

Mrs. Wendell and Mrs. Kensity..... grade 2

The real light, which gives light to every person, was coming into the world (John 1:90)

In this passage and elsewhere in the Gospel of John, the symbol of light, representing Christ, is contrasted with the symbol of darkness, representing sin. When we see Christmas trees trimmed with lights and windows graced with candles, they should remind us of the birth of Jesus, the light of the world, who came to do away with the darkness of sin.

In this season of Advent, as we gather to wait in the darkness of winter nights for Jesus our Light to come, may our hearts be filled with joy and promise. Attached you will find a candle with five hearts on it. I am asking the children to fill in one of the hearts when one of the following tasks has been completed. My hope is that all five hearts are filled in at the end of Advent.

Invite your children to offer the Light of Christ to others through these activities:

- 1. List the names of five people who brighten your life. Tell each person, by phone, email, card, etc. how he or she makes your life brighter.**
- 2. Include someone, with whom you do not usually associate, in your circle of family or friends. Watch for the special glow about him/her.**
- 3. Offer a friendly smile and gracious greeting to everyone you meet during Advent. Notice how your smile is contagious.**
- 4. Hug your parents today and tell them that you love them. Your message will light up their lives.**
- 5. Eliminate something from your Christmas requests. Ask your parents to donate the money or gift to someone who needs it more than you. Think about that person whose life will be brighter because of your gift.**

When you complete a task, fill in a heart.

Bring these candles back to school after Christmas break. Use these small tasks to share the light with not only your family, but others as well! I hope your family "glows" as it awaits the birth of Christ.

Merry Christmas!

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