

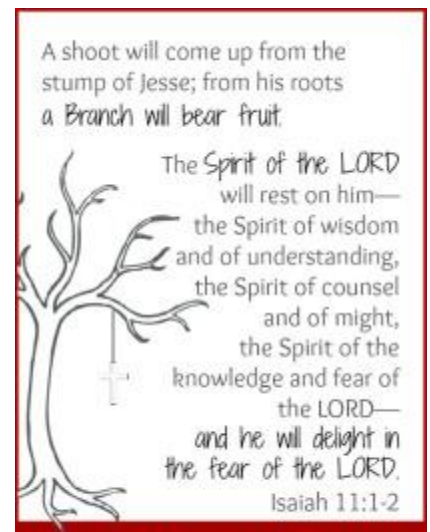
# St. John's Newsletter



## Tradition of the Jesse Tree

For Advent 2022, St. John's is reintroducing the tradition of decorating a Jesse tree. The tradition honors the family history of Jesus and reminds us of the events, men and women chronicled in the Bible before the birth of Jesus. During the time of the prophet Isaiah, the Jewish people were in exile and struggling to live.

As Isaiah prophesied, there is hope in the future because God is good and will care for his people. While a stump isn't a very positive image in itself, knowing that new life will sprout from it is hopeful. **Jesus** is the shoot from the family of Jesse. King David was the son of Jesse and Jesus followed the Davidic line, showing his kingship.



Prayerfully enjoy the beauty of the reflections shared at the beginning of each Mass by our parish families and let that be a part of your advent journey. There are reflections for every day. You don't even need the tree and ornaments to read the daily scripture. A list of daily scripture (and suggested symbols) is on the back of the newsletter.

The tradition of decorating a Jesse tree has been encouraged as a family advent event. As we reflect as a parish family in church, members of a family can gather and read a small reflection remembering the roots of our salvation story.

You can set up a Jesse tree tradition in your home with your own family. Online resources are available to purchase or make the ornaments. (Just Search: Jesse Tree Advent) Or you can look at the suggested symbol and create your own. (I am not that gifted.) It can be as simple or elaborate as you wish.

Just like the Advent Wreath that is a part of our homes at this time, the Jesse tree can bring the real story to life for us all. **Jesus is the reason for the season.**

Online Sources;

[https://www.proverbialhomemaker.com/jesse-tree-advent-tradition?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=pinterest&utm\\_campaign=tailwind\\_smartloop&utm\\_content=smartloop&utm\\_term=40622568](https://www.proverbialhomemaker.com/jesse-tree-advent-tradition?utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest&utm_campaign=tailwind_smartloop&utm_content=smartloop&utm_term=40622568)

Volume 13 -December 2022 -- St. John's Newsletter is a once-a-month publication aimed at providing you with items of interest about our Catholic faith. If there is a topic you are interested in, please contact the parish office and we will try to address it in future issues. - Submitted by Mary Jo Peters

## Jesse Tree Scriptures

(The symbols are only suggestions)

### December 1

Creation: Gen. 1:1-31; 2:1-4  
 Symbols: sun, moon, stars, animals, earth

### December 2

Adam and Eve: Gen. 2:7-9, 18-24  
 Symbols: tree, man, woman

### December 3

Fall of Man: Gen. 3:1-7 and 23-24  
 Symbols: tree, serpent, apple with bite

### December 4

Noah: Gen. 6:5-8, 13-22; 7:17, 23, 24; 8:1, 6-22  
 Symbols: ark, animals, dove, rainbow

### December 5

Abraham: Gen. 12:1-3  
 Symbols: torch, sword, mountain

### December 6

Isaac: Gen. 22:1-14  
 Symbols: bundle of wood, altar, ram in bush

### December 7

Jacob: Gen. 25:1-34; 28:10-15  
 Symbols: kettle, ladder

### December 8

Joseph: Gen. 25:1-34; 28:10-15  
 Symbols: bucket, well, silver coins, tunic

### December 9

Moses: Ex. 2:1-10  
 Symbols: baby in basket, river and vegetation

### December 10

Samuel: 1 Sam. 3:1-18  
 Symbols: lamp, temple

### December 11

Jesse: 1 Sam. 16:1-13  
 Symbols: crimson robe, shepherd's staff

### December 12

David: 1 Sam. 17:12-51  
 Symbols: slingshot, 6-pointed star

### December 13

Solomon: 1 Kings 3:5-14, 16-28  
 Symbols: scales of justice, temple, two babies and sword

### December 14

Joseph: Matt. 1:18-25  
 Symbols: hammer, saw, chisel, angle

### December 15

Mary: Matt. 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38  
 Symbols: lily, crown of stars, pierced heart

### December 16

John the Baptist: Mark 1:1-8  
 Symbols: shell with water, river

*On December 17, the Church begins to intensify the preparation for Christmas with the use of the "O" Antiphons during the Liturgy of the Hours. The symbols for the Jesse Tree from December 17 to 23 are based on the "O" Antiphons.*

### December 17

Jesus is Wisdom: Sirach (or Ecclesiasticus in old Bibles) 24:2; Wisdom 8:1

Symbols: oil lamp, open book

### December 18

Jesus is Lord: Ex. 3:2; 20:1  
 Symbols: burning bush, stone tablets

### December 19

Jesus is Flower of Jesse: Isaiah 11:1-3  
 Symbols: flower, plant with flower

### December 20

Jesus is Key of David: Isaiah 22:22  
 Symbols: key, broken chains

### December 21

Jesus is the Radiant Dawn: Psalm 19:6-7 (in older Bibles this will be Psalm 18)

Symbols: sun rising or high in sky

### December 22

Jesus is King of the Gentiles: Psalm 2:7-8; Ephesians 2:14-20  
 Symbols: crown, scepter

### December 23

Jesus is Emmanuel: Isaiah 7:14; 33:22  
 Symbols: tablets of stone, chalice and host

### December 24

Jesus is Light of the World: John 1:1-14  
 Symbols: candle, flame, sun