

The Advent Wreath *The Candle of Love* *(Angel's Candle)*

The fourth Advent candle is the Candle of Love, also known as the Angel's Candle. This candle symbolises the ultimate gift of God's love, reflecting the deep affection and care that brought Jesus into our world. As we light this candle, we are reminded that love guides us to embrace others with compassion and kindness.

Compassion changes everything. Compassion heals. Compassion mends the broken and restores what has been lost... Compassion pulls us out of ourselves and into the heart of another, placing us on holy ground where we instinctively take off our shoes and walk in reverence (Rupp 2018 186).

We must do more than simply go through the Advent calendar; we must develop in us an Advent heart (Chittister, 2009, 68).



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***And now faith, hope and love abide, these three;
and the greatest of these is love.***

(1 Corinthians 13:13).

*Emmanuel, God with us,
As we light the Angel's Candle inspire us to be your heart of love
in our homes, workplaces and communities.
May love be our standard operating procedure and our way of being with all we meet.
May we embrace those you send us for care and compassion.
Amen.*