

## **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE INFORMATION.**

The Christingle Celebration/Service is adapted from a custom of the Moravian Church. It celebrates God's gifts to the world, using the Christingle as a powerful visual aid to help people to remember those gifts. The first Christingle Service was held on Christmas Eve 1747 at Marienborn in what was then Moravia. The Pastor, John de Watteville, encouraged the children to take their Christingle home to relight it & place it in their cottage window to show the light of Christ to passers-by.

**Christingle** means 'Christ-light'. It tells of God's gifts to the world. It is made up of:-

**The Orange**, representing God's love in the creation of the world.  
Bible verses from Genesis 1 (creation).

**The Cocktail Sticks**, representing God's love in the four seasons of the year.  
Bible verses:- Ezekiel 34:26-28, Leviticus 26:3-5.

**The Fruit & Sweets**, representing God's love in providing the fruits of the earth.  
Bible verses:- Genesis 1:11-12.  
Could also include God's love in the fruit of the Holy Spirit, Galatians 5:22-23.

**The Candle**, representing God's love in sending the greatest gift of Jesus, 'the light of the world'.  
Bible verses:- John 8:12, John 1:4-5, John 9:5, John 12:46.  
Could also include our part to play in being Christ's light in the world, Matthew 5:14-16.

**The Red Ribbon/Tape**, representing God's love in the death & resurrection of Jesus.  
Bible verses:- 1 John 1:5-7, John 1:12, John 3:16.

### **To Make a Christingle.**

- Take an orange, & either stick a band of red insulating tape around it, or stick red ribbon around it.
- Take a 4" candle (approx 5p each from SPCK) to put on top of the orange (either push it down into the top of the orange, or use sellotape to stick two pieces of cocktail stick at the bottom to push into the orange).
- Load 4 cocktail sticks with fruits/soft sweets, eg raisins, cherries, jelly-tots, dolly mixtures (not marshmallows, as the heat from the candle will melt them!). Insert the sticks evenly into the orange near the base of the candle.
- A small foil tray (eg from Mr Kipling apple pie) can be useful to stand each Christingle on.