

# St. Mary's Catholic Primary School



**Subject: RE**

Topic: From Advent to Christmas

Year: 6

Autumn 2

## What should I already know?

- Matthew is one of the Gospel writers.
- Matthew's account of the birth of Jesus is very different to Luke's account.
- Advent is a time of waiting and preparation in the lead up to the birth of Jesus at Christmas.
- Jesus is the incarnation: God in human form.
- God as the trinity: the Father, Son, Holy Spirit.
- God created the world and created humans to be made in the image of God.

## What am I going to learn?

- The context of Matthew's writing: In the time of Jesus Palestine was under the control of the Romans who had invaded the land before Jesus' birth.
- Jews were desperate that a messiah would come from among them and lead an uprising to regain control of the country. This messiah was predicted to come from the family line of King David.
- This Messiah ('anointed one') was predicted to come from the family line of King David.: Jesse was David's father.
- Biblical scholars think that Matthew was writing for a Jewish community – a community who were waiting for the Messiah.
- Jesus is the Messiah.
- Matthew's family tree (Jesse Tree) makes it very clear that Jesus comes from the right family as he is directly related to King David!
- Prayer is an important part of the season of Advent.
- Prayer strengthens our relationship with God, but during Advent it has a special role: it helps us focus on what is going to happen and it gets us ready to be ready!
- One form of prayer we say during Advent is the O'Antiphon – a short little prayer we sing before we read from the Book of Psalms.
- During Advent seven antiphons, called O'Antiphons as they all begin 'O', are sung during the last 7 days of Advent – up until Christmas eve.
- The O'Antiphons follow the structure of:  
a title for Jesus; something about Jesus (related to the title); an invitation to 'come' to us and a plea (request) to do something for US.

## Vocabulary

**Genealogy:** a line of descendants traced from an ancestor

**O'Antiphon:** a short prayer that is sung or said; it is usually only one sentence

**Jesse tree:** a tree that represents the genealogy of Jesus.

**Gentile:** a person who is not Jewish.

**Family tree:** a diagram that shows the relationship between people in several generations.

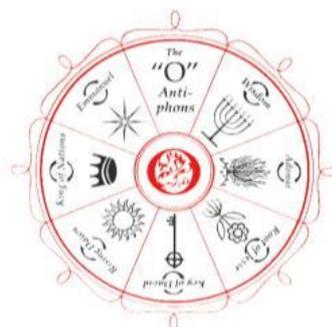
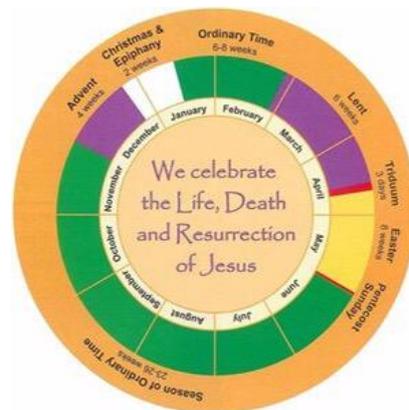
**Psalm:** a sacred song or hymn

**Incarnation:** Jesus as God in human form

**Messiah:** the leader or the saviour of a group of people

**Emmanuel:** means God with us and is known as the Messiah

**Gospel:** the teaching of Christ's life in four books written by four different writers at different times



O'Antiphons



Jesse Tree