

Sunday 18th December 2022

Fourth Sunday in Advent



Today's Gospel reading: Matthew 1: 18-25

During Advent, we have been thinking about the different people who pointed the way to Jesus. We have thought about the patriarchs, the prophets and John the Baptist and today we especially remember Mary, the mother of Jesus. Our Gospel reading is St Matthew's account of the birth of Jesus. Matthew reminds us about Joseph's part in the story too.

🙄 How did Joseph know that God wanted him to marry Mary?

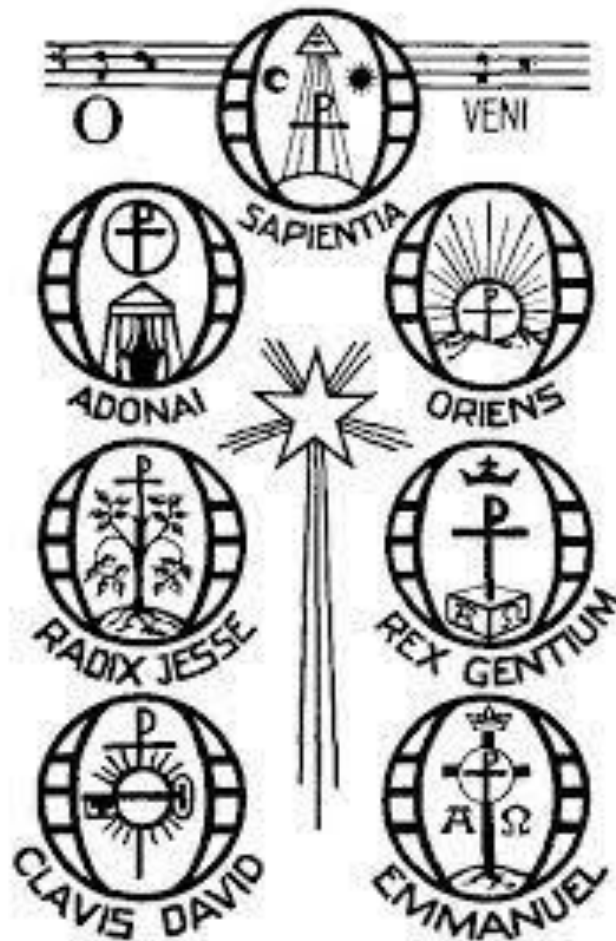
🙄 How many candles are lit on the Advent wreath today?

Lighting the fourth candle means that Christmas is nearly here!
Are you ready for Christmas? Ready to welcome Jesus, Emmanuel, "God with us"?
The most important message of Christmas is that God came to be with us and still comes to be with us.

🙏 The prayer for lighting the fourth candle on the Advent wreath makes a good prayer for us this coming week:
Blessed are you, Sovereign Lord, merciful and gentle: to you be praise and glory for ever!
Your light has shone in our darkened world through the child-bearing of blessed Mary;
grant that we who have seen your glory may daily be renewed in your image and
prepared like her for the coming of your Son, who is the Lord and Saviour of all. Blessed
be God for ever. Amen.

“Emmanuel” is one name we use for Jesus.

Starting on 17th December, we use the “O Antiphons” to remember other names for Jesus – one every day. These are ancient liturgical responses, sung or recited as part of our regular Church prayers. In the diagram below are the Latin versions of the antiphons for each day from 17th until 23rd December – right up til Christmas Eve.



Translated into Welsh and English, we say:

O Ddoethineb!	O Wisdom!
O Adonai!	O Adonai!
O Wreiddyn Jesse!	O Root of Jesse!
O Allwedd Dafydd!	O Key of David!
O Wawrddydd!	O Dayspring!
O Frenin y Cenhedloedd!	O King of the Nations!
O Immanuel!	O Emmanuel!

Which is your favourite? Maybe you could design a symbolic picture for that name?

An Angel's News for Joseph Coded Words

Each number stands for a letter of the alphabet. Write the correct letter in the blank to find the coded words and phrase.

Code key

A 1	J 10	S 19
B 2	K 11	T 20
C 3	L 12	U 21
D 4	M 13	V 22
E 5	N 14	W 23
F 6	O 15	X 24
G 7	P 16	Y 25
H 8	Q 17	Z 26
I 9	R 18	

13 1 18 25

8 21 19 2 1 14 4

2 1 2 25

14 1 26 1 18 5 20 8

4 18 5 1 13

Who did God send to Joseph with a message?

1 14

1 14 7 5 12



Joseph Told About Jesus Word Search



Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, up and down, or diagonally.



ANGEL	HUSBAND	MARY	SON
BABY	JOSEPH	NAZARETH	WIFE
CARPENTER	MARRIED		



MARY



Find the words hidden in the puzzle.

d	m	a	r	y	s	g	r	a	c	e
h	l	n	e	p	m	v	k	d	t	p
k	a	g	j	c	a	r	i	n	g	a
i	c	e	s	y	g	o	r	y	o	r
n	d	l	s	j	r	h	m	l	d	i
d	h	l	o	t	p	c	g	s	r	j
n	m	o	t	h	e	r	j	h	h	o
e	a	v	e	m	a	J	e	s	u	s
s	j	e	a	h	c	t	v	s	o	e
s	h	i	r	y	e	p	e	t	i	p
v	r	g	o	k	c	h	u	r	c	h

Mary
Mother
God
Jesus
Joseph
Church

angel
grace
peace
love
caring
kindness



Journey to Bethlehem

