

# Spirit of the Season

## ADVENT 2000

### DOCTOR TELLS ALL!

**St** Luke is known as the writer of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. On Sundays this year, from Advent 2000 to November 2001, we listen to the Gospel of Luke. In the three year cycle of Sunday readings it is Year C

ment. A celebration of all that is new in Jesus.

#### Stories unique to Luke:

- ◆ Annunciation
- ◆ Visitation
- ◆ Shepherds
- ◆ Prodigal Son
- ◆ Good Samaritan
- ◆ 10 Lepers
- ◆ Zacchaeus up the tree
- ◆ Martha & Mary

#### GETTING IN TOUCH

Martin Foster

**Liturgy Office**, 39 Eccleston Square,  
London, SW1V 1PL  
Tel: 020 7821 0553  
Fax: 020 7630 5166  
office@liturgy.demon.co.uk  
www.liturgy.demon.co.uk

Anne White

**National Project Coordinator**  
(address above)  
Tel: 020 7828 7604  
Fax: 020 7233 9802  
general@cesew.demon.co.uk

Christopher Walsh

**Institute for Liturgy and Mission**,  
Sarum College  
19 The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EE  
Tel: 01722 424800  
Fax: 01722 338508  
liturgy@sarum.ac.uk  
www.sarum.ac.uk

A certain Luke is mentioned three times in the New Testament as a companion to St Paul and on one occasion he is called a medical doctor. He seems to be writing to a fairly peaceful and stable group of Christians. To date his work, aim between 75 – 90CE.

It is a gospel of prayer, joy and peace. It opens with a man at prayer and with the joyous birth of two babies. It is a story of ne'er-do-wells who are given new hope. The stories are among the most memorable in the New Testa-

## LUKE



[www.liturgy.demon.co.uk/sos.html](http://www.liturgy.demon.co.uk/sos.html)

ADVENT HIGHLIGHTS  
MARY'S ROLE

PRAYERS  
IN THE CLASSROOM:

The Angelus...

V. The angel of the Lord  
declared unto Mary,  
R. and she conceived  
by the Holy Spirit.

*Hail, Mary,  
full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women  
and blessed is the fruit  
of thy womb Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now, and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.*

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:  
R. be it done unto me  
according to your word."

*Hail, Mary...*

V. And the Word was made flesh  
R. and dwelt among us.

*Hail, Mary...*

V. Pray for us,  
O Holy Mother of God,  
R. that we may be made worthy  
of the promises of Christ.

V. Let us pray.  
Pour forth,  
we beseech you, O Lord,  
Your grace into our hearts,  
that we to whom the incarnation  
of Christ, your Son  
was made known by the message  
of an angel,  
may by His passion and cross  
be brought to the glory  
of His resurrection,  
through the same Christ our Lord.  
ALL. AMEN.

# Advent Wreath

There can be few sights that have the ability of filling us with awe and wonder that to gaze up and through a suspended advent wreath. Literally we are able to 'peep heaven.' They are ancient. During the

In the circling of the year  
Light and life to us appear  
When the Son of God draws near  
*de virgine Maria.*

*- from a 15C carol*

winter months as the ground turned to mud, the precious wooden wagon wheels were hung to protect them. They were hung horizontally – to keep the shape – from the rafters. Come the winter solstice evergreen branches and candles celebrating the coming of the sun and a new year, were placed upon them.

The song 'Christmas is coming' records that each candle recalls an Advent theme:

- Week 1: God's promise,
- Week 2: the Prophets,
- Week 3: John the Baptist
- Week 4: Mary.

These themes are closely related to the Sunday readings.



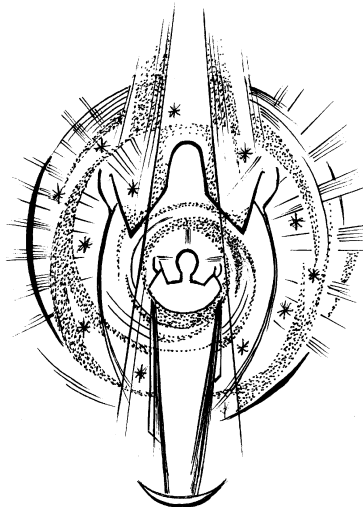
Attempt a whole school wreath or a classroom one. While it will involve some work, you'll have it for years to come.

As there maybe health and safety problems with the use of candles – how about purple ribbon decorated with silver glue? Eg: Try the themes: JOHN THE BAPTIST

## On the Angelus...



*The prayer can work well by having two voices take the V. and R. parts. All join in the Hail, Mary.*



*The Angelus is traditionally said at 12noon as a reminder of Christ's incarnation. V and R are abbreviations for Verside and Response. Like a lot of prayers, such as the Magnificat, the title of the Angelus comes from the first Latin word of the prayer.*

*Why not cut it out and keep it as a bookmark?*



## BLESSING THE WREATH

- ◆ A new candle is lit each week. Candles from previous weeks of Advent are already alight before the blessing.
- ◆ Following a hymn, sign of the cross and a few words of explanation about the season, the leader says:

*In the short days and long nights of Advent, we realise we are waiting for a special arrival. Around this wreath, we shall remember God's promise.*

- ◆ Music opportunity.

*Let us listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah. (Is 9:1-2.)  
"The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light..."*

- ◆ Opportunity to light candle, or hang the ribbons.

*Now let us pray for God's blessing upon us and upon this wreath.*

*Lord our God,  
we praise you for your Son,  
Jesus Christ:  
He is Emmanuel,  
the hope of the peoples,  
he is the wisdom that teaches  
and guides us,  
he is the Saviour  
of every nation.  
Lord God,  
let your blessing  
come upon us  
as we light the candles  
of this wreath.*

*May the wreath and its light  
be a sign of Christ's promise  
to bring us salvation.*

*May he come quickly  
and not delay.*

*We ask this  
through Christ our Lord.  
AMEN.*

- ◆ Music opportunity at the end.

## Songs for the Advent Wreath

- **Christmas is coming**  
John Bell (Iona Collection,  
*Innkeepers and Light Sleepers*  
or *Laudate*.)

...simple chants about light are possible...

- **The Lord is my light**  
Taizé.
- **Kindle a flame**  
Iona
- **Christ be our light**  
Bernadette Farrell. (chorus  
only)

## ADVENT in the Classroom

The colour is purple  
(violet in Lent).


Advent is not a penitential season. Advent's purple is more a royal purple. Try adding silvers, greys, blues.

As Christmas is about abundant festivities, Advent is calmer with joyful expectation. To contrast with ever-greens, use bare branches. A sprinkling of silver frost would add an interesting touch?

**A**dvent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's second coming at the end of time. *General Norms/Calendar 39*

Change date :  
17th December—8 days  
before Christmas.

LINKS: ccc148-9, 2617. Is9:6.  
icons 1E. Liturgical Calendars.

 **YOU NEED TO  
KNOW...**

Monday 8th January 2001 is the **Baptism of the Lord**. It may be your first day back at school. This is unusual and rare!

**Welcome** to what is hoped to be a regular page! Each publication will try to select an appropriate section from both 'The parts of the Mass' and 'The Directory for Masses with Children.'  
You might find these useful to cut and keep!

**Parts of the Mass explained: 2 Tables!**

**Setting the scene:**  
Introductory Rites  
**Liturgy of the Word**  
**Liturgy of the Eucharist**  
Concluding Rite

Although the Mass is made up of the liturgy of the word and the liturgy of the eucharist, the two parts are so closely connected as to form one act of worship. The table of God's word and of Christ's body is prepared and from it the faithful are instructed and nourished. In addition, the Mass has introductory and concluding rites.  
*(General Instruction of the Roman Missal No.8 – GIRM 8)*

At the Last Supper the Lord spoke to his disciples, took bread and wine, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave them the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation. After his resurrection from the dead, two disciple recognised his presence in these same actions: speaking, taking bread, giving thanks, breaking and sharing (Lk 24:13-35). In the Eucharist the Church to this day makes Christ's memorial and celebrates his presence in the same sequence of actions: in the liturgy of the word the assembly listens with hearts burning as the Lord speaks to it again and it responds with

words of praise and petition; in the liturgy of the Eucharist it takes bread and wine, gives thanks, breaks the bread, and receives the body and blood of Christ.

The table of God's word and of Christ's body and blood is prepared, and from it the faithful are instructed and nourished.

- For Reflection**
- ◆ *How can the space in which we celebrate Mass show the relationship between Word and Eucharist?*
  - ◆ *In preparing for Mass do we give equal prominence to each of two parts?*



**Music & Resources for the Season...**

**CD:** *Religious Clip Art*. McCrimmons, Tel:01702 218956.

**Books:** *Beginning the Bible*. Joseph O'Hanlon St Pauls Publications. *Children's Daily Prayer 2001* (McCrimmons) *Cloth for the Cradle* (Iona Community) is a book full of sketches/dramas and reflections and prayer which covers both Advent and Christmas.

**Music:** Christopher Walker's *Stay awake! Be ready!* is already an Advent classic. It can be found in his collection of *Music for Children's Liturgy of the Word* or in the hymnbook *Laudate*. Also worth a look is his *Prepare the way* in the

collection of children's music *Calling the Children*.

Mary's great song of praise the Magnificat is an Advent song. Being able to sing the words means that they begin to enter our hearts. The hymn *Tell out my soul* is a paraphrase; for the more adventurous try: *My soul rejoices* by Owen Alstott or *My soul proclaims* by Bernadette Farrell. Peter Jones' simple ostinato would work with spoken verses or if you fancy a bit of Latin the Taizé *Magnificat* round works well.

For more details of music, contact Decani Music (01638 716579).

**From the Directory for Masses with Children**

14. Depending on the capacity of the children, the word of God should have a greater and greater place in (these) celebrations. In fact, as the children's spiritual capacity develops, celebrations of the word of God in the strict sense should be held rather frequently, especially during Advent and Lent. These celebrations are able to encourage in the children an appreciation on the word of God.

*Spirit of the Season* is put together by Paul Varey. Material for inclusion should be sent to : Trinity & All Saints College, Leeds, LS18 5HD. Tel: 0113 283 7201 Fax: 0113 283 7200 Email: p\_varey@tasc.ac.uk  
We reserve the right to edit material, and we make no guarantee to include material submitted. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the sponsoring bodies. Material is particularly welcome on computer disc ( saved as plain text, rtf or Microsoft Word format) or by Email (address above).