

## **25 COVID-friendly Acts of Kindness to Help Our Hearts Focus on Others this Christmas**

1. **Collect your change all month and donate it to a food pantry before Christmas.**
2. **Record a story on video to share with a family member: kids read a story to their grandparents; grandparents read a story to their grandkids – choose a special Christmas story. Grandchildren may want to read A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens in several videos segments; grandparents may want to read one of the stories from the Advent calendar of stories posted on my blog.**
3. **Donate gently used items to a local crisis nursery and include some essential new items such as packs of diapers or canned goods.**
4. **Write a letter to your pastor and his family thanking them for the ministry they do.**
5. **Leave a note on the mirror for someone in your family encouraging them with why you appreciate them and adding a Bible verse to inspire them.**
6. **Decorate a pinecone with peanut butter and bird seed for the birds in your neighborhood. Hang it from a tree and see what birds visit.**
7. **Make a phone call or facetime with someone you haven't seen in a while, maybe an elderly member of your church or a Sunday School teacher you appreciate.**
8. **Send a coffee gift card or teacher's store gift card to your teacher thanking him or her for the hard work they are doing during this interesting time. Include it in a handmade card that you draw and write a personal note in.**
9. **If it's not too cold where you are, invite a couple friends over for a social distanced movie night. Project the movie onto your garage door. Serve popcorn and hot chocolate and watch a funny Christmas movie together.**
10. **Stand on the corner with a sign wishing people a Merry Christmas as they drive by. Be sure to wave and smile (even if they can't see it through your mask) and spread Christmas cheer.**
11. **Find out what your community is doing for the homeless during this season. If appropriate, help where you can. If that isn't appropriate, then see about giving some of your older toys or buying a new toy for a women's shelter.**
12. **Pay for a meal at your local restaurant in advance for someone in need.**
13. **Pick up and deliver groceries for an elderly neighbor.**
14. **Do you have books that you've outgrown? Gather them up to donate to a local shelter or a children's ward at the hospital. Choose your favorite of those books and write a note in it to the next reader.**
15. **Do a chore for one of your family members without them asking. Wash the dishes when it isn't your turn or surprise your mom by doing a chore she usually does. Wake up early and clean your room surprising your mom and dad when they come to wake you up.**
16. **Read a bedtime story to your mom and dad.**
17. **After dinner, clear your dishes and your parents' dishes off the table. If you're old enough, rinse them and put them in the dishwasher.**
18. **Bring in your neighbor's garbage cans from the curb.**
19. **Make and decorate cookies for your neighbors and deliver them with notes of encouragement and a Christmas card. Make an extra couple batches for your local police and fire departments.**
20. **Hang wrapped candy canes on a public evergreen tree in a busy area with a "take one" sign.**
21. **Go on a dust bunny hunt. Surprise your mom and dad by cleaning the dust bunnies under beds and in corners.**
22. **Go Christmas caroling with your family to friends' houses.**
23. **Make breakfast for you parents or help with dinner.**
24. **Write a poem to your parents telling them why you appreciate them. Give it to them before you go to bed on Christmas Eve.**
25. **Spend time praying for all the people you blessed these last few weeks and anyone else God brings to your mind and thank God for a wonderful Christmas and for sending us Jesus.**