



## Take-Home Activity

# Ways to Stay Awake

### Grades 6-8

Post this listing in a place where you will see it each day. Then take on the challenge of completing the days' assigned action. Some days, you will be asked to come up with your own action or prayer.

#### **December 3:**

Think about people who need hope during the Advent / Christmas Seasons. Write down the name(s) of one or a few of these people. Then think of some ways you can help them during Advent / at Christmas. Pray for your mission family who may face great poverty, persecution or hopelessness.

#### **December 4:**

Conduct an "Advent cleaning" in your home. Identify items like clothes, household goods and toys you no longer use. Collect those items and donate them to a local group – maybe your parish's thrift shop – that distributes them to people in need. Or, consider holding a yard sale, and donating the money to your Holy Bucket, with your parents approval and help, of course.

#### **December 5:**

Make a list of all of the things you like most about each of your family members. Share the list with them today. Thank God for the gift of family.

#### **December 6:**

Determine your own act of goodness for today. Write it down in the space provided below.



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#### **December 7:**

Find out the name of a missionary from your parish or diocesan mission office. Commit to praying for that person from today through the Feast of the Epiphany.

#### **December 8:**

Today is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pray the World Mission Rosary, if possible with your family. Learn more at [www.WorldMissionRosary.org](http://www.WorldMissionRosary.org)

#### **December 9:**

Do a "web quest" to learn more about a particular country in the Missions. See how many Catholics live there, who first brought the faith to that country, and what patron saints are honored there.

#### **December 10:**

Decide your own act of goodness for today. Write it down in the space provided below.



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#### **December 11:**

Today, talk with or have lunch with someone who is not popular in your school or among your friends. Think of someone in the Missions who might be lonely or isolated, and pray for that person and the missionaries who reach out to them.

#### **December 12:**

Say good morning (or afternoon) to each person you meet today.

#### **December 13:**

Do an extra household chore today, without being asked.

**December 14:**

Whenever you are in a line today, pray for the persons in front of and behind you. Pray for those in the Missions whom you don't know, but who count on your prayers.

**December 15:**

Make or buy a Christmas card for a favorite teacher. Bring the card to school tomorrow, and put it on his or her desk.

**December 16:**

Ask your extended family members (aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents) to consider donating to your **MISSIO** project. Remember even the smallest donations can make a difference.

**December 17:**

Say a prayer for all those who are hungry and in need of food and shelter, right in your neighborhood and half a world away.

**December 18:**

Make a point to hug everyone in your family today. Say a prayer for a child in the Missions who may not feel loved. Pray a missionary reaches him or her with God's love this day.

**December 19:**

"Be an angel" for the Missions! Ask your pastor to hang some angels on your parish Christmas tree, encouraging people to donate to the Missions!

**December 20:**

Decide your own act of goodness for today. Write it down in the space provided below.



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**December 21:**

Forgive someone who has hurt you. Pray for peace in places in the Missions where there is war or fighting.

**December 22:**

Today, smile at your teachers and classmates. Imagine your joy reaches your mission family across the globe.

**December 23:**

Ask friends of your family to consider donating to the **MISSIO** project. Be sure to explain why you are collecting the funds, and how they will be used.

**December 24:**

Who are the people in your neighborhood, school, or community who are lonely, excluded, or a bit different? Take time today to offer a kind word to a few of them. If you are not able to reach out to someone, pray for him/her instead. Pray for missionaries who reach out this day to those who are alone or abandoned.

**December 25:**

Choose one of the new gifts you received for Christmas and donate it to someone in need.