

7 December 2016
Devotion

On the third Advent Sunday (11 December) we light the pink candle of JOY!

The Christmas angels sang a joyful message.

There are four Advent candles. Three are either deep purple, or royal blue, which are the colours of a royal Monarch, a King that is to be revered.

We experience the Advent of a King!

Deep purple or royal blue reminds us of a King that was born, a King that reigns for our benefit and for our salvation. A King that will return in glory!

But one candle is prominently pink. The candle we light on the third Advent Sunday is different; it is pink and represents JOY! Since the earliest Church history pink represented the joy of Christ in the church and ***JOY is the principal emotion of the Advent Season!***

Luke 2: 7-15: “...*And there were shepherds camping in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord came to them, and the glory of the Lord shone brightly around them, and they were very frightened. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord....*”

The angels told the shepherds that the Advent of Christ is good news ***of great joy.***

We share the light of our Lord with the world through the happiness we express during our festivities, because a Saviour was born to us! We bring light to a despondent and selfish world by sharing the hope, peace and love of our Lord.

This we do, as the angels did, with great joy.

When we are amazed during Advent that God became a human being, born of a virgin, to become our beloved King, and even though it asked of him to temporarily lay down his divine glory for the sake of our salvation, and even though we may grieve over the fact that our sins made this necessary,

the overpowering experience of deliverance and redemption by God who was born as a Child, is that of pure joy.

The gratefulness, thanksgiving and gladness we experience, prepare us for a Merry Christmas.

‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men and women on whom his favour rests.’ the angels sang.

Joy to the world, the Saviour reigns! Let, earth receive her King!