

ASHFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH/BLESSING BOX 2024

What is a Reverse Advent Calendar?

A Reverse Advent Calendar begins as an empty box. For 20 days in the lead up to Christmas you place one item (non-perishable food, toiletries, Christmas treat) into the box. After 20 days your filled Reverse Advent Calendar is returned to the Church where it will be distributed to the community on **Saturday 21st December** at our Community Christmas BBQ event.

Unlike a regular Advent Calendar where the focus is on receiving a treat every day **the Reverse Advent Calendar takes the focus off receiving and places the focus on giving to others.**

We are seeking to follow in Jesus footsteps by caring for the poor. As we remember God's great gift of Jesus to us at Christmas time, we join God in giving to others.

How to Participate:

1. **Decorate a Box:** Find a strong cardboard box -ideal size is approx 30x30x20cm - decorate it with colourful wrapping paper, kids artworks, encouraging messages etc
2. **Fill It Up:** Add one item daily for 20 days. See back page with suggested items for your box (we encourage some boxes made specifically for those with food intolerances eg Gluten free etc)
3. **Return Your Box:** Bring your filled box/es on the dates specified on the other side of this form (please do **NOT** leave in the Blessing Box).
4. **Friday 20th December - 6PM -** Checking/packing and sealing of boxes and food set up for BBQ. Meet at 19 Holden Street.
5. The items will be handed out to the registered recipients on **Saturday 21st December 12-2pm** at a community BBQ event in our Church Carpark. All are welcome to attend **RSVP** by Sunday 15th December.



For More Information Contact: Maria – admin@ashfieldbaptist.org.au

Join us in spreading love and hope this Christmas by participating in the Reverse Advent Calendar Food Hamper initiative!