**COSMIC ADVENT WREATH**

 ** *LAUDATO SI’***

**CELEBRATE THE FOUR MAJOR
 BIRTHS OF THE COSMOS**

**Week 1: Birth of the Universe (light first candle)**

 “God’s first idea was to become manifest—to pour out divine, infinite love into finite visible forms. The “First Flaring Forth” (Big Bang) is now our scientific name for the first idea; and “Christ” is our theological name. Both are about LOVE and BEAUTY exploding outward in all directions.” *Richard Rohr*

 God of Advent, as we enter this season of Love and Beauty, remind us of our Common Home who cries out for restoration and preservation. May we work diligently with Our Creating God to care for all of creation, even when it is not convenient.

**Week 2: Birth of the Solar System (light second one)**

 “This vast ocean of our solar system is like a womb, that has unfolded over some five billion years to become galaxies and stars, psalms and pelicans, the music of Bach, and each of us alive today.” *Brian Swimme*

 God of Light, as we await the coming of the Star of David, fill our minds and hearts with love for our common home. May our footprints upon Earth be small and light, a worthy legacy for future generations.

**Week 3: Birth of Jesus Christ (light third one)**

Christ and Jesus are not exactly the same. In Jesus, God’s presence became more obvious and believable in the world. “By his incarnation (the Christ) inserted himself not just into our humanity, but into the universe which supports humanity. The presence of the Incarnate Word…shines at the heart of all things.” *Teilhard de Chardin*

God of the Cosmos, you set the star of Bethlehem in the sky to guide us to the Infant Savior, Jesus Christ. May all nations care for the cosmos through peaceable communication and cooperative exploration.

**Week 4: My Birth into the Whole Cosmic Body of the Universe (light fourth one)**

“We have the power to create a new world, and we have the power to destroy this one. How we choose depends on how we grasp this moment as the kiss of God, impelling us to stand up and speak.” *Ilia Delio, OSF*

God of the Universe, you have bestowed grace upon us through our Savior Jesus Christ. May we live in mutual interdependence with all creatures on our beloved Earth. Show us how to live sustainably so that all beings are able to live with sufficiency.

Cosmic wreath created and designed in 2016 by CP SSNDS