

# Advent 2007

## THE COMING OF CHRIST.....

### Brings Hope To The Poor

In the heart of the loser there's a song  
See the stars slowly dancing through the sky  
For the God of all creation calls us daughter and son  
Now the year of God's favour has begun.

To the poor in your struggle – good news at last  
To the rich – start your crying and learn to share  
To the dreamer – awaken and see what must be done  
Now the year of God's favour has begun

In the mind of the prisoner, there's a door  
And the eyes that were blinded see the way;  
Feel the toes of the cripple getting ready to run  
Now the year of God's favour has begun

Songs of praise not of sorrow now be heard  
Twine a garland of flowers round the work  
After so much division here's a vision of one  
Now the year of God's favour has begun

Unpublished song used with permission

### A Christmas wish from Mary MacKillop to the Sisters, 1899

*Wherever this may find you, I, with all my heart, wish you a very happy Christmas and a bright and happy New Year. Some people say a Merry Christmas. I don't like that term for us. Happy seems more suitable. And happy indeed in the love of God, and truly religious peace, I hope yours will be.*



Prayer sheet prepared by North Sydney Associates

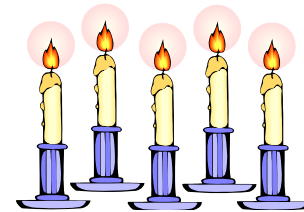
## THE COMING OF THE SAVIOUR

### We Wait ...

Most families have little sense of this season we call Advent. Advent means the coming of Christ among us at His birth and His coming in glory at the end of time. Perhaps we can best prepare for Christmas by taking the time to allow God's word to take root in our busy lives as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of the Saviour.

### We Pray Together

### Come!

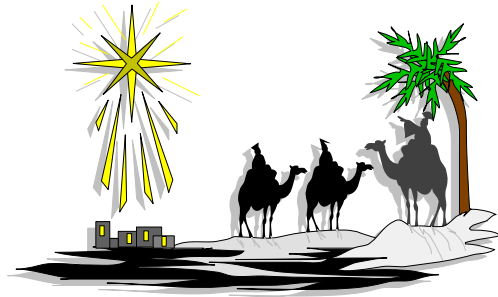


*We truly believe that God is among us every day.  
Where men and women resist the attacks of intolerance;  
Where they bring light into thick shadows of life;  
Where they awaken a desire for reconciliation and  
friendship.*

*But how can we go to Him if he is not ahead of us?  
How can he come to us?*

## THE COMING OF THE SAVIOUR

We Celebrate ...



### *The Nativity Scene reminds us ....*

The nativity scene reminds us of the historical fact that God took human nature, born to the virgin Mary. Who could remain unmoved when witnessing the picture of the humble shepherds coming to adore Christ, the Good Shepherd, who would lay down his life for his sheep?

Who is not inspired by the picture of the wise men coming to adore Christ, the Wisdom of God. They follow a star in the east and find one who is the Light of the world.

The kings in their splendour kneel before the King of kings clothed in the humility of a little child, for whom there was no room in the inn.

By Beryl Mitchell

## What Shall We Bring?

You, O Christ,  
You who are born on earth as man  
for our sake?  
For each of the creatures who have their being  
for you, brings thanks to you.

Angels bring their songs,  
the heavens a star,  
the wise men gifts,  
the shepherds wonder,  
the earth a cave,  
the wilderness a manger.  
But we the Virgin Mother.

By Judith Park



**Reflection:** What shall I bring this Christmas?