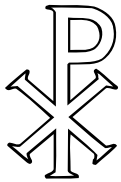




LIFE THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN
Devotions for Real Life

Advent Paper Chain 2022

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Saturday, December 3

Take a look at all of the special decorations that adorn the Christmas tree at church. You may have some that are called *Chrismons*. Each hand-made ornament is based on a symbol taken from the Bible. For example, the symbol to the left is called a “chi-rho” (pronounced “k-eye-row”) It’s made from the first two letters of the Greek word *Christ*: Χριστός

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Thursday, December 8

Getting ready for Christmas is all preparing and waiting. Mary, a young woman in Nazareth awaiting her marriage, was told that she would give birth to our Savior. The angel Gabriel told Mary, “You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus” (Luke 1:31 NIV). God’s people waited many centuries for the birth of our Savior. Now He has come!

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Tuesday, December 13

The practice of caroling, or singing songs in preparation for Christmas, has a long history. Many of our churches use the opportunity to reach out and bring joyful music to the older, shut-in members who are no longer physically able to come out to church for worship. Your Mom and Dad can find out more about Christmas carols at www.LifeThisSideOfHeaven.org/free-topical-booklets Our featured LHM booklet this month is “Glad Tidings” and it describes the heritage of ten classic carols.

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Sunday December 18

This Sunday, you may find yourself at a birthday party. Many churches sing “Happy Birthday” to Jesus and enjoy birthday cake and refreshments at this time of the year. Does that seem unusual? It helps to remind us that this is what the celebration of Christmas is all about. It’s a birthday celebration. Jesus was born to save us.

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Friday December 23

The shepherds outside of Bethlehem were the first to hear the Good News of Jesus' birth. They went and saw the baby Jesus in the stable and they worshipped Him. And then we hear, “When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them” (Luke 2:17-18 NIV). You can tell others about Jesus, too. Print out a free Christmas card from our site at www.LifeThisSideOfHeaven.org/christmas-cards

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