



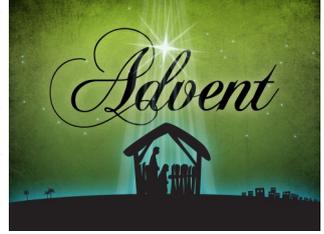
Oroville Christian School Newsletter

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From the Head of School

For nearly two millennia, Advent has called Christians to understand life between the two



bookends of God's redemptive acts in Christ: His Incarnation, when the Word became flesh, and His coming again in glory to judge the living and the dead.

Advent is a time to recall God's utter and unstoppable faithfulness to His people. Though Israel failed to keep its covenant with God, He always intended to keep His covenant with Abraham, that "through your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." That offspring was, of course, Jesus Christ.

Throughout Church history, reflecting on God's faithfulness has led to the inspiration and production of many great hymns, including the one most identified with Advent, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." The lyrics of "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" are taken from what are called the "O Antiphons." An antiphon is a phrase or short sentence recited or sung either before or after a psalm or other passage of Scripture. The O Antiphons, like the hymn they produced, offer a journey through salvation history. Each Antiphon includes both a Messianic title, a reminder of who Christ is, and the invitation, "Come," a reminder of our helpless state and need for divine rescue. Christ is the Wisdom of God (Isaiah 11). He is the Lord our lawgiver and judge, who will save us (Isaiah 33). He is the root of Jesse's stem, whom the Gentiles will seek (Isaiah 11). He is the Key of David, who unlocks the doors of our prison. He is the Radiant Dawn, the light that shined upon the people who dwelt in darkness (Isaiah 9). He is the King of the Nations (Isaiah 2). And of course, He is Emmanuel, God with us (Isaiah 7).

This sort of theological profundity, which cannot be found on any of the 24-hour Christmas music stations, is worthy of our silence, reflection, and meditations. Exploring these remarkable statements about the nature and work of Christ is a wonderful way to intentionally engage with the season of Advent and prepare our hearts for Christmas Day.

Soli Deo Gloria.

Mark Bates

LEARNING THROUGH EDUCATIONAL PLAY

- **Pre-School Gift Ideas**

You and your child might like to give a Christmas gift to the pre-school. Let your child pick something out and talk with them about giving to others. We will put the presents under our tree and open them together. Here are some ideas for the preschool:

Simple cards games like Uno, cotton balls, toy shopping carts and dolly strollers, wicker baskets, sand toys, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, wooden trays, wooden puzzles (not Disney or action characters), an old iPhone or iPad, (for taking pictures), glue sticks, markers, washi craft tape, craft sticks, pompoms, stickers, Bible story-books...

Important Dates

Friday, Dec 4 - Last Day to turn in Samaritan's Purse money

Mon-Fri, Dec 14-18 - Christmas Spirit Week

Wednesday, Dec 16 - Last day to collect lost & found items

Friday, Dec 18 - Noon Dismissal (Christmas vacations begins!)

Monday, Jan 3 - School Resumes

PTPF Appeal

We have survived the first trimester, including virtual, blended, and in-person instruction and we are so thankful that Oroville Christian School was able to open and remain open through trying times and the ever-changing mandates of our state/county. Thank you for being patient and supportive of the faculty and staff at Oroville Christian School.

With the upcoming holiday season PTPF, along with the OCS Administration and Board, is asking for your help in recognizing and thanking our teachers for **all** they do. In lieu of Christmas gifts and hunting for that 'perfect' gift for your teacher, we are asking you to send a cash donation of ANY increment to the office and we will make sure your name is written on the card for your specific teacher. You may even send a personalized note to her and it will be included in this gift.

Our teachers are a precious asset, and we want to show our appreciation and encourage them at the end of a difficult year. With your gift, we hope to bless the teachers and staff who are integral in providing a Christian education. We look forward to seeing what God will do through the generosity of our student community.

God Bless and Merry Christmas!

Julie Ching

Samaritan's Purse Update

To date, the 3rd grade class leads and we have collected almost \$1,100 to help families purchase animals which will supply milk to help families in need in places like Kenya, Vietnam or Nepal. Friday, December 4 is the last turn-in day!

And from far away the Lord appeared to his people and said, "I love you people with a love that will last forever. That is why I have continued showing you kindness. Jeremiah 31:3

Oroville Christian School