



RE

How and why is Advent important to Christians?

Year 3

Term: 1b

Important facts

The Christmas Story

- Angel Gabriel visited Mary to tell her she was having a baby.
- Mary and Joseph travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Mary rode on a donkey.
- All the rooms in the inns were taken so Mary and Joseph stayed in the stable.
- Baby Jesus was born and put in a manger.
- Shepherds were told by angels to go to see the baby.
- Three wise men followed a star to Bethlehem and gave Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
- King Herod sent his soldiers to kill all baby boys under two years old in Bethlehem.
- Joseph was warned by an angel to take Mary and Jesus away quickly so they travelled to Egypt.

Biblical References

*Matthew 2 (1-12), Luke 2 (8-20),
Matthew 2 (3-8, 16-18)*

What and When is Advent?

- Advent is the period of four Sundays and weeks before Christmas.
- It means coming in Latin - this is the coming of Jesus into the world. Christians use advent to prepare and remember the real meaning of Christmas.

Christmas Traditions Around The World

- **France:** goose, turkey or oysters for dinner
- **Germany:** decorate trees; according to legend the rivers turn to wine and animals speak
- **Denmark:** Christmas Eve feast with a special rice pudding dessert
- **Japan:** decorate trees and exchange gifts; turkey for dinner
- **Australia:** gatherings in gardens or on the beach; seafood and cold meats for dinner

Key Vocabulary:

Nativity Jerusalem Bethlehem Herod Gabriel Bible tradition belief Advent Christmas Christianity faith