

<b>Unit Question U2.2</b>	<b>Religion(s) Covered</b>
<b>How do Christians celebrate Christmas around the world?</b>	<b>Christianity</b>

**Year Group: 5**

**Suggested Hours: 6**

<b>Key Vocabulary</b>	<b>RE Skills</b>	<b>Points to Note</b>
<b>Advent</b> <b>Lille Juleaften</b> <b>Sinterklaas.</b> <b>Orthodox</b> <b>magi</b>	<b>Investigate</b> <b>Interpret</b> <b>Analyse</b> <b>Reflect</b>	<b>Resources</b> <b>See links below</b>

<b>Key Question 1:</b> <b>How do Christians celebrate Christmas?</b>	<a href="https://www.whychristmas.com/story/wisemen.shtml">https://www.whychristmas.com/story/wisemen.shtml</a> Look at the Christmas story and discuss key events Look at Advent and the importance of advent to Christians. Look at Advent around the world and what differences there are within other countries. Research advent around the world and create a fact file. How do Christians celebrate Christmas in the UK/Oldham? Advent - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPHXooW6Nfl">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hPHXooW6Nfl</a>  <a href="https://www.bbc.com/teach/class-clips-video/what-is-christmas-like-for-christians/z4xcjhv">https://www.bbc.com/teach/class-clips-video/what-is-christmas-like-for-christians/z4xcjhv</a>
<b>Key Question 2:</b> <b>What do other countries do to celebrate Christmas?</b>	Look at English traditions around Christmas celebrations. Look at Christmas in Denmark – the day before is called Little Christmas Eve ( Lille Juleaften) the main celebration in Denmark is on Christmas Eve. Investigate Christmas in Australia, the weather is usually 30 degrees and so they will have a picnic rather than a Turkey dinner. In Holland Santa Claus is called Sinterklaas. Dutch children are told that he sails from Spain on December 5. They fill their shoes with hay and sugar for his horse and awake to find them filled with gifts such as nuts and candy. In Venezuela, Venezuelans attend a daily early morning church service between December 16th and 24th. In Caracas, the capital city, it is customary to roller-skate to this service and many neighbourhoods close the streets to cars until 8 a.m. Orthodox Christians (in Russia and the Eastern churches) celebrate on 6 <sup>th</sup> January- explore the meaning of the magi. Children to create a fact file and discuss which version of Christmas they would prefer.
<b>Key Question 3:</b> <b>How does the church prepare for Christmas?</b>	Reflection alley – set up the classroom with two parallel lines of seats at the front of the class with an alley between, choose one pupil (the walker) and the rest of the class is the audience. Present the class with the dilemma 'Should Christmas be cancelled?' Choose a volunteer to walk up reflection alley and the rest are advisers who give their reasons for or against. Discuss Christingles and make some. What symbols of the gospel stories of Jesus are included in the Christingle. <a href="https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-you-can-do/fundraising-and-events/christingle/what-christingle">https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-you-can-do/fundraising-and-events/christingle/what-christingle</a> Plan a church visit or invite a vicar in and talk about how church prepares for the coming of Jesus.
<b>Key Question 4:</b> <b>Why is Christmas known as Good news?</b>	Tell the pupils the whole story and then focus on the angels appearing with 'good news' of the birth of Jesus. Christians celebrate all over the world. Act out the story in groups of 12, characters mime out actions. Try freeze framing at key moments. Focus on 'good news' talk about what would be good news today. The message from the angel was of the 'good news' of the birth of Jesus. Why do Christians think that the birth of this baby is such 'good news'? Use an image of the shepherds and angel appearing to them and photocopy onto acetate. Cover with jigsaw like pieces and remove a piece at a time to reveal parts of the

	<p>image. Remove all the pieces and discuss, prompt to retell story in their own words.</p>
<p><b>Key Question 5: What would Mary's journey have been like?</b></p>	<p>Look at an image of the church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. Beneath the church is a grotto, the grotto is about 10.5 metres long and 3 metres wide. Get pupils to describe what they see, ask what they think the atmosphere might be like in the grotto? How would Christians feel when they go into a place where something special has happened? Ask a partner or friend about a special place they have visited. Art – sketch an image of either the Church of the Nativity or their personal special place. Think about the journey Mary and Joseph took, what would the journey have been like for Mary? Reflect on key moments of her journey. Ask pupils to think about their life so far and reflect on 5 key moments. Make a simple map showing Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Egypt, and ask children to make and stick Mary's milestones at various points. (For an online map of Palestine, see <a href="http://www.bible.ca/maps/maps-palestine-33AD.htm">www.bible.ca/maps/maps-palestine-33AD.htm</a>)</p>
<p><b>Unit Assessment: How do Christians celebrate Christmas around the world?</b></p>	<p>Design an Advent calendar/card/decoration which is half secular and half sacred. Explain the messages each gives. Debate: Should Christmas be banned for people who are non-Christian?</p>