



"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16

Dear Parents and Carers

Advent is a lovely time at school; of preparation in anticipation of the Christmas season. During our Advent celebrations the children are brought closer to the Lord, as they await the celebration of the birth of Christ. We have focused this Advent on the gospel value of Hope and how we can bring the hope of God to others. We have also reflected on the importance of preparing our hearts for Christmas day and have thought about how we can help others, during this time of preparation. Our youngest children, have retold the story of that first Christmas and as ever, have brought much joy in their retelling. Please God, next Christmas, we will be all be able to come together in the school hall, for this special part of our Christmas traditions. Wishing you a most happy and holy Christmas Season.

God Bless Mrs Mitchener

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING

(15th November – 17th December)

Early Years	BIRTHDAY - Looking forward to Jesus' birthday
Year 1	WAITING - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas
Year 2	PREPARATIONS - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas
Year 3	VISITORS - waiting for the coming of Jesus
Year 4	GIFT - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus
Year 5	HOPE - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus, the promised one
Year 6	EXPECTATIONS - Jesus born to show God to the world

SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME ACTIVITIES

Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home.

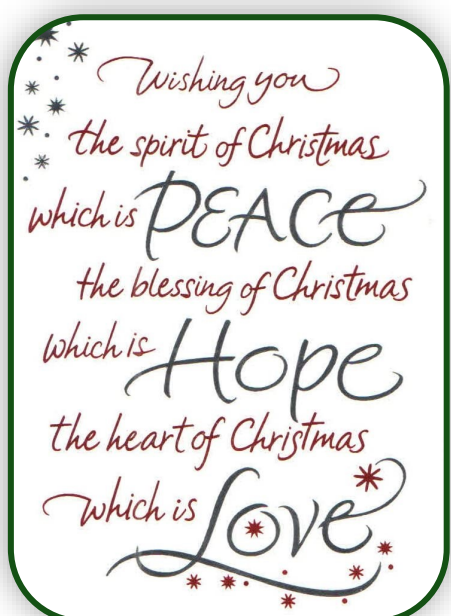
Find out about some Christian symbols for Advent e.g. Advent wreath, calendar, Jesse tree.

Use the CAFOD or [Missio](#) websites to get a religious Advent calendar.

Pope Francis Prayer Request for December

Catechists

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.





Christ the King Liturgy

St Claire's Class, led the Liturgy to mark the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. They reminded us that Jesus really is the King, the Lord of our lives.

The children understood that Jesus invites us to make Him the King of our hearts and to develop a personal relationship with Him.

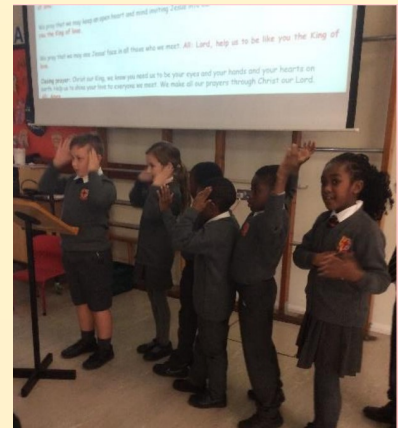
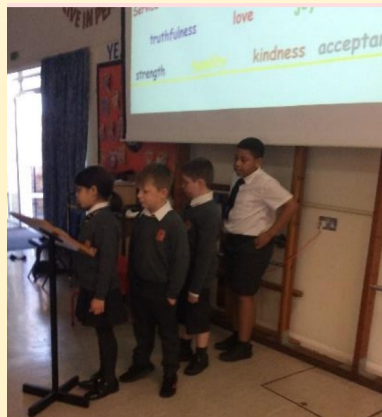
Pope Francis has described the heart as the place where we are truly ourselves and that this is where God meets us, if we let Him. When we allow Christ into our lives – when we allow Him to become the King of our hearts - we experience the joy, peace, mercy and love that He brings.



'Monument of Christ the King'
Świebodzin, Poland,



We shared a wonderful celebration full of prayer, liturgical dance, singing, listening and praise!



Mrs Gallagher & Mrs Miroslaw

Grow in Love, Live in Peace

Advent Prayer



During the weeks in Advent our KS2 classes were able to visit St Chad's Church to take part in a "Prayer Spaces" activity.

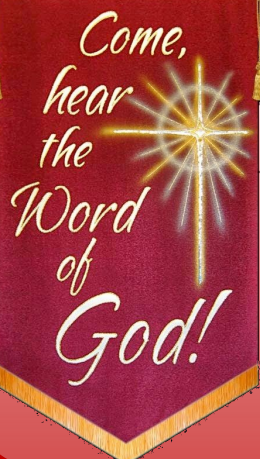


The children were able to experience 4 different prayer stations set up in the Church, all linked to Advent and the Christmas story.

The children reflected, listened, prayed, responded, and shared and were given the opportunity to be still and consider the real meaning of Christmas.



A big thank you to Mrs Gallagher for organising and Angie Henley, (a parishioner) for leading one of the prayer stations.



Join us for Mass

Each week the children from Year 2 to Year 6 attend Friday morning Mass at St Chad's Church. Please join us for this special collective worship and a chance to spend time with God. It is lovely for our children to see the 'St Chad's family' worshipping together.

Advent Liturgy



Psalm 130:5

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope.

We shared our Advent liturgy to mark the time of spiritual preparation before Christmas. As we lit our first candle, we listened to the word of God and reflected on how the light of one candle can push away the darkness. The first candle of Advent is called the Hope Candle and we thought about how God calls us to share his love with all people, everywhere and about the ways in which we could bring hope to those in need of God's comfort this Advent Season. As we went forth, we considered the many ways in which we could bring hope to others this Advent season and how we look forward with hope to the coming of the baby Jesus on Christmas day.

Mrs Mitchener

Special visitors to St Luke's Class

As part of the RE curriculum in Year 1, the three wise men, came to St Luke's class to visit Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. They brought Him gifts, to recognise what a special gift to the world he was.



EYFS Nativities



Well done to all our EYFS children, for reminding us of the true message of the Christmas nativity.

CAFOD Club

Congratulations to Freida and Elise who took it upon themselves to organise sending Christmas card to the elderly and lonely members of St Chad's parish. When Covid restriction prevented them from completing this in CAFOD club, they sent the email below (with the help of Mr Gallagher - thank you) to the staff.

Dear Teachers

As we cannot meet up at Cafod club at the moment due to bubbles, we would like to ask if any of your classes would like to take part in an activity we had planned to do. We wondered if any of your class would like to make a Christmas card, with a thoughtful Christmas message inside for the elderly/ housebound members of St Chad's parish, to let them know that we are thinking of them as members of our parish family .

Thank you
Freida and Elise



Needless to say, many cards were produced and distributed to those who would appreciate them, in the parish.

Well done girls for living your mission to show kindness and compassion to all, just as Jesus did. You are a credit to the school and your families.

RSE

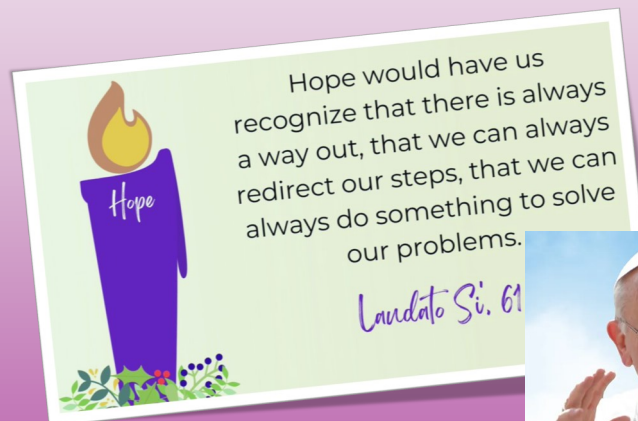
Gospel Value - Hope

Resilience and Perseverance



This month we have been focusing on the Gospel Value of Hope and the importance of it in our lives. We shared the story of the feeding of the 5000, and how those who have hope know that God is faithful, that He will complete what He has begun. We know that we can have hope in God who created us and loves us without end.

We also looked at the importance of sharing hope with other people and how God created us to be blessings, to one another. We reflected on the knowledge that we are members of a global family. We are called to pray to God for the needs of other people, even if we do not personally know them.



We can pray for people who are suffering from illness, living in poverty, or are victims of injustice. Pope Francis asks us to care for our common home and those who share it with us.



Merry Christmas

*Mrs Mitchener
& all the staff
at St Chad's*