



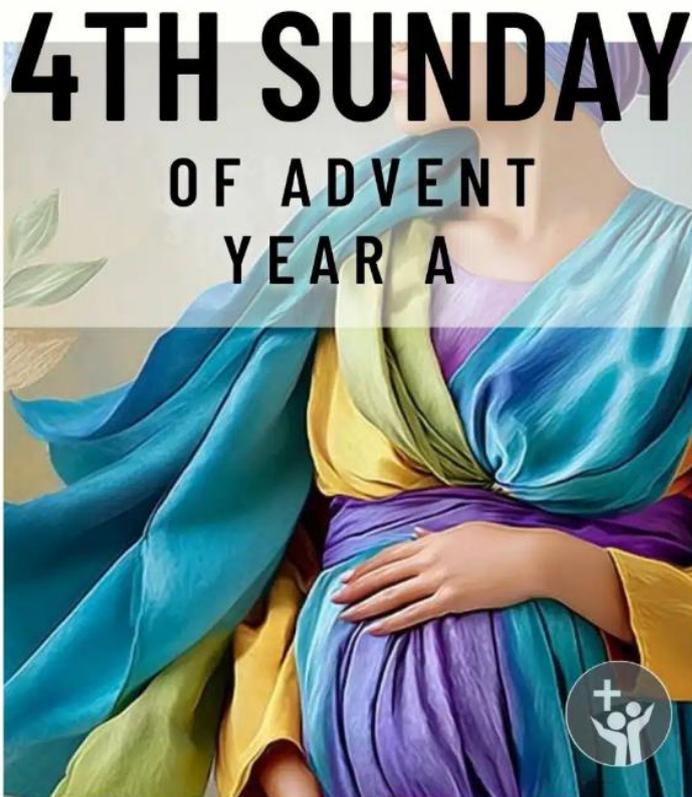
As we step into the Fourth Sunday of Advent and the final week before Christmas, our waiting reaches its most gentle moment. The long anticipation of hope, peace, and joy now gathers itself into love—the quiet, courageous love that makes room for God. Advent gently asks us to slow down rather than rush ahead and in school this week we have been thinking about how we can show love to one another in small ways. Please take the time to read about all of the lovely things we've been doing in school as we look forward to Christmas and our Christmas break.

On behalf of the whole staff team, please may I also take this opportunity to say thank you for all the Christmas wishes, cards and gifts – we are very grateful.

Have a wonderful break and we look forward to seeing you all in 2026!

Mrs McBrown

4th Sunday of Advent – hope in the Lord's coming.



The 4th Sunday of Advent brings us very close to Christmas. The readings help us focus on who Jesus is and why He came. We hear the name Emmanuel, which means “God is with us.” This is the message we hold onto as we get ready to celebrate His birth.

Each reading gives us something to think about. Isaiah speaks of a sign—a child born to a virgin. Paul reminds the early Christians that Jesus was promised long ago. The psalm talks about who can come into God's presence. And in the Gospel, Joseph listens to God and chooses to stay with Mary. These are not just stories from the past. They speak to us today. Like Joseph, we are asked to trust. Like Paul, we are called to share the good news. And like the people in Isaiah's time, we are told that God will not leave us alone.

The 4th Sunday of Advent invites us to quiet our hearts. It tells us that Jesus is near. We wait with hope and joy, knowing that God is coming to be with us.

***Loving God,
as we light the fourth candle of Advent, we thank you for the gift of love made near. Like Mary, open our hearts to say yes, even when we are unsure. Quiet our busy minds and help us make room for Christ and to be born anew in our words and actions. As we wait on the threshold of Christmas, fill us with trust, compassion, and joy. May your love shape our lives and shine through us into the world. Amen.***

De La Salle – A Magical Christmas Jigsaw!

Earlier this week, some year 4 children travelled to De La Salle to join the other Christus Catholic Trust primaries and the young people from De La Salle to perform a super nativity. The children in each school rehearsed the songs before coming together form a giant choir of sound! The St. Joseph's children were brilliant; they behaved beautifully, sang superbly and knew all the actions. A huge well done to the Year 4 children!



Y5 and 6 Carol Concert



On Tuesday we were treated to our Carol Concert performed beautifully by Years 5 and 6. The children led us through the Christmas story through readings and carols – it certainly gave me goosebumps!

A huge thank you to Mr Lovell, Mrs Tapatau and the wider team for preparing the children so brilliantly. Thank you to Father Anthony for allowing us to use the church as our venue

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

On Wednesday we enjoyed our Christmas Lunch and continued our celebrations with Christmas jumpers and accessories! The children thoroughly enjoyed their lunch and a huge thank you to kitchen team for preparing this for us.



Rock Steady Concert

We also thoroughly enjoyed our first Rock Steady Concert where the children entertained their friends demonstrating all of their musical talents. They have only been learning for a short period of time and were super confident! They are looking forward to showing their families next term!



Panto – oh no you didn't...!!!

Oh yes we did!!! Apologies but I just couldn't help myself! A huge thank you to the PTA for funding our Panto this year, the children had a wonderful time it certainly rounded off the term!



Looking Ahead... Spring term	
Monday 5 th January 8.40am	Back to school!
Tuesday 6 th January	Epiphany Mass Year 3-6 11.15am
Thursday 8 th January 9.15am	Open Morning for new Reception children (September 2026)
Monday 12 th January	Star Rugby – Y6 PE Kits please
Monday 19 th January	Star Rugby – Y5 PE Kits please
Tuesday 20 th January	Reception Class Liturgy 9am
Monday 26 th January	Star Rugby – Y4 PE Kits please
Tuesday 27 th January	Y1 Class Liturgy 9am
Monday 2 nd February	Star Rugby – Y3 PE Kits please
Tuesday 3 rd February	Year 6 Class Liturgy 9am
Tuesday 10 th February	Year 2 Class Liturgy 9am
Friday 13 th February	Y4 to Mass 9.15am

Please remember to check the school website [here](#) for further dates and details.