

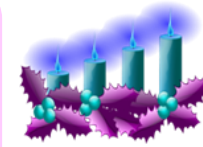
Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus, given by God as a sign and expression of God's love.

Advent is a time of joyful expectation, as we prepare to receive Jesus into our lives and to share this gift with others at Christmas and throughout the year.

Giving and receiving reflects the truth that all life is given by God and life is given meaning through the birth of Jesus.

## EXPECTATIONS

Year 6 Topic 3



### OUR BIG QUESTION

Should we have expectations?

#### 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

Expectation	certainty
Advent	Christmas
Emmanuel	Annunciation
Incarnation	Maranatha

#### SCRIPTURE

"Be alert, stand firm in faith, be courageous, be strong." (1 Corinthians 16: 13-14)

"Let the whole world be glad!" (Isaiah 35: 1-6, 9, 10)

"The city of God" (Isaiah 62: 11-12)





The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38)




The Word became a human being (John 1: 14-18)

"The people's expectations began to rise." (Mark 1: 1-5)

"God who called you to have fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 1: 8-9)

"Maranatha—Our Lord, come!" (1 Corinthians 16: 22)

<b>Definitions</b>	<b>Explanation &amp; Links</b>	<b>Related images</b>
<b>Expectation</b>	<p>A strong belief that something will happen.</p> <p>During Advent, a time of waiting in darkness, we should remain faithful to God in the hope of the coming of the Messiah. Don't stop believing: He is coming. Do everything in love so that when He comes, you will be rewarded (1 Corinthians 16:22).</p> <p>The prophet Isaiah foretold the coming of a 'Messiah' who would bring peace and justice to Earth. The people were so eager to receive this Saviour from God: they wondered what He would be like. Isaiah's prophecies help us to understand what we could expect from the Messiah.</p> <p>Isaiah tells us how the Lord feels about those who welcome the coming of the Messiah. They are his chosen ones, and are described as "God's holy people", "The people God has saved". The phrase, 'City of God', is a reminder to us that we are a community of people who try to live in God's way.</p> <p>Isaiah brings comfort, joy, hope and reassurance that with the coming of the Messiah, all will be well. He will take away feelings of fear and anxiety; nervous, worried people will be filled with courage, and their lives will be transformed. This message is for everyone, of every time and place, and we, as followers of Jesus, are called to continue to spread this message.</p>	
<b>Certainty</b>	<p>Having no doubts about something.</p>	
<b>Advent</b>	<p>The first season of the Church year.</p> <p>Advent is a time of expectation. It reminds us of the anticipation over hundreds of years by the people of Israel for their Messiah. As Christians, the prophet's expectation of the Messiah is foremost in our minds. Isaiah 35: 9-10 reminds us of the expectations we have of the Messiah's coming and the effect this will have on us.</p> <p>The Advent wreath is lit every week to mark the time of waiting to celebrate Christ's coming. It is a circular shape to represent the eternity of God's love for us as it has no beginning and no end. The holly leaves remind us of the crown of thorns worn by Jesus. They are evergreen leaves to symbolise that Jesus' life is everlasting. There are five candles: three purple, one pink and one white. The white one in the middle represents Jesus' purity and that he is the light of the world. The other three represent hope, faith, joy and peace.</p>	
<b>Emmanuel</b>	<p>A Hebrew name meaning "God is with us". It describes the nature of Jesus: He is God who became human. God is now with the people to save them as the prophets predicted; He has been gracious to His people by sending His Messiah.</p>	

<p><b>Angelus</b></p>	<p>The incarnation is remembered by the prayer ‘the Angelus’. Angelus is the first word in Latin of this prayer; it means ‘angel’. The prayer begins with recalling the Angel Gabriel’s greeting to Mary, telling her she is to be the mother of Jesus.</p> <p>The prayer originally consisted of three Hail Marys prayed three times a day. Gradually, a little more was added to the prayer. Traditionally, it is prayed at six in the morning, at noon and at six in the evening. It helps people to remember the presence of God in their lives. In some countries, the Angelus bell rings out from churches at these times to remind people to pray.</p> <p>Traditionally, on Sundays/special days, the Pope leads the Angelus from his study window for the pilgrims who gather in St Peter’s square in Rome.</p> <p><b>Leader:</b> <i>The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary,</i>  <b>Response:</b> <i>And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.</i>  <b>All:</b> <i>Hail Mary...</i>  <b>Leader:</b> <i>Behold the handmaid of the Lord.</i>  <b>Response:</b> <i>Be it done unto me according to your Word.</i>  <b>All:</b> <i>Hail Mary...</i>  <b>Leader:</b> <i>And the Word was made flesh,</i>  <b>Response:</b> <i>And dwelt among us.</i>  <b>All:</b> <i>Hail Mary...</i>  <b>Leader:</b> <i>Let us pray...</i></p>	
<p><b>Annunciation</b></p>	<p>The announcement of the Incarnation by the Angel Gabriel to Mary.</p> <p>On March 25th, the Church celebrates the special feast of the Annunciation. It is a time to stop and remember that God became a human being (Jesus) and that Mary was his mother. That event continues to be remembered every day by the prayer called ‘the Angelus’.</p>	
<p><b>Incarnation</b></p>	<p>The belief that God became flesh, that God assumed a human nature and became a man in the form of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the second person of the Holy Trinity. Christ was truly God and truly man.</p>	
<p><b>Maranatha</b></p>	<p>Estelle White (Meaning: Come. Lord Jesus)</p> <p><b>1 Corinthians 16:22</b></p> <p><i>Whoever does not love the Lord—a curse on him!</i></p> <p><i>Maranatha—Our Lord, come!</i></p> <p>This curse is really a prayer: St Paul is talking directly to God here, to separate true believers from those who do not believe wholeheartedly. Paul then asks Christ to come again with the word ‘maranatha’, as he longed for the world to be put right.</p> <p>When we say ‘maranatha’ in our Christian Meditation, we are asking Lord Jesus to not only come into our hearts and speak to us, but also to come again to Earth.</p>	