

Families of Faith

★ December ★

Prayer Corner



An Advent Prayer

Heavenly Father, we are waiting for Jesus to be born.

Help us to be full of hope and to share your love with everyone we meet.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!
Amen

Prayer at bedtime

Bless me Lord as this day ends
Bless my family and all my friends.

Keep me safe throughout the night.

And wake me with the morning's light.
Amen

Good News from the Gospel

7 Sunday – Matthew 3:1-12 "Prepare the way of the Lord." Activity: tidy an area to make space for Christmas and donate old toys to charity.

14 Sunday – Matthew 11:2-11 "The blind receive their sight and the lame, walk." Activity: show your support to a charity of your choice.

21 Sunday – Matthew 1:23 "Behold, a virgin shall be with child and they shall call his name Emmanuel." Activity: Make a baby Jesus decoration to put onto your Christmas tree.

28 Sunday – Matthew 2:13-15; 19-23 "Arise and take the child and His mother and go into the land of Israel." Activity – take your decoration on a journey – to family or friends, church or on a nature walk. Take a photo to share at school with your class.

Family in Faith Action

Why not make an advent wreath together with greenery from plants and candles. Light one each week.

Week 1 – Hope (Prophecy Candle)

Represents hope of the world for the coming of the Messiah. Make your Advent wreath as a sign of waiting for Jesus to come to us.

Week 2 – Peace (Bethlehem Candle)

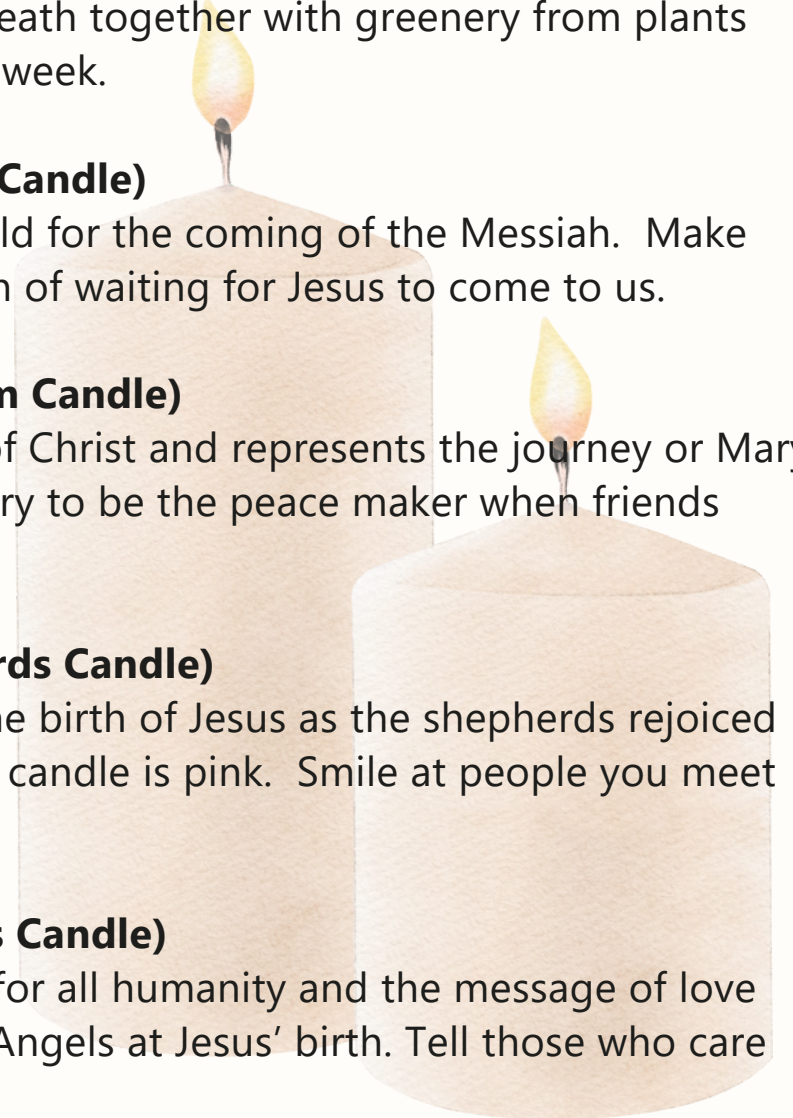
This symbolises the peace of Christ and represents the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. Try to be the peace maker when friends quarrel.

Week 3 – Joy (The Shepherds Candle)

This represents the joy of the birth of Jesus as the shepherds rejoiced upon hearing the news. This candle is pink. Smile at people you meet to bring joy to them.

Week 4 – Love (The Angels Candle)

This symbolises God's love for all humanity and the message of love and peace delivered by the Angels at Jesus' birth. Tell those who care for you that you love them.



Saints to Inspire

6 December – St. Nicholas

Saint Nicholas was a bishop known for his generosity. In the Middle Ages people began leaving gifts and money in shoes as a way to copy his kindness, especially for the poor. In many European countries today, children still put out their shoes and receive sweets, nuts, fruit or small toys on the morning of December 6th.



Why not donate some of your own shoes you have grown out of to charity

13 December – St. Lucy

Saint Lucy was known as the "Bearer of Light." She wore a crown of candles to bring food to people in hiding with her hands free to carry the food. In Sweden today, children still sing a song dedicated to St. Lucy. A girl dresses as St. Lucy with a wreath of candles on her head and is accompanied by children dressed as gingerbread figures. This symbolises the bringing of light and treats to ward off the darkness of the long winter nights. The 12th December is known as Gingerbread House Day.

Why not try making your own gingerbread man or house!

