

Advent	Advent candles.	
It is the period of four Sundays and weeks before midnight Christmas eve. Normally starting on the nearest Sunday to November 30 <sup>th</sup> .	There are two types of candles used in Advent. One is used to count down the entire of advent.	
<b>Advent means ‘coming’ in Latin. It is a celebration of the coming of Jesus into the world.</b>	<b>Another is an advent crown, which is a circular wreath made out of evergreen leaves. It is circular to represent God’s infinite love. It contains four candles that link to Christian concepts.</b>	
Advent reminds Christians to remember and prepare for the birth of Jesus.	1st Candle	Hope
<b>Advent calendars and candles are use to celebrate the countdown towards Christmas day.</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Candle	Peace
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Candle	Joy
	4 <sup>th</sup> Candle	Love
Prayer, worship and carol singing are other ways that Christians celebrate advent.	<b>Sometimes there is a fifth candle (known as Christ Candle) that is lit on Christmas day to celebrate the birth of Jesus.</b>	

Key Christmas Symbols	
Star	The three wise men were told to follow a star,, which would lead them to the new king and saviour, Jesus.
Angels	An angel visits Mary and Joseph to tell them that Mary will give birth to baby Jesus. Angels also visit the three shepherds to tell them a new King has been born.
Three Wise Men	They followed the star, bringing gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to Jesus.
Manger	This is where the baby Jesus had to stay when born, as there were no rooms or beds available at the inn.
Donkey	It was a donkey that carried the pregnant Mary all the way to Bethlehem.
Shepherds	Were told by an angel, to visit the son of God. They worshipped him and spread the word that the saviour of the world had been born.
Gifts	The three wise men brought gold, frankincense and myrrh, when they visited the baby Jesus.
Mary	Told by Angel Gabriel that she would give birth to the son of God. She travelled to Bethlehem on a donkey, where she gave birth to Jesus in a stable.
Joseph	He cared for Mary on their journey to Bethlehem and found a stable for the birth. He kept Mary and baby Jesus safe by taking them to Egypt to avoid being killed by King Herod.