

Advent

Advent comes from the Latin adventus, meaning 'arrival' or 'coming'. It is a special season in the Catholic Church which we use to prepare ourselves to celebrate the Lord's coming into the world as the incarnate God of love at Christmas; the importance of Christ in our lives; and refers to his second coming at the end of time.

However, for some people Christmas can be a challenging and difficult time. Many in our local community are facing food and basic needs poverty.

This Advent Giving Calendar is designed for you to use this season as a time to think about those who might need some extra support this Christmas.

Advent Giving / Reverse Advent Calendar

For Advent this year, St Gregory's SVP are trying a **Reverse Advent Calendar** (scan barcode on the palm tree to visit our St Gregory's SVP Foodbank webpage where you can download this calendar).

Instead of a *receiving* calendar, this is a *giving* calendar. We are asking families to set aside a small, empty box and add items to it during Advent.

To help you make up your food parcel, each day in Advent find the corresponding angel, star or sheep which will show you the item our Foodbank is in need of. We know that currently we are all living in difficult times so please be as generous as you feel comfortable with.

In the week before Christmas, simply bring your food box to St. Gregory the Great Parish, Victoria Road and we will distribute them from our SVP Food Bank.

This might be a fun activity to do with children -- in addition to the normal, chocolate-focused *receiving* calendar, of course!