

Jesus was not a passing visitor to earth because the world exists because of Him. He visited us in human form, but he is always present with us through the Holy Spirit.

Advent is a time of preparation and of waiting.

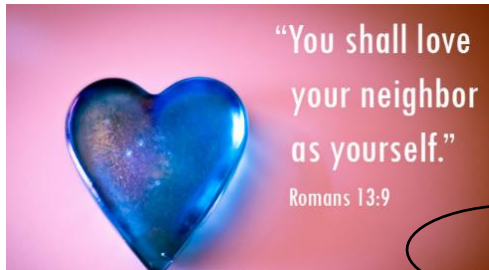
We wait in joyful hope for coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The first visitors to Jesus' crib were the shepherds after the Angel Gabriel appeared to them and told them that the Saviour had been born.

The next visitors, the three wise men (three kings) didn't arrive for some time. We mark their arrival at the feast of Epiphany (January 6<sup>th</sup>).

## VISITORS

Year 3 Topic 3



"You shall love your neighbor as yourself."  
Romans 13:9

### OUR BIG QUESTION

Why should visitors be made to feel welcome?



### REFLECTION

Today a Saviour is born!

In the stillness of the night God enters human history

through the birth of his only Son.

He is our peace and hope.

In him we praise God for his

goodness to us in giving us so great a gift.  
Amen.

### KEY VOCABULARY

Joys / demands Prophet Isaiah Saviour Advent

Saviour: Jesus is our saviour. He was sent by God to save us from our sins. He is the saviour of the World.

The Magnificat (Mary's special song of praise to God for choosing her to be the Mother of Christ)

## SCRIPTURE IN THIS UNIT

**Isaiah 11: 1:** *'shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.'* (Isaiah 11:1) This scripture tells us that Jesus' family originates with a Bible character named Jesse. Jesus is His descendant.

**Isaiah 40: 3-5:** We are told a Saviour will come who will be like a shepherd who cares for His sheep.

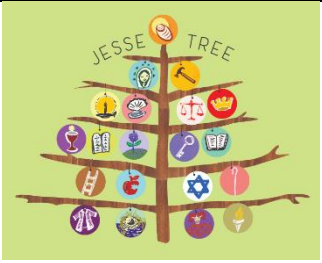
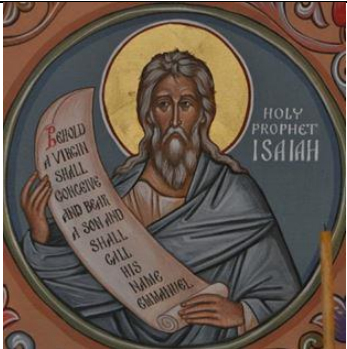

**Romans 13:9b-13a:** St Paul tells us to prepare for the Saviour by making ourselves worthy –  
"Love your neighbour as you love yourself"



**Luke 1: 26-38 -58 The Annunciation:** when Angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she has been chosen by God to have His Sone and to name Him Jesus

**Luke 1:39–56 The Visitation:** Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth to tell her the Good News, that she has been chosen to give birth to the Son of God

**Luke 2: 1-20 – The Shepherds visit baby Jesus**

**Matthew 2: 1-12, 16-18 The Three Wise Men visit baby Jesus**

People and stories from the Bible	Explanation	Image
<b>Jesse Tree</b>	<p>The Jesse Tree gets its name from Jesus' ancestors; the father of King David was called Jesse. Jesse's name is used to name Jesus' family tree because there is a line in Isaiah's prophecy which says, <i>'shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.'</i> (Isaiah 11:1)</p> <p>The symbols placed on the Jesse tree each day represent Jesus' family (the fruit). Roots are important parts of a tree, providing strength and a source of life just as our ancestors have done for us. The Jesse Tree is used during Advent as a way to prepare and countdown. Hanging off the Jesse Tree are different ornaments that represent stories about Jesus' family history.</p>	
<b>Prophet Isaiah</b>	<p>Isaiah lived in a time about 700 years before the birth of Jesus. He was a prophet. A prophet is a special messenger chosen by God to share God's messages. Isaiah told people to prepare for the coming of a Saviour who would be born to us here on Earth.</p>	
<b>The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38)</b>	<p>The Angel Gabriel visited Mary to tell her (to announce) that she would have the son of God. Mary said that she was the Lord's servant and would do as He pleased.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mary was afraid – she had never seen an angel before!</li> <li>- Mary listened to the Angel – she knew the messenger was sent from God</li> <li>- Mary trusted in God – she was faithful</li> <li>- She said she was God's servant – it was her life's mission to serve God so she took on this role gladly</li> </ul>	

<p><b>The Visitation</b> <b>(Luke 1:39–56)</b></p>	<p>Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth to tell her the Good News, that she has been chosen to be the Mother of the Son of God.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mary went quickly to Elizabeth’s house – she was overjoyed and wanted to share her news</li> <li>- She said “My heart is full of joy” – she knew she was blessed to have been chosen with this mission from God</li> <li>- Mary stayed with Elizabeth for three months – to care for her cousin as she prepared to have her baby – showing love and kindness.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>The shepherds visit Jesus</b> <b>Luke 2:1-20</b></p>	<p>The shepherds were told by Angel Gabriel about the birth of the Saviour Jesus Christ in Bethlehem.</p> <p>Shepherds were poor – this shows us that God sent his Son for all people, and that we are all invited to share in his love.</p>	
<p><b>The Three Wise Men visit Jesus</b> <b>Matthew 2:1-12</b></p>	<p>A few days after Jesus was born, three wise men who were stargazers went to visit Jesus. They were guided by a bright star. They brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.</p> <p>Catholics mark the day the wise men visited on the feast of the Epiphany which is January 6<sup>th</sup>.</p>	