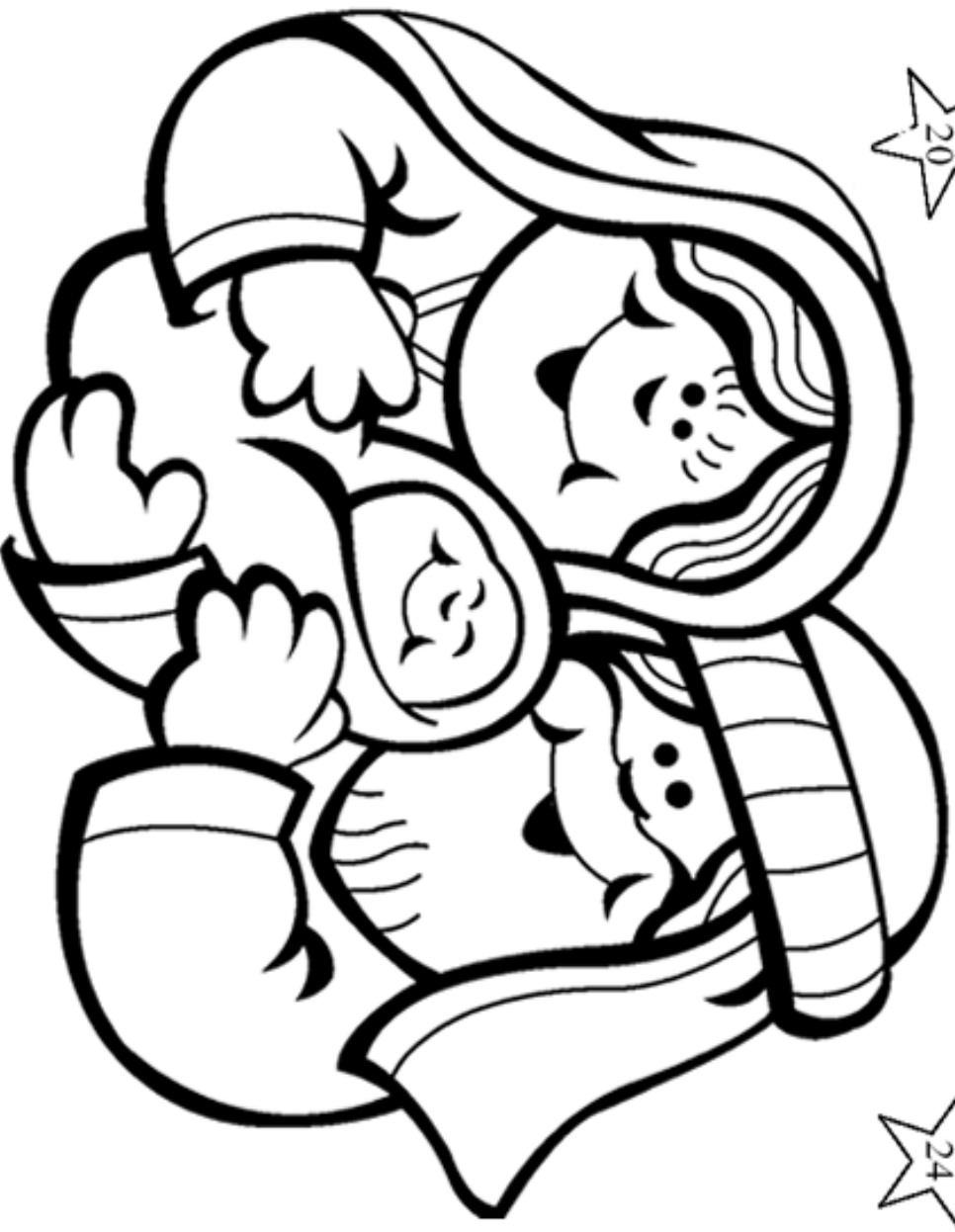
HOUR	DAY	WATCH	OWNER	KNOW
CROW	TIME	ROOSTER	SLEEP	HOUSE

**Activity:** No one likes to wait! We all want what we want RIGHT NOW!! Try this experiment. Have a grown-up set a timer. Our goal is three minutes. Sit in silence. When you think the three minutes are up, tell your grown-up to stop the timer. Were you close?

**Family Table Prayer for November:**

God you provide all that we need, your blessings are all around. Help us to open our eyes to all that you do and where your love can be found. Amen.

**November Memory Verse:** I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart; I will tell everyone of your wonderful deeds. Psalm 9:1



Color the picture of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. Then, beginning December 1st, color one star each