## Schools Worship for Advent

# Hope in the World



As we light our candle let us remember that God is with us in all that we say and do.





Let's start with a question...



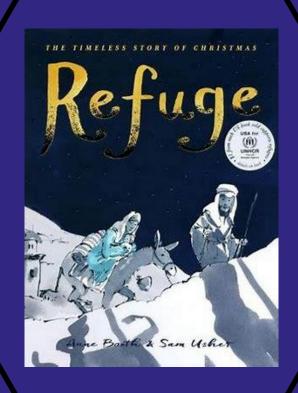
Why do people seek sanctuary?





Read the book
Refuge
by Anne Booth







### What does the Bible say?



After they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph and said, "Herod will be looking for the child in order to kill him. So get up, take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you to leave." Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and left during the night for Egypt. Matthew 2.13-14 (GNB)

The Bible talks a lot about refugees, and Jesus even reminds us that, when we fail to welcome refugees, we fail to welcome him. We also remember that Jesus' himself was a refugee – shortly after his birth Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus fled to find sanctuary in Egypt to avoid being killed by King Herod. There is an old Celtic poem from the highlands of Scotland which contains the words "often, goes the Christ in the stranger's guise" and it's a powerful reminder that what we do to refugees, how we welcome them, support them, care for them, we also do to Jesus.

#### Taith Adfent

You can find more information on Taith Adent and how you can support people seeking sanctuary on the <u>Church in Wales website Education</u> page.

You might even like to think about becoming a School of Sanctuary.







#### Let us pray

Jesus,

You know how it feels to leave your home and family,

To carry nothing with you, to travel as a stranger.

Help all refugees far from home, driven out by war and hunger.

Lead them safely on.

They are our sisters and brothers.

Inspire us to show our love and a true welcome.

Amen.

(adapted from CAFOD webiste)

#### Take Action

Could you help your community to understand more about people seeking sanctuary?

Can you change one thing to make your classroom or school more welcoming?

