



La Vista Ecological Learning Center

A ministry of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
December 1, 2016
E-Newsletter

COSMIC ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYERS

- Week 1: Birth of the Universe
Come, Sacred Source of All Life
Come, waken me to ONENESS
- Week 2: Birth of the Solar System
Come, Wondrous Community of
Infinite Love
Come, waken me to PRAISE
- Week 3: Birth of Jesus the Christ
Come, Risen Christ, Incarnate Love
Come, waken me to LOVE
- Week 4: My Birth into the Whole Cosmic
Body of the Universe
Come, Ever-Present,
Ever-Coming Christ
Come, waken me to WONDER



(You can purchase the complete version created by Gen Cassani, SSND, for \$2.00 by contacting gassani@ssndcp.org. Even though we are well into Advent, this would be worth the small price. There is a 8 ½ x 11 picture with reflections on the back, plus a 3 x 3 pamphlet with candle lighting prayers.)

December 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Reflection

The Word is living, being, spirit, all verdant greening, all creativity.
This Word manifests itself in every creature.

We pray to be awakened to the sacredness of matter
in our own bodies, in all of life, and in Earth herself. *My soul magnifies. . .*

December 10, Death Day of Thomas Merton

We ponder Merton's words:

"There is in all things
an inexhaustible sweetness and purity,

a silence that is a fountain of action and joy.
It rises up in wordless gentleness
and flows out to me
from unseen roots
of all created being.

- Thomas Merton



December 12, Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas

Today we remember all migrants, our vulnerable population needing us to speak on behalf of their human rights and dignity.

May we align ourselves with their struggles and
strive to be a voice with and for them.

December 13, Feast of St. Lucy

As we celebrate Lucy, whose name means light, we invite you to take a walk outdoors and imagine the light within yourself. See if you can affect your vision of the world, discovering light burning in each person you pass, in each tree, bush, animal, home.

You are the light of the world. (Matthew 5:14)

December 17, Winter Solstice Celebration at La Vista, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Please join us as we explore Advent themes of light and birth. And, keeping with tradition, we will have the opportunity to make a green resolution for the coming year - more important than ever at this time in our country!

You are asked to bring a seasonal treat to share. We will provide Mexican hot chocolate, coffee and tea.

Registration: Call 618-466-5004 or e-mail info@lavistaelc.org . In your message, please include your name and the number attending.



LOOKING AHEAD, Save the Date:
Winterfires Coffeehouse - Brewing Hope
Saturday, January 21, 2017, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

