





Be Still...

**To be with
Jesus...**

**Calm your
mind...**

Take time...



2nd Week of Advent -

A time to prepare our hearts...

Celebration of the Word -

Prayer Theme - Love

*We begin with
the sign of the cross...*

*In the name of the
Father, and of the
Son and of the
Holy Spirit.*

AMEN

WE GATHER

Our prayer theme this week is

Love.

- I wonder what that means to you...
- I wonder when you have experienced love...
- I wonder why love is so important in our faith...

WE GATHER

LISTEN TO THE MUSIC



The background of the image is a close-up photograph of purple heather flowers. The flowers are small and numerous, arranged in dense, upright spikes. The color is a soft, muted purple. The background is slightly out of focus, showing more of the same flowers and some green foliage.

WE LISTEN TO
THE WORD OF GOD

A reading from the Book of John (3:16).

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but
have eternal life.*

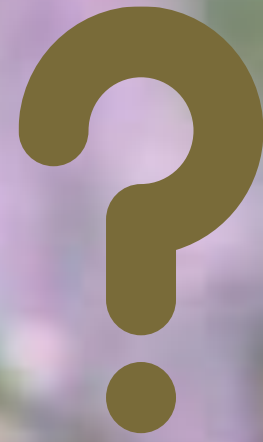
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

WE RESPOND

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Take a moment to reflect...



How does this
make you feel?

Why is this message
important for us?

***... For God so loved the
world, that he gave his only
Son...***



How can this message
help us each day?

WE RESPOND

THE GOSPEL MESSAGE IS

LOVE



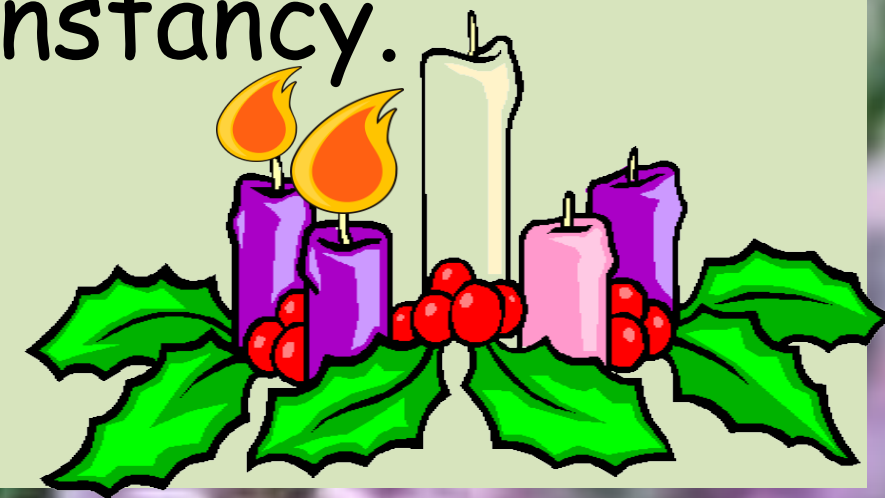
Why is this message
important for you to
hear today?

What is Advent all about?

In the four weeks leading up to Christmas, we await in hope the arrival of Jesus. Throughout the season of Advent, the Church uses many symbols to help us understand the significance of God becoming one of us, through the birth of Jesus.

One of the most recognised symbols is the Advent wreath.

The Advent wreath is an ancient symbol of the Christian's journey towards Christmas. Every element of the wreath communicates something special about this journey. Its circular shape represents God's eternal loving presence; it has no beginning and no end. The evergreen leaves, which never fade in colour, also signify God's constancy.



The candles represent hope, peace, joy, love, and the light of Christ, which shatters all darkness.

You can see that three of the candles on the wreath are purple. In the Catholic Church the colour purple symbolises new beginnings and times of change. Indeed, the birth of Jesus was to bring about enormous change across the world, over time, and in our lives.

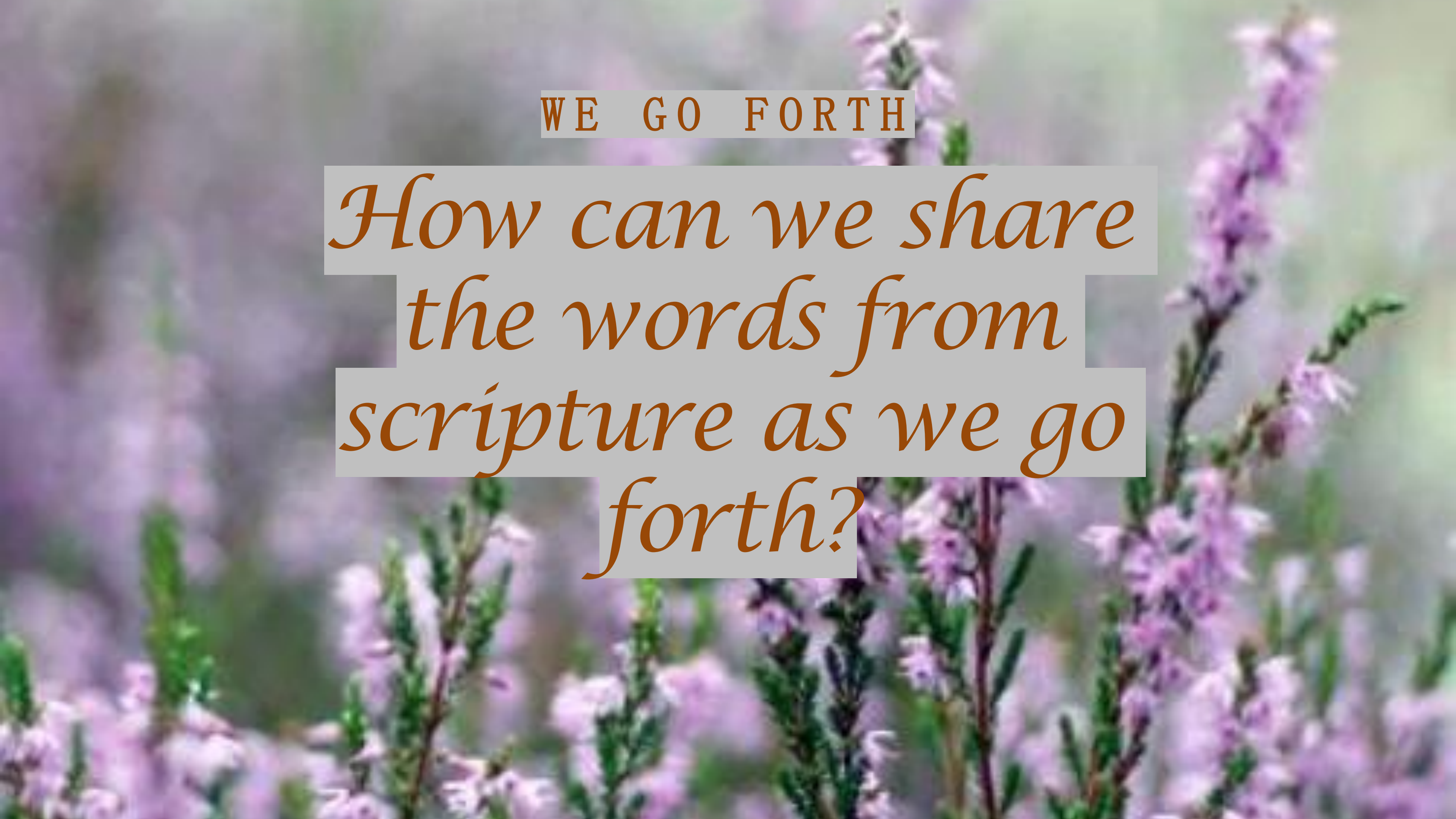
We continue to bring about change for the better when we chose to be missionaries of God's love; delivering hope to the world.

Jesus' birth helps us see that all human beings are created in the image and likeness of God. As such, all people regardless of race, gender, belief, or background, have a God given worth that is beyond measure.

Is your heart ready to welcome Jesus when he returns to us?

WHAT IS ADVENT?



The background of the entire image is a soft-focus photograph of purple heather flowers. The flowers are small and clustered along thin, green stems. The lighting is natural, creating a gentle, ethereal atmosphere. The text is overlaid on this background.

WE GO FORTH

*How can we share
the words from
scripture as we go
forth?*

WE GO FORTH

Advent - A time to Give Back.

Faith in Action Team have made a reverse Advent Calendar for each form. The things you bring in will support the work of the Rainbow Centre. Each day a different person draws out an item to bring in to support the vulnerable in our community.

How many things has your
form brought in so far?.



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Give a little kindness every day this Christmas.

Each day, add one item to your box. At the end, donate it to The Rainbow Centre Food Bank to help local people in need.

DAY 1

Tinned soup



DAY 2

Pasta
(500g or 1kg)



DAY 3

Rice
(500g or 1kg)



DAY 4

Breakfast cereal



DAY 5

Tinned beans or spaghetti



DAY 6

Tinned tomatoes



DAY 7

Tinned meat



DAY 9

Tinned fish



DAY 9

Long-life milk



DAY 10

Tea bags or instant coffee



DAY 11

Sugar
(500g or 1kg)



DAY 12

Sugar
(500g or 1kg)



DAY 14

Jam, peanut butter



DAY 15

Instant noodles or pastas



DAY 16

Biscuits or snack bars



DAY 17

Tinned custard or rice pudding



DAY 18

Instant mash or packet stuffing



DAY 19

Crackers or crispbreads



DAY 20

Toiletries



DAY 23

Baby food or napples (if possible)




**DROP OFF YOUR COMPLETED BOX
AT THE RAINBOW CENTRE**

In this season of gift giving, it is lovely to give and receive presents, but material things are not the only, or the best way to show we care.

Let's think about gifts that money can't buy:

- **The gift of listening** – no picking up your phone, no walking away, no interrupting.
- **The gift of a visit** – remember to spend time with friends or relatives who may be feeling lonely this Christmas.
- **The gift of a cheerful disposition** – no feeling sorry for yourself, no nasty comments, no complaining.
- **The gift of doing a favour** – do chores at home, babysit, run errands. This gift is more valuable when it anticipates a request rather than responding to one.
- **The gift of a compliment** – build someone's confidence by noting their goodness, ability, or true beauty.
- **The gift of support** – be there for others, be someone on whom people can rely. Be a supporter of our school Advent initiatives for others.
- **The gift of prayer** – Praying for someone is like saying, "You are so special to me that I often talk to God about you." Pray for the sick, the lonely, the poor, and for all the work of the Rainbow Centre for the vulnerable in our community.



Let us pray ... Loving Father,
help us remember the birth of Jesus,
that we may share in the song of the angels,
the joy of Mary,
the faith of Joseph,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

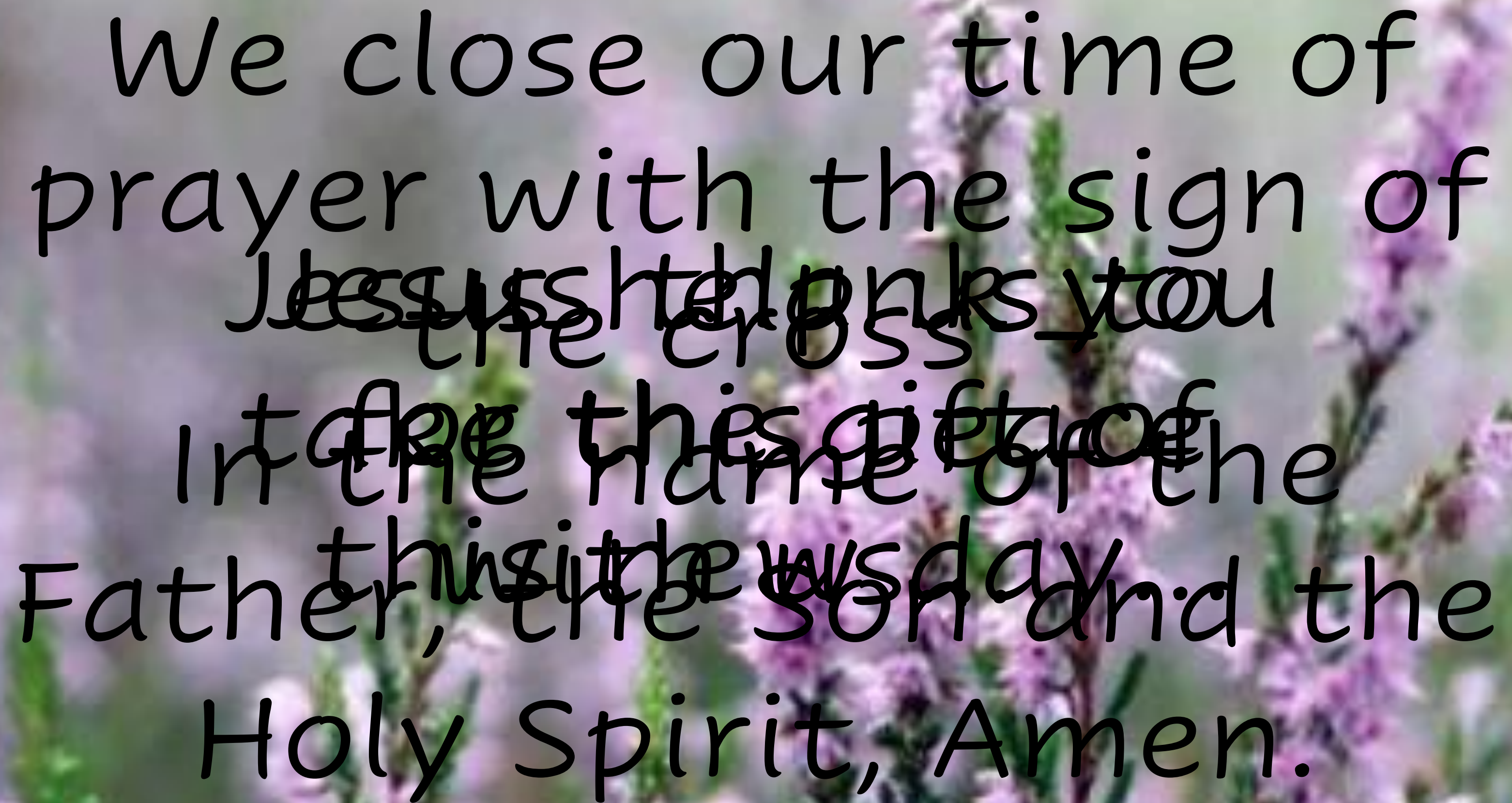
Let kindness come with every gift and every greeting.
May Christmas morning make us happy to be your children,
ready to share your love with everyone,
especially those most in need of help,
for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

St Augustine, pray for us
St Cuthbert, pray for us

*We prepare to close
our time of prayer
together.*



The background of the image is a soft-focus photograph of numerous small, light purple flowers, likely heather, with green stems and leaves. The flowers are densely packed and create a textured, bokeh-like effect in the background.

We close our time of
prayer with the sign of
the cross
In the name of the
Father, the Son and the
Holy Spirit, Amen.



