

Make A Family Orthodox Advent Calendar - 2007 UPDATE

Orthodox Family Life, Vol 4 Iss 1

1. Use small gold safety pins instead of Velcro. They add shine and look great. Over time, the Velcro wears out and stretches the felt.
2. Make all the pockets the same size. #3 describes using cards tucked into each pocket with the month and the date. Thus there is no need for wide pockets for the months.
3. Do not write months & dates on the felt with puffy paint as originally directed. Cut rectangular pieces of paper that are ½" taller than the pockets. Write the months & dates on the top ½" of each piece. Use a parchment-like color card stock or a color you feel complements the banner's background.
4. If you can find a miniature Nativity set with all the pieces listed on the first page of the original directions, you will have the needed people and animals. Check the display area for miniature tree decorations.

Remember, you can make whatever items you do not find ready-made.

1. Use fast drying clay.
2. Use "foamies" that are precut or cut your own.
3. Use magazine pictures glued to card stock. Laminate the pictures or place them between two pieces of wide clear packing tape.
 - To make the use of the gold safety pins easier, glue a loop of 1/8" ribbon to a corner. [Figure 1]
 - Or attach the card stock onto a piece of ribbon that extends above and below. [Figure 2]
4. Download clip art from Microsoft, edit it to the needed size and then continue with #3. Print one or more items on one sheet of card stock, then cut them out and laminate as in #3.
5. Use your imagination. Add glitter glue, ribbons, bows, puffy paint, fabric, etc. to any of the ornaments to enhance their beauty.

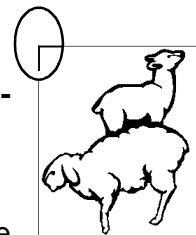


Figure 1

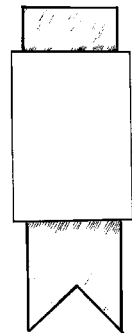


Figure 2

The icons are available in a separate PDF file.

- In the original directions, my koumbara Lydia Lekas was the contact person for the icons. Lydia passed away in 2006. I found the needed icons online.
- Once the icons are trimmed, laminate them or place them between two pieces of wide clear packing tape. [Be careful that the tape does not crease when you place the icon on it. Practice with other pictures until you get the feel of the tape.]

Use **Adobe Reader** to open PDF files.

- Once you have **Adobe Reader**, open the file [1] directly from the email by clicking onto the paperclip or file name [whichever is used by your computer program], or [2] save the file to the hard drive, open **Adobe Reader**, and then open the file from within **Adobe Reader**.
- Adobe Reader is a free download from Adobe - <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/>.
- Scroll down to the Adobe Reader button. Click on the button and follow the directions.