

St Nicholas Church, Baydon

We warmly invite you to a service of

Christingle



At 4pm on Sunday 8th December

The proceeds of our Christingle will be given to the Children's Society, scan the QR code to donate.



CHRISTINGLE

The Christingle is an old Moravian custom which focuses on the coming of Jesus Christ 'The light of the World', whose birth we will celebrate this Christmas, but I wonder what it all means:

Orange

This orange represents the world. But the world is not orange in colour and you will have to use your imagination to see the most beautiful colours of the earth - the sun, the moon, stars, sky, sea, trees, grass, dessert, mountains, rivers and all the amazing animals and creatures that God made, including us people. God made the world and when he had finished it he saw that it was GOOD.

Candle

Although God's world was perfect, the people on it started to do bad things. So God sent Jesus to save the people, and that includes US, from everything we do wrong. Jesus was born in Bethlehem at Christmastime. Our candle represents Jesus.

Red band

Much later, Jesus died on a cross. But God brought him back to life and he now lives, even though we cannot see him in person, he is alive in our world today. The red band we put around the Christingle reminds us that Jesus gave his blood for the whole world, so that we can live in heaven with him after we die.

The four sticks ...

.. represent the seasons - Spring, summer, autumn and winter. Isn't it amazing that all that is happening around the world right now - Here it's winter, in Australia it's summer. Isn't God's world amazing.

The fruit and nuts ...

.. represent the fruit and food of the earth, which God created for all his living creatures. Isn't it amazing to think that there is enough food and water in the world to feed every living person. And God saw that it was GOOD.

Because God sent Jesus to help us, Jesus was described as the 'light of the world', just as a light shows us the way in the dark, so Jesus can show us the better way to live, but we need to ask him to do that. He won't push his way in uninvited; he wants **us** to invite **him** in.

And we can do that this Christmas, We can light our candle and let Jesus into our celebrations and our lives, after all, if you don't have Christ, you don't have **Christ**-mas.