

## December 2024

The Christmas season is filled with expectations of joy. Images of jolly Saint Nick, smiling snowmen, and grinning children abound. Franciscan joy, though, is not about constant cheer and optimism. Francis believed perfect joy is achieved by developing the ability to endure all the pleasant and unpleasant experiences of life with the perfect peace that comes from trusting in God. Advent itself is an opportunity to experience the joy that comes from trusting that God will deliver exactly what is needed to save us. What will you entrust to God this Christmas season?



## **REFLECTION**

"Joy is the true gift of Christmas, not expensive presents that demand time and money. We can transmit this joy simply: with a smile, with a kind gesture, with some small help, with forgiveness. Let us give this joy and the joy given will be returned to us. Let us seek in particular to communicate the deepest joy, that of knowing God in Christ. Let us pray that this presence of God's liberating joy will shine out in our lives."

Homily of His Holiness Benedict XVI, Fourth Sunday of Advent, Dec. 18, 2005



#### **TEAM DISCUSSION**

What can you entrust to God this Christmas season to make more room for peace, joy, and calm?

How can you "transmit this joy simply" to your patients, colleagues, and loved ones this month?



#### DATES TO REMEMBER

December 1 World AIDS Day

December 1 - 24 Advent

**December 12** Saint Vincent's Foundation Day

**December 25** Christmas

**December 6** Saint Nicholas's Feast Day

**December 27** Saint John's Feast Day

**December 29** Feast of the Holy Family

The Mission Module is a Huddle Board Resource. Once each month, find 5-7 minutes at your huddle board to read the reflection as a team and talk out loud with one another about the "Team Discussion" prompts.

We welcome positive or constructive feedback on modules. Connect with Mary at Mary.Salm@hshs.org.



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