

# Mission Together

## Advent Prayer Tree



### Introduction

This activity is one of our Mission Together Advent materials, which also include an Advent Calendar and Liturgy.

For more resources, for Advent and throughout the year, please visit [www.missiontogether.org.uk](http://www.missiontogether.org.uk)

### Activity

Explain to the children that you will be creating an Advent Prayer Tree, which will help us to **pray together** and to share our own prayer requests (also known as prayer intentions).

Divide the class into **four groups**. Each group represents a different theme from one of the four weeks of Advent: hope, peace, joy and love. Every child can then receive a Christmas bauble template to decorate (*see overleaf - it is advisable to print these on A4 card*).

Those in group 1 should receive a candle template to represent **hope**. Those in group 2 will receive a dove shape which stands for **peace**. Children in group 3 will have an angel template to represent **joy** and group 4 will have heart-shaped baubles to symbolise **love**.

Invite the children to **decorate** one side of their baubles. This could be simply colouring them in or they could use glitter/sequins/feathers etc. On the blank side of their bauble, ask the children to write a name or a couple of words for a **prayer request** (something they want to pray for).

For older children, their prayer requests should be in keeping with the bauble **themes**:

**Candle/Hope** - pray for something you hope for/ask God for (not material possessions if possible)

**Dove/Peace** - pray for peace somewhere or say sorry for something/make peace with others

**Angel/Joy** - thank God for something that brings you joy or ask God to bring happiness to someone else

**Heart/Love** - prayer request for someone you love or pray that we can share Gods love with others

Once the baubles have been decorated they should all be placed in a box or basket.

During Advent, 2-3 baubles a day should be selected at random by different children and the prayer requests read out. Baubles can be anonymous or the child may wish to share more about their prayer.

After the class has prayed together for the selected prayer intention, the bauble may be placed on your **Advent Prayer Tree**. This could be anything from an artificial Christmas tree to a simple 2D tree on a display board. Remember to attach a string/ribbon to your baubles if you want to hang them.

You might like to put a star on the top of your tree with your class name on it.

### Objective

To create a class Advent Prayer Tree, using the four themes of Advent:  
**hope, peace, joy and love.**

To use the Advent Prayer Tree to **pray** together for our personal intentions.



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