

The First Candle

CELEBRATE IT Who gave me something of themselves this year?

What you've been given is yours to pass on.

REMEMBER Nicholas and the First Candle

A grown-up reads the story of Nicholas, and the first candle is lit when it ends. The candle words are in the Guide (page 137). Kids with the activity book can say them back from its page 31.

Stage or secret? What the kids said they'd pick, and why _____

REJOICE The First Opening

A line from the gold ornaments written to me that I want to keep

What the kids said. After the reading, ask, "Which one meant the most to you?" Write it the way they say it.

READY Check Your Shoes and Make the Plan

The Plan for December 5 to 7. A name or two on each line is enough, and a plan only has to be good enough to follow. The shoe money goes on the Resources line, given without your name on December 6. The hard-year name on page 42 and the names you listed on December 2 may fit there too.

Time · December 5

Who needs my time when I'd rather rest?

Resources · December 6

Who could use something I have? (Suggested organizations: the Guide, page 143.)

Words · December 7

Who needs to hear what I see in them?

Optional: the Christmas agreement

One gift for each of the others in the house, picked with one question: what will make their life better?

For _____ For _____

For _____ For _____