**Advent**

Draw a picture of a candle (there is a picture of one in your box).

Write or draw round it all the good things in your life.

Say thank you to God for each of them.

 Look at the candle you made yesterday. Advent is a time of waiting.

What are you waiting for?

Talk to God about how you feel.

Watch some of the news, or read a newspaper. Did you hear or see people who were sad or worried?

Ask God to be with them.

The Bible says that Jesus is the light of the world. Can you think of people who make the world a better place by what they say and do?

Add their names to the candle you drew on Sunday. Say thank you to God for each of them.

Decorate the candle you made on Sunday. The first Advent was full of unexpected things. Can you think of some of them?

Do something unexpectedly kind for someone in your house today, e.g. wash the dishes, put away your clothes, say “thank you”!

Look at the candle you drew on Sunday.

During Advent, we think about waiting for a baby to be born.

Waiting for a baby is exciting, but also worrying. Ask God to look after people who are waiting for a baby to arrive.

Stick your candle on the wall.

Some people in the world live in very sad and dark places.

Pray for them, that this advent someone may help them to be happy.

Can you do anything to help?

A star showed the wise men where to go. Make a star and stick it on your window. (There is a picture of one in your box)

What would you like God to help you with? Talk to God about that.

Look at the star you made yesterday. Jesus came to stop things being unfair. What unfair things upset you?

Ask God to help you change that unfairness.

Look at the star you made on Sunday.

Jesus came as a tiny baby into a poor family.

Lots of children today have no homes or families. Pray for them, that they would have someone to love them.

Sit and look at your star.

The wise men brought gifts for Jesus.

What could you give to someone today that doesn’t cost any money?

(e.g. a hug, a kind word, a cup of coffee, read them a story, play a game with them)

Look at your star.

The prophets in the Bible spoke lots of promises from God.

Isaiah said, “Don’t be afraid… I’ve called your name, you’re mine.”

How does that make you feel? Talk to God about it.

Look at your star.

There are millions of stars in the Universe.

Yet, God choose one to shine the way to the stable. God knows you and loves you. Say thank you to God for that.

Look at your star.

How much money will you spend on presents this year?

Could you save up some of your pocket money to help people who don’t have presents?

Talk to an adult you know well about where would be best to send it.

Draw a picture of an angel (there is a picture of one in your box).

In the Bible, angels have to tell people not to be afraid when they turn up; so I wonder what they look like?

Angels brought messages of good news to ordinary people during the first Advent.

Can you find some of them in the Christmas story?

Look at the picture of the angel you made yesterday. When Jesus was born, he was God becoming human like us, so we could know God.

Is there someone in your family, or a friend, that you could spend time with today?

Decorate your angel. Maybe he could go on your Christmas tree?

Jesus is good news. He always made time for people, especially people that were ignored.

Who could you “include” today that sometimes get left out?

Look at your angel.

The angels brought messages to Mary. She had to say “yes” to God’s plan.

Have you ever said “yes” to God? He asks each one of us to follow Him and live God’s way.

Sit somewhere where you can see the angel you made.

The angels always start their messages with, “Don’t be afraid”.

Are you afraid of anything today? Ask God to be with you.

Look at your angel.

When Mary heard the news the angels gave her, she sang a song.

Write a song to God. If you can’t make up the music, just write the words.

You can find Mary’s song in Luke 1:46-55.

Look at the angel you made.

The angel’s message to Joseph was really difficult. What difficult things do you think God asks you to do?

Draw or make a stable (there is a picture of one in the box). Add all the people who would have been there.

Find the story in the Bible (Matthew and Luke) so you don’t miss out anyone!

Put the picture or model somewhere you can see it often.

Look at Mary in your stable.

People would have made her life very difficult because she was doing what God wanted.

Pray for people in the world whose lives are difficult because they follow Jesus.

Look at the stable.

Is your house ready for Christmas tomorrow? Are you ready inside? How will you celebrate? “God is with us!”The best news ever!