



Christianity is one of the world's major religions, with about 2.4 billion followers.

Christians (like Jews and Muslims) believe in one God, who created the world and all that is in it.

Christians believe that Jesus Christ was sent to earth to save people.

The holy book in Christianity is called the Bible.

A church is a building designed for Christian worship



Christians believe that people should be kind and respectful to themselves and other people.

Christians believe that praying to God helps them to say sorry for the things that they have done wrong and to say thank you for the good things given to them in their lives.



The Cross is the symbol of Christianity



What is Advent?

Advent is an important part of the Christian calendar. It means 'coming' and it is the period before Christmas, which celebrates the birth of Jesus. It is all about preparing for Christmas Day. Advent starts on the Sunday nearest to 30 November.

Why do we celebrate?

Christianity focuses on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, who Christians believe to be the Son of God. Christmas celebrates Jesus' birth, so the Advent period reminds Christians to remember and prepare for those celebrations.

Why do we have advent calendars?

Many Advent customs involve counting down the days until Christmas begins. Some churches have an advent wreath with five candles, one for each of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas Day and one for Christmas Day itself. Sometimes Christians will have their own Advent candle which they will burn at home.



Christianity

Advent and Christmas



Christmas is celebrated on 25th December – Christmas Day. It is a holiday to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, who, according to the Christian religion, is the son of God.

The name is a joining of 'Christ' and 'mass' which means the holy mass (supper, celebration or festival) of Christ.

Christians believe that Jesus was the son of God. He was born to ordinary parents, Mary and Joseph, in Bethlehem.

Jesus' birth, known as the nativity, is described in the new testament of the Bible.

Key Vocabulary

Celebration – The marking of a happy event or to remember a special occasion.

Christianity – One of the world's major religions. Christians have a set of beliefs based on the Bible.

God – A supreme being. Christians believe in one God who they believe created the world.

Jesus – The son of God.

Bible – The Christian holy book.

Church – The Christian place of worship.

Advent – The time before Christmas

Christmas – A Christian holiday to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

Nativity - The story of Jesus' birth

Bethlehem – The place where Jesus was born