

What is Advent?

Advent is the start of the Christian year.

It is a time for Christians to prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

It is also a time for Christians to look forward to a time when Jesus will come again.

The word 'Advent' comes from a very old word 'Adventus' which means the arrival of something or someone important.



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When is Advent?

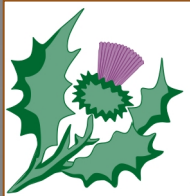
Advent is the four weeks before Christmas.

It starts on the nearest Sunday to November 30th.

Advent lasts until midnight on Christmas Eve.

Advent is a time for Christians to enjoy time with their families and friends.

It began in Germany over 250 years ago.



St Margaret's Academy

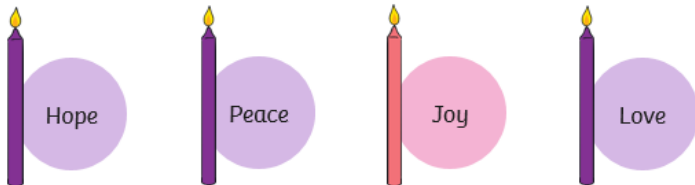


How is Advent Celebrated?

The circle of evergreen branches is a reminder that God does not change.

The candles remind Christians of the light of God.

A new candle is lit each Sunday during Advent until all four candles are burning. Each candle has a different meaning:



The final candle is lit on Christmas day to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Christingles

Children often have fun making Christingles during Advent.

The cocktail sticks represent the four seasons.

The candle reminds Christians of Jesus, light of the world.

The orange represents the world.

Christingle means 'Christ's Light'.

The red ribbon is a reminder that Jesus died.

The sweets or dried fruit represent all of God's creations.

