The words you are looking for – and their meanings

**ADVENT**— Comes from the Latin word Adventus, meaning “coming”.

**ANGEL**— The angels told shepherds in the fields about Jesus’ birth.

**BETHLEHEM**— Mary and Joseph travelled to Bethlehem, where Jesus was born.

**CANDLE**— Four candles on the Advent wreath are lit on each of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. A fifth candle, in the centre, is lit on Christmas Day.

You can read about Jesus’ birth in the bible.

CHRISTINGLE—An orange represents the world, a red ribbon around it represents the blood of Jesus, four cocktail sticks with sweets represent the fruits of the four seasons and the candle in the centre represents Jesus as light of the world.

CHRISTMAS— the time of Jesus’ birth.

**CRIB**— Jesus was placed in a manger in a stable when he was born. We usually call this his crib.

**GABRIEL**— It was the Angel Gabriel who told Mary that she was going to have a very special baby called Jesus.

**GIFT**—Jesus was visited by Three Wise Men who brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We often give gifts at Christmas.

**JESUS**— Jesus is the Son of God, and was born as a human baby.

**JOSEPH**—Joseph was Mary’s husband and acted as Jesus’ father on earth.

**MARY**— Mary is the mother of Jesus.

**NATIVITY**—Christians call the birth of Jesus The Nativity.

**PREPARING**— During Advent Christians prepare for the coming of Jesus.

**STABLE**— Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem.

**WREATH**— The Advent wreath is round and made from evergreen branches, both symbolising everlasting life.

We hope you have a very Happy Christmas. Please come and visit us during the Christmas period to see our crib. To find out when our Christmas Services are at Rochester Cathedral please visit our website www.rochestercathedral.org or ring the Chapter Office on 01634 843366.