

## *The Week of Preparation*

*Monday, December 7*



Light two purple candles: the candle of *Hope*, and the candle of *Preparation*.



Read Luke 1:39-56



**Have a 'Serve Others Day'**, in which all your family members do that day is serve others, and do nothing for yourselves. Be creative, proactive, and thoughtful.



**Cone Christmas Tree.** Find a cone shaped Styrofoam from a craft store. Starting at the bottom, pin beads in circular row. Continue on up, pinning beads along the cone. Occasionally insert a colored bead as a tree ornament. (Other idea: wrap the Mardi Gras necklace tightly around the cone, gluing as you go. Insert pins to hold the beads in place until the glue dries. These may be removed later.) Insert the star bead into the very top of the cone and glue in place. (Supplies: Styrofoam cones from craft store, green beads, enough to cover about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the cone, varied colored beads to use as ornaments, (or instead of single beads, use Mardi Gras necklaces), short pins with heads that won't slide through bead holes, star shape or star shaped bead)



Today and in every day of the holiday season we will focus on Jesus, the true gift of Christmas. Each time we give to others it is a gift to him. (Matthew 25:40) Help us to be kind, generous and merciful and to reflect His grace every day, In Jesus' name, Amen.



"When you pray, rather let your heart be without words than your words without heart." John Bunyan

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