Archdiocesan Commission for Ecology

presents



Jungle Bells

An Eco-Friendly Christmas

To mark the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi, the Archdiocesan Commission for Ecology invites all parishes and communities to celebrate an eco-friendly Christmas that inspires the faithful to love, respect and care for creation.

JINGLE, JUNGLE & GO GREEN!

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This Advent, bring your faith and care for creation to life through simple, joyful and meaningful activities. Explore these four initiatives and make your Christmas celebrations more eco-friendly!

Leaves of Love

Weeks in Advent

Click for Creation

Eco-Crib & Green Decoration Competition

Scroll down to explore

Leaves of Love

Growing the Tree of Christmas Virtues

A simple yet meaningful way to prepare our hearts for Christmas through everyday acts of kindness and goodness.

Here's what your parish/institute can do:

Place a skeleton tree/branches near the parish crib or within the campus in a pot. Parishioners/participants can be given paper leaves to take part in this activity.

Each week focuses on one of the four Christmas virtues (Joy, Hope, Love, and Peace) with simple tasks encouraging everyone to put these virtues into action. After completing the weekly task, participants can write a short reflection or share their experience on a paper leaf and tie it to the tree.

As the weeks go by, the tree will gradually come alive with leaves of Joy, Hope, Love and Peace, a beautiful reminder of the little ways in which we prepare our hearts to welcome Jesus this Christmas.

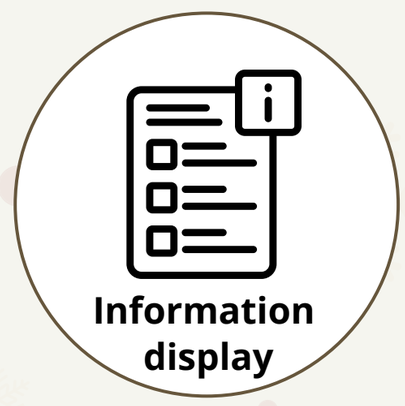
Turn to the next page for sample weekly tasks.



Materials Required











Weeks in Advent

Growing the Tree of Christmas Virtues

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Kinder-Joy

Activity: Do small acts of kindness: help someone, greet others, share a smile, etc. Note these acts in your notebook or diary.

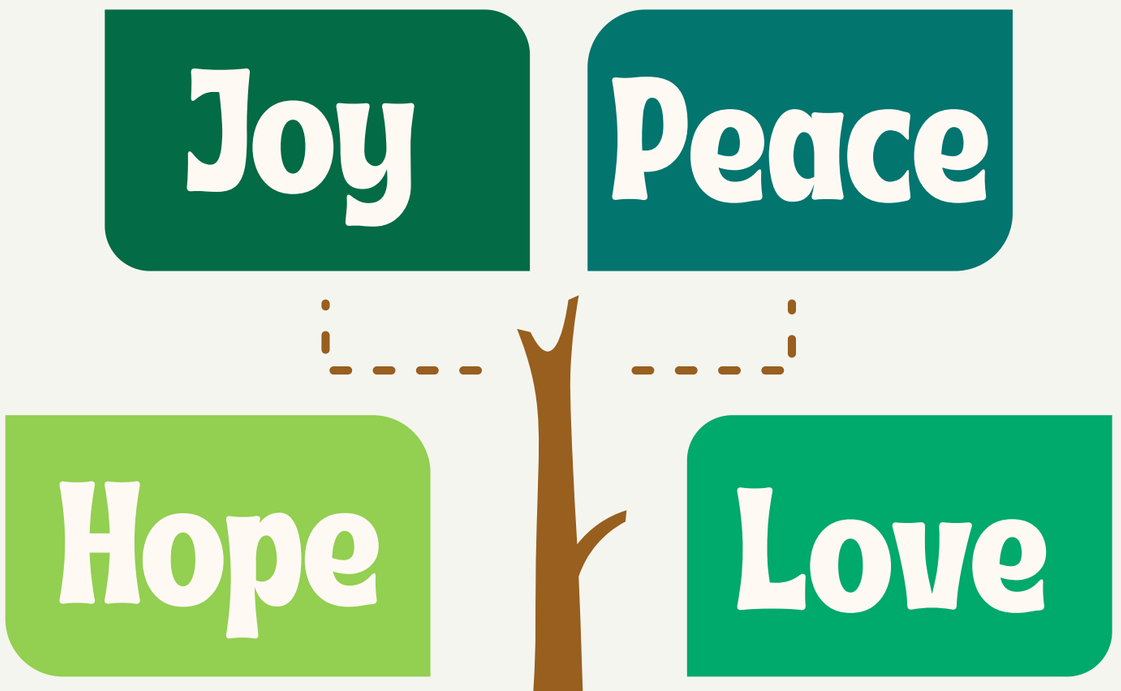
Objective: Kindness keeps Jesus warm in the coldness of our hearts.

Share a Piece

Activity: Feed a needy person at least once during the week.

Objective: By feeding the hungry, we help others experience peace especially from the pain of hunger and thus help Jesus to be born in them too.







Walk for Hope

Activity: Avoid using automobiles whenever possible; choose to walk short distances. Note down the times you walked instead of using a vehicle.

Objective: By reducing pollution and choosing to walk, we make small sacrifices that bring comfort to Jesus and nurture creation.



Tech-No-Time

Activity: Reduce screen time and spend more time with family and friends.
Record how much you reduced screen time and how you spent that time lovingly with others.

Objective: By sharing love and joy with others, we make our hearts a happy and welcoming place for Jesus to be born.



Click for Creation

Photography Competition (Family Competition)

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Encourage families to spend quality time together in nature, appreciate God's creation, and capture beautiful moments of togetherness.

Activity:

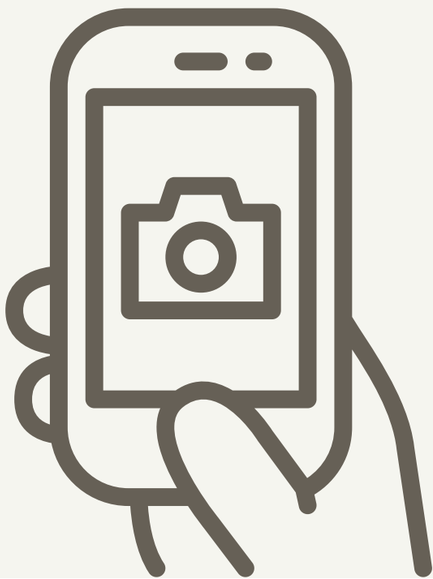
- Families are invited to visit a garden, park, beach, forest or any natural setting.
- Click a family photograph amidst nature.
- The photograph should capture the family's togetherness and connection with nature.
- Submit the photograph to the parish before the announced deadline.
- Photographs can be displayed during the Christmas celebration in the parish campus or social media page.

Categories:

Most Creative Photograph

Best Connection with Nature





Eco-Crib & Green Decoration Competition

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Bring your parish community together to create Christmas cribs using materials that care for our common home!

Natural
Leaves, twigs, bamboo

Recycled
Paper, cardboard, bottles

Reusable
Decorations from previous years

Upcycled
Give old materials new life

WHAT MAKES IT SPECIAL?

Creativity

Originality and artistic presentation.

Biblical Message

Use of natural and eco-friendly materials.

Environmental Friendliness

How effectively the crib communicates the message of Christ's birth

Innovative Reuse of Materials

Innovative use of recycled and upcycled materials.

Let us celebrate the birth of Jesus through creative, eco-friendly cribs and decorations, making care for our common home an expression of our Christian faith.

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SHARE YOUR JUNGLE BELLS!



Tag **@aoe_bombay** in your photos and videos of eco-friendly Christmas celebrations, whether as a parish, community, family or an individual.

Let’s make Christmas greener, one little act at a time!