

## Jesse Tree

This booklet is Devotion on the Ornaments of the Jesse Tree which represents the ancestors of Jesus forming part of the Advent tradition, as preparation for the Coming of Jesus.



**1st ornament**



Ancestor: GOD

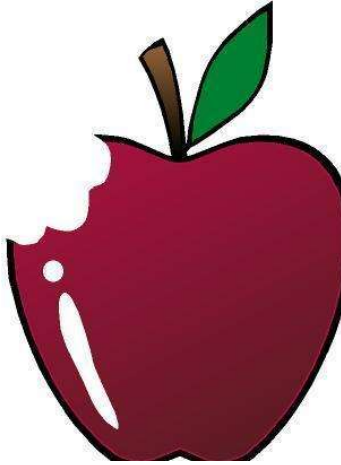
Symbol: Earth

Reading: Genesis 1 New International Version (NIV)

The Beginning

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

2<sup>nd</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Adam & Eve

Symbol: Apple

Reading: Genesis 3

The Fall

<sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God did say, ‘you must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

**3<sup>rd</sup> ornament**



Ancestor: Noah

Symbol: Ark

Reading: Genesis 6

The Wickedness of the world

God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. <sup>13</sup> So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. <sup>14</sup> So make yourself an ark of cypress<sup>□</sup> wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out. <sup>15</sup> This is how you are to build it

4<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Abraham

Symbol: Star

Reading: Genesis 15

The Lords Covenant with Abraham

<sup>4</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” <sup>5</sup> He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring <sup>[d]</sup> be.”

5<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Isaac

Symbol: Ram

Reading: Genesis 22

Abraham Tested

<sup>6</sup> Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, <sup>7</sup> Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?”

“Yes, my son?” Abraham replied.

“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

6<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Jacob

Symbol: Ladder

Reading: Genesis 25

Jacobs Dream

<sup>12</sup> He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. <sup>13</sup> There above it<sup>[c]</sup> stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac.

7<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Joseph

Symbol: Colourful Coat

Reading: Genesis 25

Josephs Dream

<sup>3</sup> Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate<sup>[a]</sup> robe for him. <sup>4</sup> When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.



8<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Moses

Symbol: Burning Bush

Reading: Exodus 3

Burning bush

<sup>2</sup> There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <sup>3</sup> So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

9<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Moses

Symbol: 10 Commandments

Reading: Exodus 20

And God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup>“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

<sup>3</sup>“You shall have no other gods before<sup>[a]</sup> me.

<sup>4</sup>“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup>but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup> “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup> “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

<sup>12</sup> “Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup> “You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup> “You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup> “You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup> “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.

<sup>17</sup> “You shall not covet your neighbour’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

**10<sup>th</sup> ornament**



Ancestor: Joshua

Symbol: Rams horn and wall

Reading: Joshua 6

Walls of Jericho

March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. <sup>4</sup> Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark

11<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Gideon

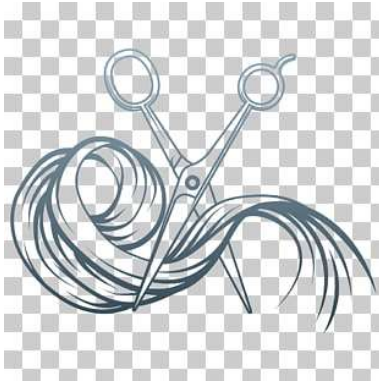
Symbol: Torch, Rams horn, clay pot

Reading: Judges 7

Defeating the midianites

<sup>18</sup> When I and all who are with me blow our trumpets, then from all around the camp blow yours and shout, 'For the LORD and for Gideon.'

**12<sup>th</sup> ornament**



Ancestor: Samson

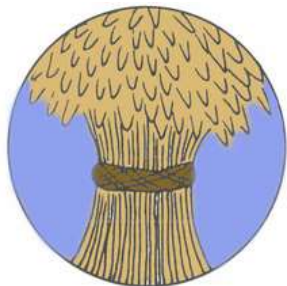
Symbol: Hair and Scissors

Reading: Judges 16

Samson and Delilah

<sup>19</sup> After putting him to sleep on her lap, she called for someone to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and so began to subdue him. [G] And his strength left him

**13<sup>th</sup> ornament**



Ancestor: Ruth

Symbol: Wheat

Reading: Ruth 2

Ruth meets Boaz in the Grain Fields

<sup>2</sup> And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi “Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favour.”

14<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Samuel

Symbol: Oil Lamp

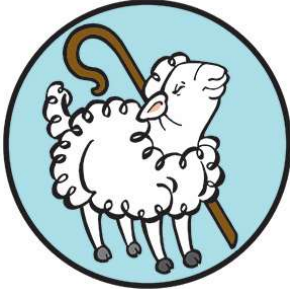
Reading: 1 Samuel 3

The Lamp of God

<sup>3</sup>The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the LORD, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD called Samuel.



15<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Jesse

Symbol: Lamb and shepherds hook

Reading: 1 Samuel 17

Jesse the shepherd

<sup>12</sup> Now David was the son of an Ephrathite named Jesse, who was from Bethlehem in Judah. Jesse had eight sons, and in Saul's time he was very old.

**16<sup>th</sup> ornament**



Ancestor: David

Symbol: Sling

Reading: 1 Samuel 17

David and Goliath

<sup>50</sup> So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

17<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Solomon

Symbol: Scale

Reading: 2 Chronicles 1

Solomon asks for Wisdom

<sup>8</sup> Solomon answered God, "You have shown great kindness to David my father and have made me king in his place. <sup>9</sup> Now, LORD God, let your promise to my father David be confirmed, for you have made me king over a people who are as numerous as the dust of the earth. <sup>10</sup> Give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may lead this people, for who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

18<sup>th</sup> ornament



Ancestor: Isaiah

Symbol: Branch

Reading: Isaiah 11

The Branch from Jesse

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;

From his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—

the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,

the Spirit of counsel and of might,

the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—

and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

**19<sup>th</sup> ornament**



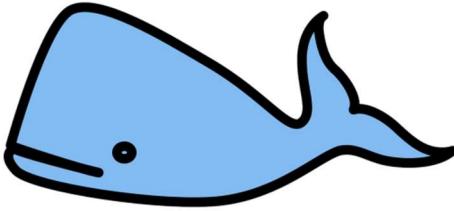
Ancestor: Elijah

Symbol: Alter with fire

Reading: 1 Kings 18

<sup>31</sup> Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." <sup>32</sup> With the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs<sup>[a]</sup> of seed.

**20<sup>th</sup> ornament**



Ancestor: Jonah

Symbol: Big fish

Reading: Jonah 1

In the Fish's belly

<sup>17</sup> Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

21<sup>ST</sup> ornament



Ancestor: John the Baptist

Symbol: Shell and Water

Reading: Matthew 3

Baptising

<sup>11</sup> "I baptize you with<sup>[b]</sup> water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with<sup>[c]</sup> the Holy Spirit and fire

**22<sup>ND</sup> ornament**



Ancestor: Joseph

Symbol: Tools

Reading: Luke 2

The Carpenter

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.



**23<sup>RD</sup> ornament**



Ancestor: Mary

Symbol: Mary

Reading: Luke 1

Annunciation

<sup>28</sup> The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

<sup>29</sup> Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.

**24<sup>TH</sup> ornament**



Symbol: Star

Reading: Matthew 2

The Magi with King Herod

**2** After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi<sup>[a]</sup> from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

**25<sup>TH</sup> ornament**



Symbol: Baby Jesus

Reading: Luke 2

The Nativity

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.