

Deacon Ron's 40-Day Advent Prayer Challenge - Nov 15th - Dec 24th

Items Needed: - 1 Deck of Cards (with 2 Jokers)

Step-by-Step Card Setup (40 Total Cards)

Step 1: Remove and Discard Unused Cards

- Remove the Jack, Queen, and King of **Clubs, Spades, and Diamonds** (9 cards total).
- Remove **one of the two Jokers** (1 card).
- *Set these 10 cards aside—they are not used in the challenge.*

Step 2: Set aside the Cards that will symbolize the Holy Family and Thanksgiving Day

- Hold the **Jack, Queen, and King of Hearts** and the remaining **one Joker** to the side.
 - *(These 4 cards will be added back into the deck later.)*

Step 3: Discard the Extra Cards

- Shuffle the remaining cards and remove the first **4 cards** from the top of the deck.
Set these 4 cards aside—they are not used in the challenge.
- *(This step leaves exactly 36 cards to be used as the body of the challenge.)*

Step 4: Insert the Joker (Day 13)

- Keep the main pile of 36 cards faced down.
- Without looking at any of the cards, place the reserved **Joker** in the deck after the first **12** cards.
 - The Joker will be the **13th card** in the pile.
 - **This will represent Thanksgiving Day (November 27th). - a day off from fasting but a day to Pray a prayer of Thanksgiving (your choice)**

Step 5: Place the Final Cards Representing the Holy Family (Days 38-40)

- Place the **Jack, Queen, and King of Hearts** at the *bottom* of the deck in this order:
 - **Jack of Hearts** (Joseph - Day 38)
 - **Queen of Hearts** (Mary - Day 39)
 - **King of Hearts** (Our Lord Jesus Christ - Day 40)

Step 5: Begin your 40 Day Advent Prayer Challenge (Saturday, Nov 15th)

- Pick one card from the top of the deck each day to reveal your daily Advent Prayer Challenge. *(if you already pray the rosary add this challenge on top of your daily rosary)*

Value of Cards:

- **Number Cards (2-10):** Value shown on the card = Number of Hail Mary's to be said.
- **Ace:** Rosary of the Day - (or Divine Mercy Chaplet if you already pray a daily rosary)
 - Rosary resources can be found at: <https://www.rosarycenter.org/>