



# PORTSMOUTH and WINCHESTER DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION



## Collective Worship 12 Advent 2

All the Collective Worship emails so far can be found on our website  
[http://portsmouth.anglican.org/what\\_we\\_do/education/school\\_staff/teachers/collective\\_worship/](http://portsmouth.anglican.org/what_we_do/education/school_staff/teachers/collective_worship/)

### The Worship – Major themes ‘UP’

#### Preparation

You will need 4 coloured candles, one larger white candle, a candle snuffer and the images to project. The images are part of this document and are also provided separately as a power point.

You could use the school's Advent Ring but you will be lighting all the candles and this might break the rules.

This is based on Jerome Berryman's Godly Play version of the mystery of Advent – which if you have access to the script and the resources is much better but only really works with a smaller group of around 30 children sitting around you in a circle.

The Godly Play Advent Card images are from the Diocese of Guildford  
<http://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/assets/downloads/schoollife/Resource%20Centre/adventboardsresources.pdf>

#### Music on Entry

Your favourite Christmas Carol

#### Start the worship with a Christian Greeting

e.g. Lighting a Candle and saying "The Lord be with you." "*And also with you.*"

#### There may be singing

O little town of Bethlehem.

#### The Worship

#### ***Project the first image with one candle.***

#### ***Light the first coloured candle.***

At this time of Advent we remember the Prophets who are people who come so close to God and God comes so close to them.

They listened carefully to God. They pointed the way to Bethlehem. They didn't know exactly what was going to happen there, but they knew that this was the place.

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On the first Sunday in Advent we remember the prophets. Here is the hand of a prophet pointing the way to Bethlehem, showing us the way, too.

### ***Project the second image with two candles.***

***Light the second coloured candle.***

See this is the road to Bethlehem – the place the prophets pointed to.

We are on a journey to Bethlehem just like Mary and Joseph were on their way to Bethlehem.

### ***Project the third image with three candles.***

***Light the third coloured candle.***

Look – here is a sheep so it must be the shepherds.

The shepherds were visited by angels and they too made their way to Bethlehem.

Mary and Joseph, the shepherds and all of us are on our way to Bethlehem.

### ***Project the fourth image with four candles.***

***Light the fourth coloured candle.***

Look – these are crowns – it must be the wise men.

The wise men followed a star – they made their way to Bethlehem.

Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the wise men and all of us are on our way to Bethlehem.

### ***Project the fifth image with five candles.***

***Light the WHITE candle.***

Look here is a star – it is the star above the stable where Jesus was born – it is for Jesus the light of the world.

This is the mystery of Advent – it is the coming of Jesus.

### ***Wait***

I want to show you something very strange and very important. Look.

I want to show you what happens when the light is changed. Sometimes people don't pay attention to this. They miss this part.

### ***Point at the first candle***

Look. Do you see how the flame is in just one place now? It is right here. When I change the light, it will no longer be in just one place.

***Use a candle snuffer to put out the candle – catch as much smoke in the snuffer as possible. Slowly turn the snuffer over so the smoke creeps out into the room and watch it spread out.***

You can't see it after it spreads out all over the room, but it is there.

Watch. Do you see it? It is no longer here in this one place. Now it is spreading out, getting thinner and thinner as it fills up the room with the light of the prophets. Anywhere you go in this room you will be close to the prophets.

There may even be one sitting with us now in this room. Prophets can be girls and prophets can be boys. They pay attention to God. They know things – they know what is important.

### ***Point at the second candle***

Look. Do you see how the flame is in just one place now? It is right here. When I change the light, it will no longer be in just one place.

***Use a candle snuffer to put out the candle – catch as much smoke in the snuffer as possible. Slowly turn the snuffer over so the smoke creeps out into the room and watch is spread out.***

This is the light of the mother Mary and the father Joseph.

Watch. Do you see it? It is no longer here in this one place. Now it is spreading out, getting thinner and thinner as it fills up the room with the light of the mother Mary and the father Joseph. Anywhere you go in this room you will be close to them.

### ***Point at the third candle***

Look. Do you see how the flame is in just one place now? It is right here. When I change the light, it will no longer be in just one place.

This is the light of the shepherds. Who listened to the angels and went to find the baby Jesus.

***Use a candle snuffer to put out the candle – catch as much smoke in the snuffer as possible. Slowly turn the snuffer over so the smoke creeps out into the room and watch is spread out.***

Watch. Do you see it? It is no longer here in this one place. Now it is spreading out, getting thinner and thinner as it fills up the room with the light of the shepherds. Anywhere you go in this room you will be close to them.

### ***Point at the fourth candle***

Look. Do you see how the flame is in just one place now? It is right here. When I change the light, it will no longer be in just one place.

This is the light of the wise men. Who followed the star to find the baby Jesus.

***Use a candle snuffer to put out the candle – catch as much smoke in the snuffer as possible. Slowly turn the snuffer over so the smoke creeps out into the room and watch is spread out.***

Watch. Do you see it? It is no longer here in this one place. Now it is spreading out, getting thinner and thinner as it fills up the room with the light of the wise men. Anywhere you go in this room you will be close to them.

### ***Point at the WHITE candle***

Look. Do you see how the flame is in just one place now? It is right here. When I change the light, it will no longer be in just one place.

This is the light of Jesus.

***Use a candle snuffer to put out the candle – catch as much smoke in the snuffer as possible. Slowly turn the snuffer over so the smoke creeps out into the room and watch is spread out.***

Now watch. I am going to change the light.

Now I am going to change the light of Jesus. Look. It too is spreading out to fill up the room. As it spreads out, it gets thinner and thinner until you can't see it. That doesn't mean that it's gone. It only means that you can't see it. You can still feel the Christmas light. It is filling up the room with the prophets, the mother Mary and the father Joseph, the shepherds and the wise men. Anywhere you go, you can come close to them.

## Prayer

"Thank you for the mystery of Advent.

For the coming of Jesus.

Help us to wait for Christmas, and

As we wait for Christmas help us to listen carefully to what is important,

Like the prophets did.

Help us to join the prophets, the mother Mary and the father Joseph, the shepherds and the wise men on our journey together to Christmas.

## Leaving the hall

A few final thoughts to take away:

Remember Jesus is coming.

Remember to listen carefully as you wait.

"The Lord be with you." *"And also with you."*

## Optional evaluation using '4' questions with a small group of children.

1. Tell me one thing you liked about the Collective Worship you have just been in?
  - a. This is a personal idea just about your feelings or thoughts.
2. Tell me one thing that would have made it better for you?
  - a. This is a personal idea just about your feelings or thoughts.
3. Tell me what it was about?
  - a. This is about factual recall.
4. Tell me why did the person leading the worship do what they did? (How you phrase this depends on the age of the pupils)
  - a. So what was the point?
  - b. What do you take away?
  - c. What do we learn about how we live our lives?

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