



Family Focus

December 2013



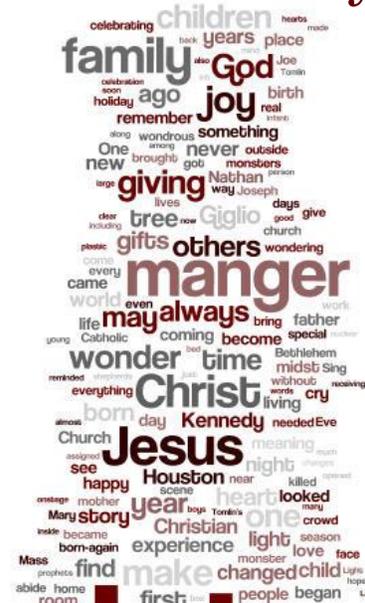
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Welcome to Family Focus



Christmas

As well as this occasional newsletter, please remember that you can link up with us on Facebook and Twitter!



Christmas

Love it or loathe it Christmas is upon us.

I announced to my children that I am retiring after this year, and that it will be up to their Dad next year to organise stockings and presents. My son told me that I don't have a 'get out clause', as long as I am a mum I do Christmas.

I actually love Christmas, I love the traditions we have set up as a family such as a picnic by candlelight every Advent Sunday. We don't just have stockings, we have 'Themed' stockings. Over the years we have done what we can to create some 'Christmas Family Memories'. What I love most about Christmas is that here is a reminder of God who loves us, who wants a relationship with us and he decided to do it in such an intimate and humble way by being part of a very ordinary family, highlighting again the importance of 'family'

At Trinity we hope that you as a family will have a good Christmas, following old or making new traditions but more importantly you will find a real sense of JOY and peace.



Family Worship at Christmas

We have a number of Family Orientated Services going on this month. The list and times you will find on the Trinity Website and Life @ Trinity. There is no pressure to come along as we know Christmas has enough pressures of its own but... if you should feel inclined we hope that you will find a service that will reflect your needs. Whether it is a loud and happy 'CHRISTINGLE' or a CREATIVE hand on service or a time to sit and REFLECT. We look forward to catching up with you over the festive period.





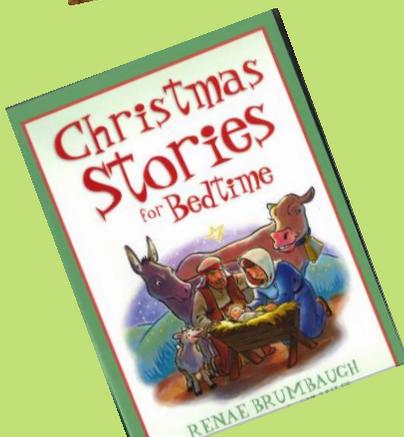
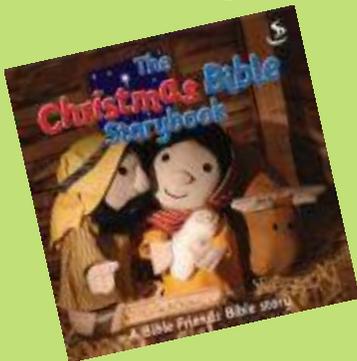
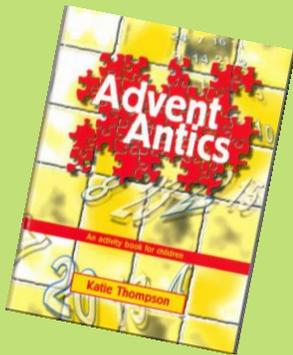
Advent Preparing For Christmas

The word **Advent** comes from the Latin 'adventus' which means 'arrival' or 'coming'. During Advent period many Christians prepare for celebration of the birth of Jesus and look forward to the time that Jesus will come again.

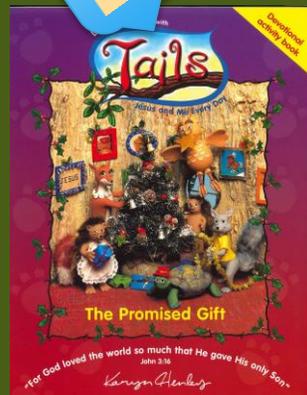
Advent is a great time for parents to enthuse their children about understanding the meaning of Christmas. It doesn't have to be done in a heavy handed way, but in a way that will encourage a sense of Joy, Wonderment and Expectation.

So here are a few Advent books that you may be interested in buying.

These books will be around on the book case for you to look at before you buy.



This one is ideal for young children



Tails is a wonderful way to introduce young children to the Bible. It allows them to discover God's truth and learn how it applies to their daily lives, whilst enjoying the fun activities and stories provided by the Tails characters.

In 'The Promised Gift', the Tails friends explore the promises made in the Old Testament about the coming of Jesus, and tell the Christmas story in a refreshing, fun way. Using paraphrases from the Bible, Crafts, art and other Christmas activities, your child will enjoy preparing for the true meaning of Christmas.

FAMILY NEWS



Having spoken with a few of the lovely families connected with Trinity, it has been mentioned that an opportunity to get to know other families for meal and chat would be appreciated.

I have given it some thought, spoken with the teenagers connected with the church and they would like to help out by babysitting.

So we now have in place a small '*Babysitting team*' which along with the teenagers will also include Becky Richardson and myself ready and willing to look after you children.

If you want to take this offer up then why not email me with a few dates of when you are free in late January, I will go with the majority and set a time and place up for you to meet and match the appropriate teenager to your family.

Email Andie :-

andrea.cozens@trinitygosforth.org.uk

Trinity Babysitting Club



We are really blessed to have so many teenagers connected with Trinity. The Babysitting Club is just one small way to make them feel of value and worth.

Current Babysitting rates will apply



Our biggest focus at Trinity is relationship! For that reason, we have a network of small groups called Life Groups that meet midweek every couple of weeks to pray, look at the Bible and share how things are going.

We have a group that meets on a Thursday for mums with babies as well as other evening groups to meet needs of both mums and dads.

If we can help to link you up with a group, get in touch with us in the usual way and we will do what we can to find a group at the right time for you!

