ALL HALLOWS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Several hundreds of years before Jesus was born, the Jewish prophets began to explain to the rest of the people that God was going to send someone special, a new leader, who would be like their great King David. This is what they said:

ADVENT APPEAL

WORD OF THE WEEK ISAIAH 9: 2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They live in a land of shadows, but now light is shining on them. You have given them great joy, Lord: You have made them happy. They rejoice in what you have done, As people rejoice when they harvest grain Or when they divide captured wealth. For you have broken the yoke that burdened them.

> A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our ruler. He will be called, "Wonderful Counsellor," "Mighty God", "Eternal Father", "Prince of Peace".

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Jesus, help us to begin our Advent journey of faith, and preparation. Open our hearts to receive you and prepare a world we would be proud for you to enter. Centre our preparations for Christmas on growing closer to you and helping others, not ourselves and material things. Be with all those people we aim to help this Advent. Remind them of your love for them and that they are not alone. Help us to do all that we can to bring some Christmas cheer and love into their lives. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

For many people, the four weeks of Advent are just a countdown of shopping days to Christmas. But for Christians, Advent is a special and holy time leading up to the birthday of Jesus. The word Advent means 'the coming'. When someone special is coming to visit, it is usual to get ready. During Advent, Christians get ready and prepare themselves for the coming of

Jesus.

During the time of Advent and Christmas many people are moved to do something to help people less fortunate than themselves. Some people give to charity, buy Christmas cards from charities, or just share some of their time with people who need someone to talk to. This year, like every other year in school, we have our chance to do our bit to make a difference to the lives of others this Christmas. A time to focus on others, not ourselves, and a time to prepare our hearts and our world for the coming of Jesus, so that Jesus will find a warm and worthy welcome.

Here are some beautiful Advent songs to listen to this week to help you with your prayer as we prepare for Jesus' coming!

> O Come O Come Emmanuel <u>(Listen Here)</u>

> > Come Lord Jesus (Listen Here)

We The Kingdom - Light of the World
(Listen Here)

ALL HALLOWS ADVENT APPEAL 2022

Starting next week we would like you to bring in as many Christmas items as possible to donate to our local Churches Together foodbank. You can donate things like chocolate selection boxes, Christmas sweets, Christmas cake or puddings, mince pies, Christmas biscuits. You could also donate, hot chocolate and Christmas crackers. Penwortham foodbank will do an incredible job this Christmas providing food for those that need it and we would like to make sure that their food parcels also include lots of Christmas treats too.

Each form will be challenged to bring in as many items as possible and members of the SVP group will come round each morning to collect what you have donated. You need to keep a tally as a form of how many items you bring in. The form that donates the most will win a special Christmas treat. Tally charts will be in form folder at the end of the week.

The final day to bring in donations will be Wednesday 14th December!!

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT?

During Advent we prepare for the coming of the Lord. If we prepare our hearts and minds for Jesus' birth we will appreciate Christmas time all the more. Advent is a time of preparation. This week we begin this special journey and we want to be ready so that Jesus will find a welcome reception in out hearts and our world. Take a moment to think about or discuss with the person next to you the following questions.

What can we do to prepare our hearts for Jesus' coming?

What type of person would Jesus want to meet when he comes into the world?

How can you be that person?

What can we do to prepare our world for Jesus' coming?

What would you like the world to look like if you knew Jesus was on his way?

What could you do to make this happen?

