




River Bank Primary Knowledge Organiser	Year 1	Autumn 2	Why does Christmas matter to Christians? How and why do we celebrate special times?
Key Vocabulary		Important Facts	
<p><b>Christmas</b> - celebrating the birth of Jesus.</p> <p><b>Advent</b> - is a countdown to Christmas. The time when Christians prepare for the birth of Jesus.</p> <p><b>Incarnation</b> - the word 'incarnation' 'God as a human'.</p> <p><b>Bible</b> - Christian's holy book.</p>  <p>Churches often decorate inside the building.</p> <p><b>Jesus</b> – a Christians believe Jesus is the son of God.</p> <p><b>Gabriel</b> - In the Bible, Gabriel can be found in the books of Luke and Daniel. He is also known as the "Christmas Angel".</p>		<p><b>Advent</b> is when Christians prepare for Jesus' arrival. Advent traditions include wreaths, candles, calendars and making a crib scene. Advent wreaths have 5 candles – four on the outside (purple or red) and one in the middle (usually white). Each candle is lit each week up to Christmas. The 5<sup>th</sup> candle is lit at midnight on Christmas Eve.</p> <p><b>Advent Wreath</b></p>  <p><b>Crib scene</b></p>  <p>Cribs are often seen in churches or homes at this time and contain figures of the Nativity; Mary, Joseph, Jesus, the shepherds. (following Luke's Gospel account)</p>	

**Mary** – the mother of Jesus  
Joseph - in the gospels of Matthew and Luke,

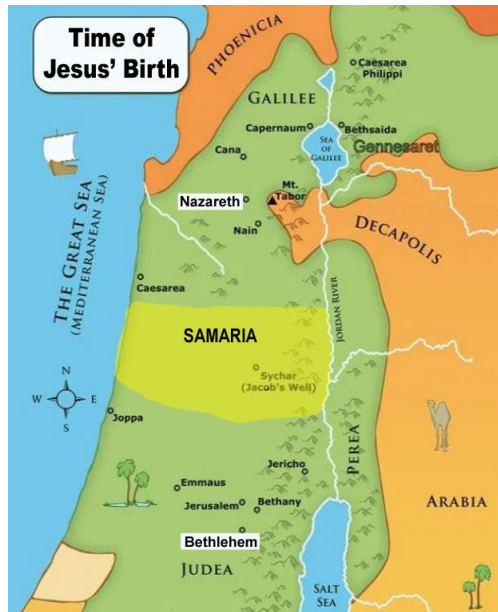
**Joseph** was the earthly father of Jesus Christ and the husband of the Virgin Mary.

**Christian**- a believer in Jesus Christ and God.

**Nazareth** – where Joseph and Mary live

**Bethlehem** - where Jesus was born

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**Christmas** is important for Christians; it is a time for Christians to rejoice over the birth of Jesus. Most Christians believe he was very special – not an ordinary baby, but God on Earth! The story of Jesus' birth includes:

- 1) The Preparation - Advent
- 2) The Announcement – Angel Gabriel visits Mary,
- 3) The Journey - Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem
- 4) The Message Angels appear to shepherds
- 5) The Gift - Jesus is born and placed in a manger



Luke's story talks about Jesus' birth being 'good news'. People give gifts and say 'thank you' at Christmas.

Christmas cards are sent before Christmas to wish each other a Merry Christmas. The pictures can be religious (secular) or non religious (non-secular).



## Key People and Places

**Jesus** – a Christians believe Jesus is the son of God.

**Gabriel** - In the Bible, Gabriel can be found in the books of Luke and Daniel. He is also known as the "Christmas Angel".

**Mary** – the mother of Jesus

**Joseph** - in the gospels of Matthew and Luke,

**Joseph** was the earthly father of Jesus Christ and the husband of the Virgin Mary.

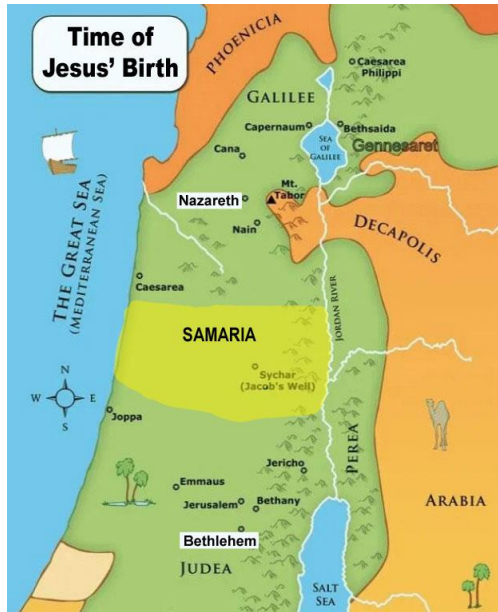
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## Quiz

1) Why do Christians celebrate Christmas?

a) celebrate the birth of Jesus   b) remembering when Jesus died   c) remembering when Jesus came back to life   d) to celebrate the birth of John

2) Christians believe Jesus was .....

a) a special man   b) God on Earth   c) a Holy Spirit   d) a disciple

3) Who visited Mary (Jesus' Mother)?

a) God   b) Jesus   c) Gabriel   d) Joseph

4) What word is used to describe how Christians prepare for Christmas?

a) Christmas   b) Easter   c) Advent   d) Harvest

5) How many candles are normally in an Advent wreath

a) 4   b) 5   c) 3   d) 6