

Advent



Advent is the start of the Christian year.

Advent is the four weeks before Christmas. It starts on the Sunday nearest to 30th November. It ends at midnight on Christmas Eve.

People spend time with family and friends. Some Christian people will go to church to pray or sing. They might use Advent calendars or Advent wreaths. Sometimes, they light Advent candles.



The four candles stand for the light of God.

Each part of the Advent wreath is important to Christian people.



The white candle is for the birth of Jesus. It is lit on Christmas Day.



A circle of branches means that God does not change.

Each part of the Christingle is important to Christian people.

The lit candle stands for Jesus as the Light of the World.

The fruits or sweets stand for the fruits of the Earth.

The four sticks stand for the four seasons.

The orange stands for the world.

The red ribbon stands for the blood of Jesus.



Questions

1. What is Advent the start of? Tick one.
 - November
 - the Christian year
 - Christingle

2. What does Advent come before? Tick one.
 - Easter
 - Christmas
 - December

3. What is lit on the Advent wreath on Christmas Day? Tick one.
 - the red ribbon
 - the circle of branches
 - the middle candle

4. What does the Christingle orange stand for? Tick one.
 - the world
 - the four seasons
 - the fruits of the Earth

5. How might some Christian people celebrate Advent? Tick one.
 - give presents
 - go to church
 - go to school

Answers

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- give presents
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- go to school

Advent



When Is Advent?

Advent is the start of the Christian year when Christian people prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

The word 'Advent' means that something or someone important is coming. Christian people believe that Jesus will come again.

When Is Advent?

Advent is the four weeks before Christmas. It starts on the nearest Sunday to 30th November and it lasts until midnight on Christmas Eve.

Christian people and many others count down from 1st December to Christmas Eve using an Advent calendar. Each day, a door is opened and a Christmas picture is there. Sometimes, there is even a chocolate treat!

During Advent, many Christian people spend time with family and friends, pray, go to church and sing hymns. They might celebrate with Advent crowns, Advent wreaths, Advent candles and Christingles. Lots of people also celebrate by singing Christmas carols.

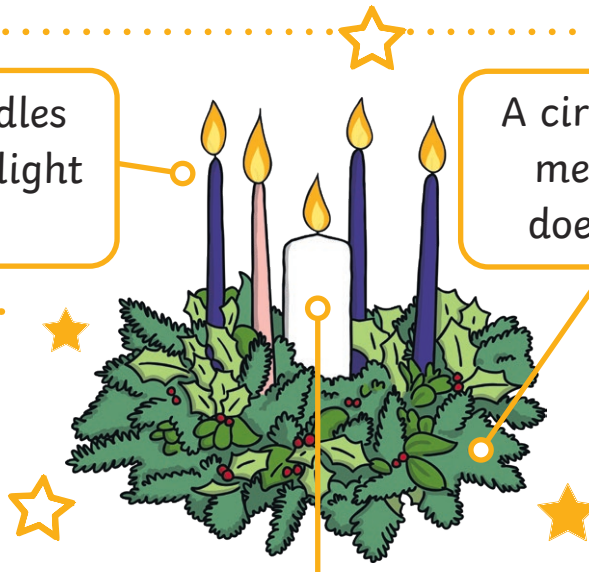


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- November
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2. How long does Advent last? Tick one.

- four weeks
- two weeks
- three weeks

3. When is the fifth candle lit? Tick one.

- 30th November
- 1st December
- 25th December

4. What does the circle of branches mean in the Advent wreath?

5. Fill in the missing word.

During Advent, many Christian _____ spend time with family and friends.

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The circle of branches means that God does not change.

5. Fill in the missing word.

During Advent, many Christian **people** spend time with family and friends.

Advent



When Is Advent?

Advent is the start of the Christian year. It is a time when Christian people prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

The word 'Advent' comes from the word 'Adventus'. This is a very old word which means the arrival of something or someone important. Many Christian people look forward to a time when Jesus will come again.

Did You Know... ?

- In some churches, there are no flowers during Advent.



When Is Advent?

Advent is the four weeks before Christmas. It starts on the nearest Sunday to 30th November and lasts until midnight on Christmas Eve.

Christian people and many others enjoy the count down from 1st December to Christmas by using an Advent calendar. Each day, a door is opened and a Christmas picture can be seen. Some even have a chocolate treat hidden behind each door!

Advent is a time when Christian people can spend time with family and friends, pray, go to church and sing hymns. They might celebrate Advent with Advent crowns, Advent wreaths, Advent candles and Christingles. Lots of people also celebrate by singing Christmas carols.



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Questions

1. What does the white candle stand for? Tick one.

- the light of God
- the birth of Jesus
- God does not change

2. Number the facts from 1-3 to show the order that they appear in the text.

- Lots of people also celebrate by singing Christmas carols.
- The word 'Advent' comes from the word 'Adventus'.
- Advent is the four weeks before Christmas.

3. What do Christian people prepare for during Advent?

4. When does Advent start?

5. Fill in the missing word.

In some churches, there are no _____ during Advent.

6. Why do you think that Christian people use an orange for the Christingle?

Answers

1. What does the white candle stand for? Tick one.

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- the birth of Jesus**
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2. Number the facts from 1-3 to show the order that they appear in the text.

- 3** Lots of people also celebrate by singing Christmas carols.
- 1** The word 'Advent' comes from the word 'Adventus'.
- 2** Advent is the four weeks before Christmas.

3. What do Christian people prepare for during Advent?

Christian people prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus during Advent.

4. When does Advent start?

Advent starts on the nearest Sunday to 30th November.

5. Fill in the missing word.

In some churches, there are no **flowers** during Advent.

6. Why do you think that Christian people use an orange for the Christingle?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Christian people use an orange for the Christingle because it represents the world. The world is round and oranges are round.