

# Christingle



"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life (Jn 8:12)

**Sing Christingle** - [Sing Christingle - YouTube](#)

1. The Christingle begins with the orange  
Like the world which the Lord God made;  
For creation is full of His glory  
All around we see his love displayed.

CHORUS Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle!  
Sing Christingle! It's the light of Christ!  
Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle! Sing Christingle! Light of Christ!

2. The sultanas and nuts serve a purpose  
They speak of goodness to us always;  
For the fruits of the earth in their season  
To our comfort, let us now give praise.
3. The red band is a symbol of suffering  
Of a Saviour on Calvary's tree  
But the wonderful news all can share in  
Is that there Christ died for you and me.
4. But the candle is first and is foremost  
'Tis through this we see day through night;  
And the message it brings to Christ's followers  
Is that He is our true Hope and Light.



Christmas is a time when we remember that God came to earth so we would know who the eternal God is and what he's really like.

Christingle actually means 'Christ – Light' and so Christingle celebrates the light of Jesus coming into the world. In John's Gospel chapter 1 Jesus is described as the "light of men": "The Light shines in darkness but the darkness has not overcome it" (Jn 1:5).

No one is really sure how the Christingle service came into being. The earliest record of a Christingle service was in 1747 in a Moravian church in Marienborn, Germany. The Moravian bishop, John de Watteville, gave each child a lighted candle tied round with a red ribbon as a way of illustrating the great love Jesus has for us all.

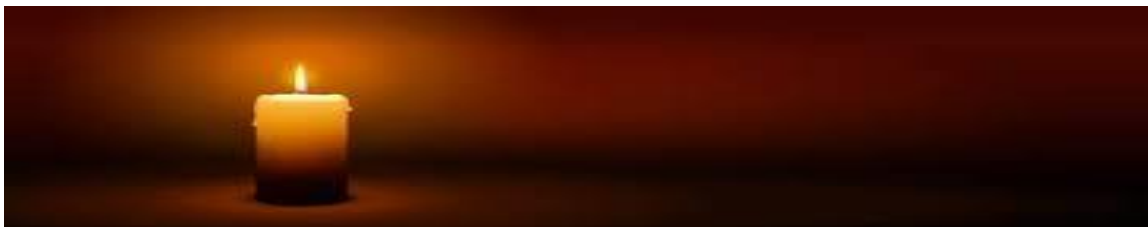
So today we are celebrating the start of advent with our Christingle.

The Christingle is made up of:

The Orange – this stands for the world, with all its sin and suffering. We know many people have suffered this year caused by COVID but there is still much suffering caused by war and unkindness. It's such a shame because this world could be a really nice place to live in. But evil people do evil things.

The Candle stands for Jesus coming into this world, as the light of the world. As we heard earlier, Jesus said: "I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12)

Jesus' birth, which we celebrate at Christmas is the like the lighting of the candle.



The red ribbon stands for the blood of Jesus.

Jesus, the little baby whose birthday we celebrate at Christmas – was killed on a cross when he was only 33 years old.

He died so that we could become part of God's family. Jesus blood was spilled to take away the evil of the world – to wash us and makes us whiter than snow.

The red ribbon is placed around the orange to show that – when Jesus died – it was for the whole world. When evil men killed Jesus – an act, which we remember on Good Friday – they thought that they had put out the light of the world for good.



And it seemed for three days that the Light of the world had been put out.



However God relit it, when he raised Jesus from the dead and every Christmas we are reminded that Jesus continues to shine in the darkness.

The four cocktail sticks stand for the four seasons, spring, summer, autumn and winter. On the sticks there are fruit, nuts and sweets to show the good fruits in the earth.

The fruit also reminds us if we are to follow Jesus, we too should produce good fruit. As St. Paul reminds us the fruit of God's spirit in our lives is: "Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." (Gal 6:22)

I'd like to leave you with a final thought. When people killed Jesus, they thought that they had put out the light of the world for good. However God relit it, when he raised Jesus from the dead. And so I'd like to encourage you to think about this every time you see a candle on a Christingle or all the Christmas lights we see during advent.

Jesus' birth is the like the lighting of the candle. And although it was blown out later by bad men, God re-lit the candle and it continues to shine in the darkness. And we should live our lives so that people see that we shine too, as the Candle – just like Jesus. For we too need to bring hope, love, joy, and peace to others who need our love and God's love.

As we remember the birth of Jesus the most amazing fact is that it is God with us. God has come down from heaven, and walked with us, lived with us, worked with us here on earth.

### **Let us Pray**

The orange represents the world. We pray for our world, that men and women boys and girls can live together peacefully and that there will be no more wars. We pray for children who are sad and lonely in the world, especially refugees in our country.

The red ribbon reminds us of Good Friday when Jesus died at Easter time. We pray that you will bring an end to suffering and that people all over the world may be able to choose their religion and practice it freely. It is sad when people die, please comfort those who are sad because a relative or neighbour has died, and please look after children whose parents have died.

The cocktail sticks remind us of the four seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter. We love to kick leaves in autumn, to make snowballs in winter, to see the gardens grow in spring and to play in the sun in summer. Thank you for your world. Please keep safe and warm homeless children who are scared and frightened.

The sweets or dried fruit on the cocktail sticks remind us that the things we have come from God, who made the world. Thank you for the sun and the rain which make crops grow, we pray for children who are hungry because bad weather has spoiled the food their family were growing. We pray for people who won't receive any presents this year, look after them this Christmas.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world, a light no darkness can quench. We remember before God those who have died and light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. **AMEN**

**This Little Light of Mine** ["This Little Light Of Mine" - YouTube](#)

This light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Jesus is the Light, I'm gonna let Him shine  
Jesus is the Light, I'm gonna let Him shine  
Jesus is the Light, I'm gonna let Him shine  
Let Him shine, let Him shine, let Him shine

I will stomp my feet, and I will clap my hands and shout, shout  
I will run around and I'll jump off the ground and shout, shout  
I will stomp my feet, and I will clap my hands and shout, shout  
I will run around, I'll jump off the ground and shout, shout

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

And I will stomp my feet, and I will clap my hands and shout, shout  
I will run around and I'll jump off the ground and shout, shout

Jesus is the Light  
I'm gonna let Him shine  
Jesus is the Light  
I'm gonna let Him shine  
Jesus is the Light  
I'm gonna let Him shine  
Let Him shine  
Let Him shine  
Let Him shine

Let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine  
Let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine...

