

# 2017 Advent Calendar Companion for Children



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Dear Friends,

Our Advent Calendar Companion counts the days of December in anticipation of Christmas. It's a great opportunity to shape generosity in your children and teach them about the deeper meaning of Christmas – giving, sharing and empathy.

This Christmas your children can use the Advent Calendar Companion to help refugee children living at Christie Refugee Welcome Centre who are spending their first Christmas in Canada. These children have left their homes, family members and friends, and arrive at the shelter with barely a suitcase of clothing and personal items. The money you collect will help refugee children have a warm and happy Christmas.

The Calendar Companion runs from December 1st to 24th and is designed to accompany an Advent Calendar that you have obtained for your children. Each day, your children can use their Advent Calendar (and get a piece of chocolate!) and then use our Companion by following the day's suggestion for dropping a few coins into a jar. On Dec. 1st for example, 5 cents are requested for every year your child has lived. The total amount of the whole calendar is between 5 and 10 dollars. The suggestions relate to basic needs – healthy food, clean water and warm, comfortable living – that Canadians often take for granted but that are luxuries for many families in developing countries. This allows even young children to reflect on their relative wealth and to act on their generous wishes. Children will also use their math skills to count each day's donation. Donations can be made online at our website listed below.



Thank you for considering this opportunity to help refugee children. Merry Christmas!

*P.S. You can find a downloadable PDF version of the Calendar Companion on our website!*