



First Sunday of Advent

St Martin of Tours

Epsom

St Stephen on the Downs

Langley Vale

The parish of

St Martin of Tours
with St Stephen-on-the-Downs

Weekly Newsletter

Registered Charity Number: 1134149

Sunday 28th November 2021 – Advent Sunday

Dear Friends,

Advent begins! A season to prepare ourselves for the joy of Christmas by exploring the story that led up to his birth, and taking time to reflect on the health of our spiritual lives.

Nick Parish

THIS WEEK

Sunday 28th November – Advent Sunday

- 9.30am – Holy Communion at St Stephen's – led by Nick Parish
- 10.00am – Morning Praise at St Martin's, in Church and live streamed – led by Graeme Lodge
- 6.30pm – Advent Carols at St Martin's – (in Church and live streamed) led by Nick Parish

Wednesday 1st December

- 10.00am – Holy Communion – led by Andris Abakuks

FUTURE SERVICES

Sunday 5th December – Second Sunday of Advent

- 9.30am – Morning Prayer at St Stephen's – led by Ruth Foxcroft
- 10.00am – Holy Communion at St Martin's, in Church and live streamed – led by Nick Parish
- 6.30pm – Evening Prayer at St Martin's – (in Church and live streamed) led by Judith Mitchell

DISCIPLESHIP /STUDY/ WORSHIP MEETINGS

Churches Together in Epsom Monthly prayer meetings:

Following a well-attended social gathering, 'in person' at the Old Moat Café, we decided to alternately locate the monthly prayer meetings to 'Zoom online' or 'in person'. We were able to pray at the end of our social gathering at the Old Moat Café and received a positive response. The Old Moat Café has a covered outdoor area which should prove a Covid-safe environment. The gatherings will start at 9.15 on zoom and at 10 am for the 'in person' meetings. Dates of our monthly prayer meetings for Autumn 2021 are:



- Friday December 10th: 10-11am at Old Moat Café

Old Moat Garden Centre Café is in Horton Lane, Epsom

[Find Us — The Old Moat Garden Centre & Cafe](#)

CENTERING PRAYER FOLLOW-UP SESSIONS - STARTING JANUARY 18th

The Centering Prayer Taster Day presented by Lynne Scholefield was well-attended and much enjoyed. Participants came from across the Borough and further afield. The Taster Day was an introduction to the work of Fr Thomas Keating and an experience of the inner prayer method he began. The Taster Day has led to six follow-up sessions in which to establish the practice of Centering Prayer on an individual basis. In essence, Centering Prayer follows Jesus's direction to "Go to your room,,,,,,,"



The six follow-up one hour sessions will be held at St Martin's weekly on Tuesdays, beginning on January 18th and then January 25th, February 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd. Lynne Scholefield has agreed to present both an afternoon session (at 4pm to 5pm) and an evening session (7.30pm to 8.30pm) on each day. Even if you missed the Taster Day, anyone can attend these Centering Prayer learner sessions. It will be good to know how many we shall be, so please speak with Lynne Scholefield or Judith Mitchell or email stmcenteringprayer@gmail.com to make a booking.

STEWARDSHIP

Giving to St Martin's and St Stephen on the Downs

For general and stewardship giving you can give online giving via the Charities Aid Foundation. Donations can be either a one-off donation or a regular donation using direct debit. To make a donation either:

1. Click on the following link:

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/13377>

OR

2. Use your Smart Phone and Scan the QR Code below

There is also a "Donate" button on our website.



Cheques to St Martin's

If give a cheque donation to St Martin's Church, please can it payable to:
'The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Epsom'

Donation Station

If you wish to give via contactless payment, please use the donation station in Church. You can give a pre-set amount or choose one. You can also gift aid your donation.

OTHER NOTICES

Beacon Tea

The next Beacon Tea is on Sunday 12th December, 3.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. and is held in St Martin's Church. On this occasion we shall also be singing Christmas carols, so do come! All are welcome.

Beacon Lunch

A festive lunch will be held on Wednesday 29th December in Church House at 12.00pm for 12.30pm. All are welcome. If you think you are likely to join us it would be helpful if you would sign the list at the back of the Church before the 5th of December to help us to cater effectively.

Evening of Lights

You are invited to come to one of the Evening of Lights when St Martin's will be lit with candles and the Christmas tree lights. These evenings offer a quiet space for remembering people close to you, and the opportunity to light a candle in their memory. We hope to be able to offer you a hot drink (tea, coffee or hot chocolate) before you leave. The dates are

- Monday 13 December 6.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.
- Tuesday 14 December 6.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

There will also be an Evening of Lights at St Stephen's, Langley Vale, on

- Wednesday 15 December 6.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m

Mary Gilbert and Elaine Snook, Pastoral Team

Help the Eco Musketeers at St Martin's Schools

St Martin's Schools need volunteers to help fold and sort the crisp packets and bread bags they are recycling. If you're able to help support the work of the schools' Eco Musketeers, please contact Rachel Hill via the school office: office@stmartinsepsom.school Rachel will try to arrange a time when you can be accompanied by other volunteers with enhanced DBS checks if necessary.

MISSION FOR THE MONTH

HOME MISSION

Through the Roof

Through the Roof is a Christian disability charity that changes the life of disabled people around the world. Through the Roof wants to see everyone valued equally, fully belonging and able to contribute their gifts and skills. They accomplish this in 3 ways, Faith, Freedom and Friendship.

Meg Topley

ABROAD MISSION

Mercy Ships Charity thanks St Martins Church for their continuing support. The new hospital ship, Global Mercy, having had a free passage through the Suez Canal thanks to the Egyptian President, is now being further equipped and staffed in Antwerp, Belgium. It plans to sail to Senegal in the Spring of 2022 to continue dispensing medical treatment there.

A new church information pack, full of the latest information will be displayed in the back of St Martins Church soon. Do have a look at it.

Peter and Julia White

12 Days - Movement for good

'Could you spare 5 minutes for 12 days to help St Martins?

Ecclesiastical Insurance are donating £1,000 to 10 charities for 12 days from 6th to 21st December.

Just click on [12 Days - Movement for good – Nominate a charity to receive £1000 from Ecclesiastical](#) and complete the simple form starting with our Charity No: 1134149.

Everyone who enters, each day from 5th, will increase St Martin's opportunity to receive £1,000. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS CARDS – ON SALE NOW

Christmas is coming!! I have set up my display of Christmas cards, candles and Advent Calendars. Please buy now while I have good stocks. Once I have sold out of a particular design, I may not be able to get any more. Everything will be on sale between now and Christmas.



Payment may be made in a variety of ways:

- Cheque: made payable to “The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Epsom” (please either hand in to the office or place in the wall safe in church)
- Donation Station: contactless payments – please use the “Cards” button
- Cash: via the wall safe in church.

Every packet sold helps the church. Thank you for your custom.

Mary Holloway-Neville



Epsom Rotary Christmas Collections

This year the good news is that Santa is back and will be visiting Epsom this Christmas! Epsom Rotary Club and Tilly the Train will be helping Santa collect money for local charities. If you have been good, Santa may have something for you in his sack! All children in the areas below will need to keep an ear open for Christmas carols and Tilly lit up like a Christmas tree. Just look out of the window, give Santa a wave and see whether he has a gift for you.

We will be visiting:

Monday 6th Dec.	Langley Vale
Tuesday 7th Dec.	Woodcote Side
Wednesday 8th Dec.	College Ward
Friday 10th Dec.	Hookfield
Monday 13th Dec.	Mospay Crescent
Wednesday 15th Dec.	The Wells
Friday 17th Dec.	Livingstone and Horton Park

Santa will start his visits at 4.30-5.00 pm
Watch him on his round at sleightracker.co.uk



This year Epsom Rotary is collecting for local good causes in Epsom and Ewell and we'd be grateful for your support. You can see who we help on our web site epsomrotary.uk. Gifts can be made on-line or text at any time, and by card or cash on the collection night.



If you are a wiz with your mobile then use the QR code to make a donation

Just go to justgiving.com/campaign/tilly21 and give us a few pounds and we will help local charities to survive in these difficult times or Text TILLY to 70450 to donate £5

Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message.



Latest message from Food Bank

We are so grateful to all of our wonderful supporters, every donation makes a difference! Booking a supermarket delivery? Let us know when to expect it.

This week we need:

- Custard
- Longlife fruit juice
- Longlife sponge puddings
- UHT milk (full fat and semi skimmed only please)
- Instant mash
- Tinned spaghetti in sauce
- Nappies 4+ & 6+
- Christmas Bags for Life

You can donate at the usual supermarket points, or bring donations to our car park (please wear a mask);

Epsom & Ewell Foodbank
Generation Resource Centre
(Behind West Ewell Primary School)
Ruxley Lane
Ewell, KT19 0JG

Normal donation drop off times: Monday to Friday 9am – 2pm. We are closed on Bank Holidays.

* Please make sure all donations are sealed, in date and do not contain alcohol*

Can you help us?

We are fundraising for:

🎄 Christmas meat vouchers. Once again we are working with local butchers, we want to give our clients vouchers to enable them to choose their meat for Christmas.

🎄 Funds for seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables to add to our Christmas meat voucher and goodie bags.

🎄 Energy top up funds for our clients' gas/electricity to cook their Christmas dinner.

🎁 Gift cards of £10 each for parents to choose a present for their children from Argos, Wilkos, Superdrug, Boots, or TK Maxx.

You can donate funds here via our website, make a small donation by text (details below), or contact us if you want to make a BACs transfer.

Donations can also be made if you prefer by texting any amount between £1 and £20 Christmas Gift followed by your chosen amount to 70450. If you wish to donate a larger amount please e-mail us.

Kind regards

Chris Shortt

Epsom &
Ewell
foodbank
HELPING LOCAL
PEOPLE IN CRISIS



CONTACT US

Parish Office:

Church House, Church Street, Epsom,

KT17 4PX Phone: 01372 722567

E-mail: stmartinsepsom@btconnect.com

Website: www.stmartinsepsom.org

**Opening hours are Mondays, Wednesday, Thursdays & Fridays
9.30am to 12.30pm**

The Revd Nick Parish – Vicar – 01372 743336

Email: vicar@stmartinsepsom.org

The Revd Canon Adrian Esdaile - Priest in Retirement - 01372 723770

Email: esdaileadrian@yahoo.co.uk

***(available for Contemplative Prayer, Counsel,
Spiritual Direction and the Healing Ministry)***

COLLECT

Almighty God,
give us grace to cast away the
works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light,
now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ
came to us in great humility;
that on the last day,
when he shall come again in his
glorious majesty to judge the
living and the dead,
we may rise to the life immortal;
through him who is alive and reigns
with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

PSALM Psalm 25:1-10

R *To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to
shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed
in their schemes. **R**

Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day
long. **R**

Remember, O Lord, your
compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.
Remember not the sins of my youth
and my transgressions;
remember me according to your
love
and for the sake of your goodness,
O Lord. **R**

Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore he teaches sinners in
his way.
He guides the humble in doing right
and teaches his way to the lowly. **R**

All the paths of the Lord are love
and faithfulness
to those who keep his covenant and
his testimonies.
For your name's sake, O Lord,
forgive my sin, for it is great. **R**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-end

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

GOSPEL Luke 21:25-36

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused

by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

POST COMMUNION

O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us
faithful
as we await the coming of your Son
our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may not find us sleeping in sin
but active in his service
and joyful in his praise;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday Homily

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

28 NOVEMBER 2021

YEAR C

“When you see these things taking place,
you know that the kingdom of God is near.”

Luke 21:31

Illustration

Some time ago there was a series of television adverts for an insurance company. They portrayed a series of domestic catastrophes, and they all ended with the slogan, “We won’t make a drama out of a crisis.” So there was the harassed mother coming downstairs to find the washing machine flooding the kitchen floor. The man contemplating the remains of his car, crushed under a fallen tree. The family returning home to find the window smashed and the television and video gone. All they had to do, however, was to phone the insurance company, and the problem would instantly be sorted out. Because, “We won’t make a drama out of a crisis.”

Gospel Teaching

But making a drama out of a crisis is precisely what the Gospel writers do in the sections of their Gospels we read in Advent. So what is the crisis, and how does the drama help?

The words of today’s Gospel reading are put into the mouth of Jesus, but they are being reported by Luke to a later audience. The first Christians had high hopes for the world after their experience of Jesus. They had seen his resurrection from the dead, and they fully expected him to return in power to judge the world very soon. However, his return did not appear to be coming soon enough to save them from trouble. They were living in a context that was doubly hostile to them, firstly because they were Jews, and secondly because they were Christians. So if they weren’t in trouble with the Romans for being Jews, they were in trouble with the Jews for being Christians. Not long after the time of Jesus they had seen the Jerusalem Temple destroyed by the Romans. Their lives were precarious.

So there is a crisis for early Christianity. The Lord has not returned, and there is no predicting when he will come. Meanwhile, there is danger and persecution for his followers. These two factors contribute to a crisis of faith. Were they right to believe what Jesus said, when his promises do not seem to be fulfilled? Were they right in their assessment of who Jesus was, when he does not seem to have the power to save them from danger?

The Gospel writers take this crisis and make a drama out of it. Luke's drama involves signs in the sun, moon and stars, crashing waves, the powers of the heavens shaken and people quaking with fear. Jesus will return, Luke promises, in truly dramatic fashion. The troubles his followers are experiencing now are nothing compared to the upheaval that will herald his arrival.

What this drama does is to take fear and turn it into hope. Persecution and difficulty are no longer signs of Jesus' absence, but rather of his imminent arrival. The drama is there to energise Christians, to encourage them to hold fast to hope and to live as if every moment was the one when the Lord would return. The crisis for faith becomes a drama of expectation.

Application

Two thousand years have passed, and the Lord has still not returned. And if many of us are honest, we have mostly stopped believing that he will. In our context of faith and thought, Advent can be an embarrassment, with its language of heavenly darkness and shaking earth, and its promises that Jesus will return within the lifetime of the first believers. Many no longer take Luke's drama literally, so far down the ages.

But it is still important. The overall message which Luke and the other Gospel writers want to convey to their readers is echoed by St Paul, and it is this: live each day as if it were to be the day of the Lord's return. We are given Advent as a solemn season in which to examine our lives in the light of Christ's coming, to ask ourselves, if Jesus did return today, what would he find me doing? What would he think of my choices and my priorities? These are questions Christians may ask themselves all the time, but the drama of Advent sharpens them and gives them urgency. Much time may have passed since the first Christians looked to the heavens expecting to see Jesus returning, but the call of St Paul is still addressed to us: "it is now the moment to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers."

MONDAY
29 NOVEMBER

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Matthew 8:5-11

TUESDAY
30 NOVEMBER

**Andrew
the Apostle**
Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 19:1-6
Romans 10:12-18
Matthew 4:18-22

WEDNESDAY
1 DECEMBER

Isaiah 25:6-10a
Psalm 23
Matthew 15:29-37

THURSDAY
2 DECEMBER

Isaiah 26:1-6
Psalm 118:18-27a
Matthew 7:21.
24-27

FRIDAY
3 DECEMBER

Isaiah 29:17-end
Psalm 27:1-4.
16-17
Matthew 9:27-31

SATURDAY
4 DECEMBER

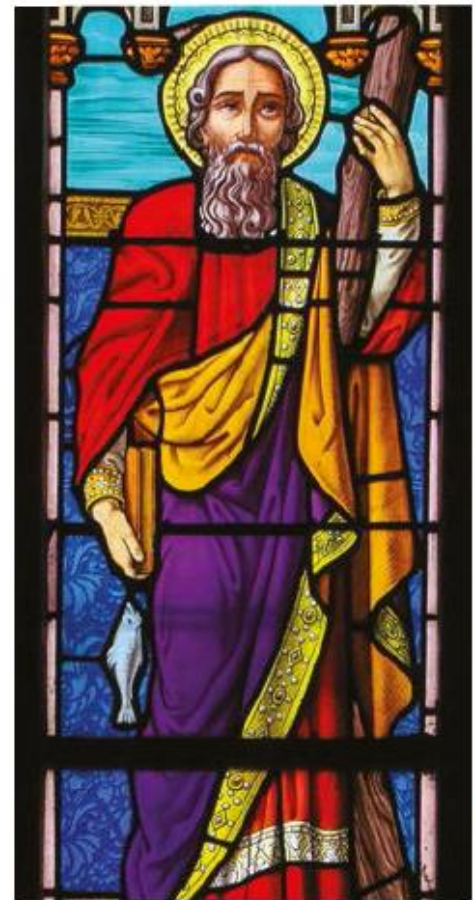
Isaiah 30:19-21.
23-26
Psalm 146:4-9
Matthew 9:35 –
10:1. 6-8

REFLECTION

Advent is the season of dreams and nightmares. The coming of Christ is imminent. Will it bring life or death? Heaven or hell? This week Isaiah expresses some of humanity's most cherished dreams.

In Isaiah's dream world the descendant of King David rules on God's behalf over a world at peace. At its centre in a renewed Jerusalem God hosts a banquet to which all the world is invited. No one who comes will ever be afraid again, there will be free food for all, and no one will die. Those who were once powerless will be protected, and the sun will forever shine. The most anxious believer will be able to relax, as the voice in the ear whispers, "This is the way; walk in it." How we would like to live in that world now!

On Monday we read of its beginning, while in Tuesday's Gospel we hear how Andrew joins the movement that walks in the way of the Lord. Nothing will prove as straightforward as Isaiah or Andrew might wish, but it is part of the story that shows how our Advent longings will, in God's good time, be fulfilled.



St Andrew, Church of St Martin, St Valery sur Somme, France. jorisvo / Shutterstock.com

PRAYER

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

PART I – THINGS YOU MAY OR MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT ADVENT

Caroline Hodgson looks at Advent and its associated traditions.

Most people will know that Advent is when Christians prepare to celebrate the birth of the infant Jesus. Many may also know that the first Sunday of Advent is the first day of the Western Church's liturgical calendar, and falls four Sundays before Christmas Day, while some may be aware that it is the Sunday nearest to St Andrew's Day, 30 November.

It may be less widely known that Advent is a season of penitence, when Christians anticipate the time when Jesus will come again as supreme judge – making it a time of moral and spiritual cleansing and preparation. This explains some of the traditions you may have wondered about, such as the colours used on the altar cloth and in the priest's vestments. Purple is the liturgical colour representing penitence, although sometimes a darker colour ("royal purple") is used, as opposed to the reddish ("Roman") purple of Lent. In some Anglican and Lutheran churches "Sarum blue" is used. This can be traced back to the medieval Sarum Rite (Sarum is the Latin name for Salisbury, where the custom originated). Also, if you look in the lectionary you'll see that Tuesday introduces a splash of red to the season, because that is the colour associated with martyrs, in this case St Andrew.

What nobody knows for sure is how long Advent has been observed in the Church. A canon of the first Council of Saragossa in AD 380, forbidding people to be absent from church from 17 December to Epiphany, is thought to be an early reference to Advent. By the fourth century it had become a forty-day fasting period, starting on St Martin's Day on 11 November, which was observed as strictly as Lent.

Of course no amount of knowledge can prepare us to meet our Lord, as a baby or at his second coming. But it can provide a focus for our prayer and preparation – to reflect, for example, on the sacrifice of St Andrew, or the spirit of penitence that is part of the season.

LIVE the WORD

SUSTAINING YOU
THROUGH THE WEEK

Edited by
Caroline Hodgson
and
Heather Smith



First week of Advent

Monday 29 November
to Saturday 4 December
2021

WEEK

Choosing sides

Katharine Smith *reflects on* Luke 21:25-36

Advent is a time of looking forward but it is also a time of contradictions and paradox. It's a season of hope and excitement for those who look forward to Christmas as a festival to be enjoyed with people they love. It's a season of hope and excitement for Christians looking forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. It's a time of sorrow and darkness for many who face Christmas for the first time, or for the twentieth time, without a loved one. It's a time of sober reflection and preparation for Christians who also look forward to the day when Christ returns in glory "to judge the living and the dead" and to establish his kingdom which will know no end.

Jesus talks this week about distress among the nations and fearful events that will shake heaven and earth. These are the signs by which we will know that the kingdom of God is near and, for Luke, this is a time not of judgement but of redemption, another cause for hope and excitement.

As Jesus speaks of the uncertain, changeable and temporary things of our world, he also speaks of the certainties that we can believe in and prepare for. The words of Jesus "will not pass away" and through prayer we will be given the strength to withstand all that threatens our bodies, knowing that our souls are redeemed and belong with the glorified Son of Man. ☺



Lord Jesus, as we look forward to celebrating your birth among us, give us the wisdom and faith also to prepare for your return so that when that day comes we will be ready to stand before you in your risen glory. Amen.

Keeping Christ in Christmas

Part 4 – Christmas spirit

by Heather Cooke

The decorations may have been up for weeks, and the retailers are in full swing, but today is the day when the Church begins its countdown to Christmas on Advent Sunday. Or rather, the first Sunday of Advent – because Advent doesn't start and finish today.

Advent, the period of waiting for Christ's coming into the world, lasts from today until Christmas Eve. But although those dates mark the

beginning and end of the season, it doesn't end there. We're all part of a greater Advent season, as we wait for Christ's coming again in glory.

Soon everyone will be getting into the Christmas spirit, wanting to celebrate. Whatever form that celebration might take for us this year, we can truly enter into the Christmas spirit this week, and keep the Christ in Christmas, by remembering what we really have to celebrate: the memory of God's coming in Jesus, and the hope of his glorious return. ☺

Plants of the Bible – The oak

by Caroline Fletcher

Many species of oak grow in Israel, together with a similar tree, the terebinth, also translated "oak". Reaching impressive ages and sizes, they became landmarks. Hence we are informed that Abram had a divine revelation near the oak at Moreh and Gideon under the oak at Ophrah.

People sat under the oak's spreading branches to shade from the sun. However, those same broad branches caused the bloody downfall of King David's rebellious son, Absalom, when his flowing locks became caught up in them!

Isaiah 11:1 famously mentions a "shoot... from the stock of Jesse" (King David's father). This image comes from trees such as the oak which when felled, produce new growth from their stumps. Isaiah is encouraging Israel that despite the ravages of war, hope remains: as stumps produce new life, so a deliverer will arise from the remnants of David's line. To Christians, this is Christ. ☺

“Be still, and know that I am God.”

Psalm 46:10



Sunday 28 November 2021

Luke 21:25-28. 34-36

1st Sunday of Advent

My name is _____

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

Jesus wants us to stand tall and hold our heads high. Bad things might happen, but we don't need to be afraid, because God is with us.

STAND TALL

Jesus tells us today that it is important to pray.

Spot the 4 differences

Between these two people who are praying to God.



Jesus tells us so often in the Bible, "Do not be afraid"

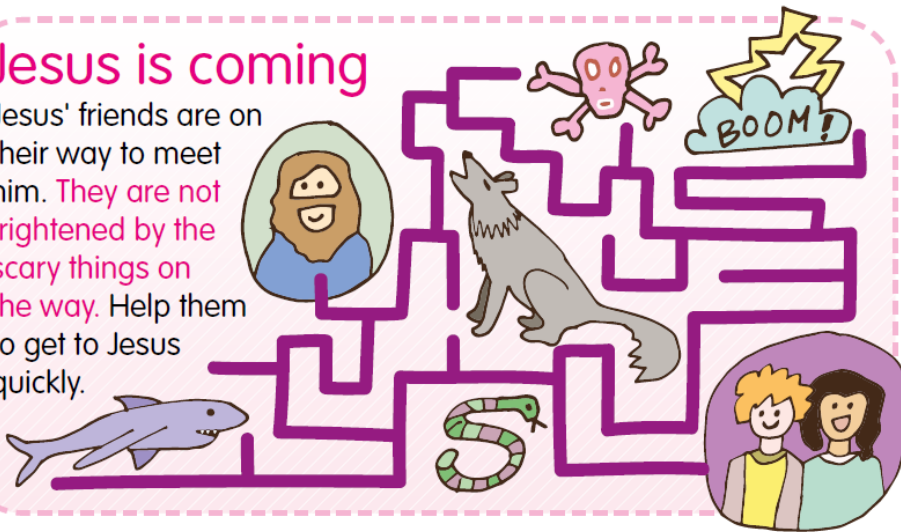
Write down, or draw some things you are afraid of and then find out at the bottom why you don't need to be afraid any more!

I am afraid of

But because God loves me, I am not afraid of these things any more!

Jesus is coming

Jesus' friends are on their way to meet him. They are not frightened by the scary things on the way. Help them to get to Jesus quickly.



Word puzzle



Can you fit all these words in the grid?

- ADVENT
- AWAKE
- JESUS
- READY
- PRAY

A PRAYER TO SAY

Please help me, Jesus, to take the time this Advent to get my heart ready to welcome you. Help me to say my prayers and to be kind and loving. Thank you for taking away my fears and always being with me. Amen.

Answer: Spot the differences: Hair colour, socks, eyes, T-shirt pattern.