







## First Week of Advent – Weekend of November 26-27, 2022

SYMBOL	IMAGE	SYMBOLIZES	REPRESENTS
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Trees</b></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Eternal Life</i> <i>(Giving Tree at St. Francis)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Even before Christ’s birth, trees that stayed green all year long carried a special meaning for people.</li> <li>➤ A green, thriving evergreen tree in the winter remind people of hope and new life.</li> <li>➤ Because of Jesus, we can have <i>everlasting</i> life.</li> <li>➤ We can choose to see the <i>evergreen</i> tree as a natural symbol of Him and His gift to us.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Holly</b></p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Holy</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Sharp edges of the holly leaf can remind us of the crown of thorns placed on the Savior’s head.</li> <li>➤ The red holly berries remind us of the blood shed for all of us.</li> </ul>




**Second Week of Advent – Weekend of December 3-4, 2022**

SYMBOL	IMAGE	SYMBOLIZES	REPRESENTS
<b>Wreath</b>		<i>Eternity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Traditionally, wreaths are made of evergreens such as pine and branches of holly.</li> <li>➤ Their circular shape can represent eternity.</li> <li>➤ Wreaths hung on doors or in windows are like a symbolic invitation for the spirit of Christmas to fill our homes with the joy of the season.</li> </ul>
<b>Poinsettia</b>		<i>Star</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Like the evergreen trees, this is a plant that thrives during the winter and symbolizes new life.</li> <li>➤ The shape resembles a star, like the one that led the Wise Men to Jesus.</li> <li>➤ Red poinsettias can remind us of the blood that Christ spilled for us</li> <li>➤ White poinsettias can symbolize purity.</li> </ul>



## Third Week of Advent – Weekend of December 10-11, 2022

SYMBOL	IMAGE	SYMBOLIZES	REPRESENTS
<b>Bells</b>		<i>Gathering together</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For centuries, bells have been used to announce the arrival of the Christmas season.</li> <li>➤ Bells can symbolize the announcement of the birth of Christ when the angels in heaven praised God.</li> </ul>
<b>Candy Canes</b>		<i>Shepherds</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Perhaps a better name would be “candy crook.”</li> <li>➤ These can remind us of the staffs carried by the shepherds who visited the baby Jesus.</li> <li>➤ As you enjoy a candy cane, remember that Jesus is the Good Shepherd. If we choose to follow Him, He will gently lead us to safety and peace.</li> </ul>

## Fourth Week of Advent – Weekend of December 17-18, 2022

SYMBOL	IMAGE	SYMBOLIZES	REPRESENTS
<p><b>Lights and Candles</b></p>		<p><i>Light of the World</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Lights are on trees and on tables in our homes.</li> <li>➤ The beautiful lights and candles of every holiday season remind us that Jesus is the Light of the World.</li> <li>➤ Lights and candles remind us to be lights to others and to help others come unto Christ.</li> <li>➤ Candles also represent the light of the star that appeared at the birth of the Savior, and remind us that He is the Light of the World.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Angels</b></p>		<p><i>Messengers</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Angels in heaven praised God and declared, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.”</li> </ul>
<p><b>Nativity</b></p>		<p><i>Birth</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Christmas – the birth of our Savior on Christmas day.</li> </ul>

## Christmas/Epiphany – Weekends of December 24-25, 2022 and January 6-7, 2023

SYMBOL	IMAGE	SYMBOLIZES	REPRESENTS
<b>Star</b>		<i>New Star</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The star represents the star that appeared in the sky when Jesus was born</li> <li>➤ The star led the Wise Men to Jesus.</li> <li>➤ It reminds us to follow the light of the Savior as the Wise Men followed the light of the star to find Him.</li> </ul>
<b>Gifts</b>		<i>Gifts from the Wise Men</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Wise Men presented Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, but the greatest gift of all came from our Heavenly Father.</li> <li>➤ Christmas is the season of giving.</li> <li>➤ Remember that the Savior is the true gift of Christmas.</li> </ul>