

DECEMBER

FUN HOLIDAYS THIS MONTH

12 HANUKKAH

Whether you're Jewish or not, this is a great time to learn about the events that led to the heroic Maccabean revolt and the miracle of the Chanukah lights.



21 FIRST DAY OF WINTER

Plan a getaway to enjoy the cold weather and play in the snow. Winter solstice is the day with the fewest hours of sunlight during the whole year. The word solstice comes from the Latin words for "sun" and "to stand still."



25 CHRISTMAS

As you're gathering your gifts for the season, take some time to consider the gifts you enjoy every day—and be sure to thank the giver.



31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

Get ready for another wild and amazing year. Set some fresh goals in your planner and see how much you can do in the next 365 days!



THE FRANKLIN FIVE

SERVE

The Christmas season is so busy with family and community events, it's easy to forget the people who need us most. Make a list in your planner of neighbors who could use a visit or a ride to the store, and plan to check on them throughout the month.

'TIS BETTER TO GIVE

There's no shortage of opportunities this month to donate to charity and help those less fortunate, no matter your financial situation. Shovel your neighbor's sidewalk, scrape ice off a coworker's windshield, or open the door for a stranger.

HOLIDAY HIDING SPOTS

At the beginning of the month, make sure you clean out your closet and other gift-hiding spots so you're not rushing to do so when you get home from the store. Write notes beside your shopping list in your planner to help you remember where you stored each gift.

PLAN YOUR FUN

December is full of holiday activities that can keep your family running. Hold a short family planning session early in the month to determine which events will have the most meaning for you. Be sure to plan time to be home creating your own traditions as well.

BAH! HUMBUG

Tax filing is still a few months away, but a little prep now will pay off. If nothing else, you should at least label a file folder and have it ready for the W-2s and other end-of-year tax documents you'll be getting in the coming weeks. If you put them there as soon as you get them, you won't be searching for them come April.

MY FOCUS FOR THIS MONTH