

## *The Week of Preparation*

*Wednesday, December 9*



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



Read Luke 2:22-35 and Luke 2:39-40.



**Pass around a roll of toilet paper.** Have each person take off as many squares as they feel like. Do not tell them what the toilet paper sections are for. When everyone has done this, have them share something unknown and surprising about themselves, or a Christmas memory, one each for each square they took from the roll.



**Splatter Project.** Spread newspaper over craft table. Place white paper on newspaper. Place evergreen branch on paper. Dip brushes in paint and carefully splatter paint onto paper. Splatter lightly but enough that the outline of the evergreen shows. Let dry a little without moving the evergreen and repeat with another color. Try with different objects. Optional: Fold the paper in half first, and use the art as a greeting card. (Supplies: craft paint, choose a nice combo of colors: red and gold or red, green, and white, medium to large craft paint brushes, one or more of the following: evergreen branch, branch of holly with berries, crucifix or other Christmas symbol, newspaper)



Lord, shield us from giving out of obligation, and help us to give generously to others, from our hearts. Teach us to excel in this grace of giving of our time and attention. Lead us to cross paths with those who need us. In His precious name, Amen.



“From what we get, we can make a living; from what we give, however, makes a life.”

Arthur Ashe, American tennis player, (1943-1993)

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