

## Vinnies Christmas Appeal Thank You!!

The Mini Vinnies students collected such a huge range of hamper donations! The Calwell St Vincent de Paul group thank you for your generosity. It will make a great difference in bringing joy to many local homes this Christmas.



## Seasons for Growth Thank You

I would like to thank our other Companion Mrs Susan Harris (SFA Chaplain) who companioned two of our groups this year. Her time and dedication in ensuring that Seasons for Growth has continued to be a valuable program offered at St Francis of Assisi Primary School is greatly appreciated. Thank you to all the parents of Sfg children for supporting your children in this program in many ways. Please return parent surveys asap.





## The Third Week of Advent begins this Sunday

What do the candles in our Advent wreath mean?

The Advent wreath, four candles on a wreath of evergreen, is shaped in a perfect circle to symbolize the eternity of God's love. In some churches, four candles, one for each week in Advent, are used with one larger white candle in the middle as the Christ candle. During each Sunday of the Advent season, we focus on one of the four virtues Jesus brings us: Hope, Love, Joy and Peace. The Christ candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day reminding Christians that Jesus is the light of the world. The wreath continually reminds us of who we are called to be as followers of Jesus.

**As you light the third candle this Sunday, consider what changes you can make to bring your family closer to God.**



Week 3: Light **two purple candles**, for **hope** and **love** and **one pink** candle for **joy**. The fourth candle is again **purple** for **peace**. The fifth candle is the white Christ candle which is lit on Christmas day.

Prepare the Way of the Lord

God, may we  
prepare our hearts  
for Jesus' return.  
Amen

For ideas to prepare for Christmas at home click on <http://www.caritas.org.au/advent>

## First Reconciliation Congratulations

Congratulations to Tyler Fisher who celebrated his First Reconciliation with Father Andrew in the Peace Garden this week! May he know the love and forgiveness of God in his life.





With blessings for a wonderful Christmas  
brimming with the joy of the birth of Jesus  
and the 'presence' of those you love,

Lisa Conroy  
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