

# ABSOLUTELY ADVENT!

DAY BY DAY  
TO CHRISTMAS  
2017 ★

For Intermediate Grades



# Absolutely Advent!

**Day by Day to Christmas 2017**

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# First Monday of Advent

## December 4



### Today's Gospel: Matthew 8:5-11

A centurion asked Jesus to cure his paralyzed servant. Jesus offered to go cure the man. But the centurion said, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed" (8:5-8).

The centurion was not a Jew. He was a powerful member of the Roman army. He commanded a unit of 100 men. When he asked for something, he got it. Yet this centurion knew that Jesus was even more powerful than he. Jesus was very impressed with this man's faith.

The centurion had another virtue to be admired. Solve this acrostic to discover what it was. First, fill in the missing words in each sentence.

- 1 Lord, I am not   1     2     3     4     5     6  .
- 2 A   7     8     9    10   11   12   13   14   15  commands 100 men.
- 3 He was a member of the  16   17   18   19   20  army.
- 4 Jesus said, "  21  will come and cure the man."
- 5 The centurion's servant was  22   23   24   25   26   27   28   29   30 .

Now, fill in these blanks to find another virtue the centurion had.

  5    11   18   13   26   21    4    27



## First Tuesday of Advent December 5

### Today's Gospel: Luke 10:21-24

Jesus told his disciples, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! Many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it” (10:23-24).

If someone tells you something that sounds hard to believe, you probably ask, **“How do you know?”**

Look at these possible responses to your question. Rate each one with **B**, **N**, or **D**.

**B**=I'd believe it.

**N**=I wouldn't believe it.

**D**=It depends.

“I saw it in on the Internet.”

“It's in today's paper.”

“It was on TV last night.”

“I heard it on the radio.”

“Somebody told me.”

It is very important to get your information from a reliable source. So, “It depends” is a good answer if you mean “It depends on how reliable the website is, or the newspaper reporter, or the television or radio program, or the person who said it.”

It was important for those who followed Jesus to know for sure that he was who he said he was. They were people of the Jewish religion. They had prayed to God for centuries, asking for a Savior—a Messiah. Jesus was that Messiah, but people weren't just going to take his word for it. Anyone could say, “I am the Messiah.”

Those who believed in Jesus had seen the power he had. They had heard his words. They had asked him questions and had gotten answers they could understand. They were blessed with faith.



# First Wednesday of Advent

## December 6

### Today's Gospel: Matthew 15:29-37

Jesus took the seven loaves and few fish, gave thanks and broke them. He gave them to the disciples who distributed them to the people. Everyone ate and was filled (15:35-36).

Does this Gospel sound familiar? It may be one of the most repeated stories of the miracles of Jesus. Feeding thousands of his followers with only a few fish and seven loaves of bread was definitely something to remember. This Gospel also gives a hint about something Jesus would do for all of his followers, including us, before he died.

Solve this puzzle to find out what that was. Highlight or circle only those letters that are inside a fish or a loaf. Then, begin at the top and, reading left to right, put those letters on the line below.

