

How to make your Christingle

You will need:

- An orange
- A small candle
- A piece of red tape to go around your orange
- 4 cocktail sticks
- A few sweets and some dried fruit
- A small piece of foil
- A pencil to make a hole in the orange



IMPORTANT: Children must be assisted with this activity, especially with cocktail sticks

Please **do not light your candle** in the Minster

1. First **fix** the **red tape** around the middle of your orange (around the fattest part)
2. Carefully **push** a **pencil** into the **top of the orange** to make a small hole
3. Put your **sweets** and **dried fruit** onto the **cocktail sticks**
4. **Push** the **cocktail sticks** into the **orange** in four different directions slightly above the fattest part of the orange and pointing slightly upwards
5. Take the **foil** and **wrap** it around the **candle** at the bottom, now put the candle **into the hole** that you have made
6. You now have **your finished Christingle!**
7. Why not save your Christingle for the **special family service at York Minster** (ask a member of staff for details) or enjoy your Christingle at home!

Learn more about your **Christingle**

It looks good, it smells good and it tastes good too...

...but what does your Christingle represent?



The **orange** represents the world.



The **red tape** represents the love of Jesus, surrounding the world, also his blood.



The **dried fruits and sweets** are symbols of God's creations.



The **candle** represents Jesus, the light of the world.



Why do people make Christingles?

Christingle is a **Christian festival of light**.

Many **different religions** celebrate how **light can chase away darkness**. **Hanukkah** is a Jewish festival of lights, **Diwali** is a festival of lights celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains, and the **Tazaungdine Festival** is a festival of light which is celebrated by Buddhists.

Christingle focuses on Jesus, who said “I am the light of the world: those who follow me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life”. (John 8.12). Jesus came to **rid the world** of **dark things**, such as hatred, jealousy, bitterness and **replace them** with love, forgiveness and life.

Have you ever heard the expression that someone is a ‘**shining light**’, ‘**the light of my life**’ or that someone ‘**lights up the room**’? These expressions explain how some people **chase away darkness** for us.