



DEVELOPING & SUPPORTING
**SCHOOL &
PARISH LINKS**

ADVENT SERVICE

“Welcome Jesus”

An Advent service designed for a high school and their associated primary schools to be held at a host parish. (Based on a liturgy created by CJM Music available at www.cjmmusic.com/news/welcome-jesus-advent-liturgy-download/)

Introduction -

The service begins in candlelight. Reflective music as people gather.

First Reading – School 1

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.
Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low.
Let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

*Choir sing 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord (Gospell) or Ready the Way (Curtis
Stephan)'*

PLEASE STAND

Celebrant -

Sign of the cross and greeting.

Let us pray:
Father in heaven,
our hearts desire the warmth of your love
and our minds are searching for the light of your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour
and give us the strength to grow in love,
that the dawn of his coming
may find us rejoicing in his presence
and welcoming the light of his truth.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

AMEN

Celebrant -

A pupil from **school 1** will now light our first candle on our advent wreath. This Symbolises the Hope Jesus brings to our world. Please join in the sung response – Wait for the Lord whose day is near, wait for the Lord, keep watch, take heart (Taize).

*A pupil from **School 1** comes forward to light the **first candle** on the advent wreath to symbolise **HOPE**. Artwork is also brought up at this point*.
We sing together 'Wait for the Lord – Taize'*

Celebrant -

Please join in with our opening hymn, The Servant King

Opening Hymn – ALL – The Servant King

PLEASE SIT

Celebrant -

A pupil from **School 2** will now light our second candle which symbolises the Peace Christ brings both to our own lives and to our world.

*A pupil from **School 2** comes forward to light the **second candle** on the advent wreath to symbolise **PEACE**. Artwork is also brought up at this point*
We sing together 'Wait for the Lord – Taize'*

Second Reading with drama of the Annunciation – Pupils from School 2

Hail Mary Signing - Pupils from School 2 -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZQjVI-P55w>

Celebrant -

A pupils from **School 3** will now light the third candle on our advent wreath to symbolise the Joy being a follower of Christ brings.

*A pupil from **School 3** comes forward to light the **third candle** on the advent wreath to symbolise **JOY**. Artwork is also brought up at this point*.
We sing together 'Wait for the Lord – Taize'*

Third Reading – Read by a pupil from School 3

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son.* She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Homily

Pupil from School 3 -

They laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the Inn. As we prepare a place for the Baby Jesus in our lives this advent let us pray that this Christmas and always, we will be willing to make room for Christ to dwell in our hearts and work in our lives.

Choir sing 'O little town of Bethlehem'. At the start of each verse pupils from St Clare's primary school will add another statue to the crib (e.g. V1 Animals, V2 Mary and Joseph, V3 cradle, V4 Cloth for the cradle)

Celebrant -

A pupil from **School 4** will now light our forth candle on our advent wreath to declare God is love, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

*A pupil from **School 4** comes forward to light the **forth candle** on the advent wreath to symbolise **LOVE**. Artwork is also brought up at this point*.
*We sing together 'Wait for the Lord – Taize'**

Candle Song – Graham Kendrick – School 4

Prayers of Invocation –

Reader: The response to each prayer of invocation is 'Come, Lord Jesus Come'

Lord Jesus, in this Advent season we wait eagerly for your arrival. Come fill us with your hope, your peace, your love, and your joy.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Reader: The world isn't like you wanted it to be. We don't love each other as you love us. So come and help us change.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Reader: The world is full of fighting and wars. We even find it difficult to get on with our friends and family sometimes. We need you, Jesus. Come show us how to live in peace.

All: Come, Lord Jesus, come!

PLEASE STAND

Celebrant -

May the star of Bethlehem, which shone brightly over the first crib stand guard over our homes, filling them and all the earth with light and peace. We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you because by your Holy Birth you give hope to all the world.

Blessing and dismissal

Closing Hymn - Maranatha come lord Jesus come