

Traditions:

Advent

The story of the birth of Jesus is very important to many Christians. Many believe he was a gift from God.

People celebrate Christmas in lots of different ways and these include acting out a nativity, carol singing, putting up and decorating Christmas trees and hanging wreaths. Many families get together for a special meal on Christmas Day.

Many Christians give gifts at Christmas to show their love for one another. After his birth, the Three Wise Men gave Jesus special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. They were the kinds of gifts given to kings in the ancient world. They were very valuable and were probably the first Christmas presents.

Key vocabulary:

Christmas – Christmas is the time of year when Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Christmas Day – Christmas Day is celebrated by many Christians all over the world on the 25th of December every year. It is a special day when offices, schools and shops are closed.

Nativity – A play that tells the story of the birth of Jesus.

Nativity

The Angel Gabriel visited Mary and told her she was going to have a baby called Jesus and that he would be God's son.

Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem. Mary rode on a donkey.

A kind innkeeper in Bethlehem let Mary and Joseph stay in his stable for the night and Jesus was born there.

An angel appeared to some shepherds and told them that the son of God had been born in Bethlehem. The shepherds walked to Bethlehem to visit the baby Jesus.

Three wise men saw a star in the sky and knew that it meant a king had been born. They followed the star. The wise men found baby Jesus but didn't tell Herod.





