

Second Sunday of Advent—Peace

This Sunday (6th December) is the Second Sunday of Advent. Advent is the liturgical season that precedes and prepares us for Christmas. It is a season of hope and of longing, of joyful expectation and of peaceful preparation. Advent is that time of the year when we prepare to welcome Jesus into the world and our lives again.

We have enjoyed coming together this week to share the Word of God and witness the joy of Advent in our class assemblies.

Preparing the Way at Advent

Bishop John has encouraged us and those in our households to find time to pray together and to create a space where we can build Church at home. We hope that these resources will help to sustain your prayer life this Advent.

You can find a collection of Advent resources in this document produced by the Department of Formation by clicking here. This is our main Advent resource.

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Preparing-the-way-Advent-at-Home-Resources.pdf>

A written reflection on the symbolism of Advent can be found on page 3.



Good work

The classes have all been very busy this week, including our Year 3 class who have been learning from home. Well done to you all.

Year 1 have made their own Advent wreath using their hand prints to make the circle which represents God's love for us.



Year 4 have been painting pictures of Queen Nefertiti as part of their Ancient Egyptian topic.



Supporting the Catholic Faith

The Wednesday Word to focus on this week is **Hope**



We are also using Ten Ten as an online tool for assemblies and collective worship in the classroom and there is a parents newsletter available for you to read so you can support your child at home.

This week is on our [website www.st-chads.manchester.sch.uk](http://www.st-chads.manchester.sch.uk) under Faith life

Talk Homework

We have an ongoing commitment to encourage the development of language by using ambitious vocabulary with our children. Please spend some quality time with your child learning to say the word for their class and what it means.

- Do they understand what it means?
- Can they say it in a sentence?
- Can they select a word that means the same (synonym)? (KS2)
- Can they select a word that means the opposite (antonym)? (KS2)



Year Group:	Word of the week:
Nursery	autumn
Reception	adventure
Year 1	scatter
Year 2	Flea/flee
Year 3	ache
Year 4	observant
Year 5	parched
Year 6	abundance

Advent Reflection

Week Two: A Reflection from Sr Anna Yeo

I love lighting candles in the Church. For some reason, it fills my heart with warmth. As we watched the candle of peace being lighted on the Second Sunday of Advent, it can be hard to be at peace either with God or with all that is happening around us. Peace has never been an easy state to attain. It is more so this year isn't it? Even without the pandemic, the pain of separation and suffering, uncertain and fearful moments as well as the experience of grief and loss are already part of our lives.

I have always found peace to be like a fog or mist. I could see it and even feel it but when I reach out to grab hold of it, it slips through my fingers. I end up grasping nothing. God did not make peace or His graces hard to be obtained. God does not tease or enjoy being mean to us. Look at the first words of today's readings; COMFORT, COMFORT MY PEOPLE, SAYS YOUR GOD. The second reading reinforced God's love for us by reminding us that God is not slow and does not forget His promises. He is being patient with us. I will be the first to hold my hands up and admit that I can certainly test people's patience! Let's face it. We are not perfect. However, God in His boundless love and unending patience always gives us time and opportunities repeatedly for us to prepare a way for Him. The way for Him to us. It is always about us and for us. God loves us that much.

Do not let the opportunity of Advent pass by us. How often we find ourselves no different on 26th December than we were on the 1st Sunday of Advent. This year, we are so eager to get back to normal when we are actually presented with a glorious opportunity to reflect and start anew, a new normal. Let this Advent not only help prepare us for the coming of Jesus but also the coming of a new us.

As you journey through Advent, know that you are never alone. You have an army of angels, saints and the whole Church praying with you and for you. I have lighted a candle for all of you who are reading this.

May that knowledge gives you peace and hope. May God bless you.



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