

Family Liturgy Christmas Day

25th December 2020

Preparing the prayer space

Place a white or gold cloth on the table or floor (the colour for special days in our Church). Place a bible and candles with a picture or a Christmas crib. Place some holy water if you have some or a bowl with water as a reminder of our baptism. Light the candle or use a battery-operated candle for safety. Place any other symbols relevant to your family.

Prepare materials

You tube as listed on sheet: Scripture story and song
Suggested activities: your choice or other related activity on sheet
Print out sheet if required



<http://clipart-library.com/>

Gather around the prayer space as a family

Parent/Caregiver:

Today, we come together to celebrate the coming of Jesus into our hearts, home and world. We ask God to help us today to be loving and kind as Jesus was during his life.

Opening prayer: God of love and new life, help us to listen to you in the Gospel story and to follow you closely. Help us to use listen to your word to us this Christmas. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel: A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke (2:1-14).

All: Glory to you O, Lord. “

Mary travelled with Joseph to Bethlehem. She was soon going to have a baby. While they were there, she gave birth to her first-born son. She dressed him in baby clothes and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them in the inn.

That night in the fields near Bethlehem some shepherds were guarding their sheep. All at once an angel came down to them from the Lord, and the brightness of the Lord’s glory flashed around them. The shepherds were frightened. But the angel said, “Don’t be afraid! I have good news for you which will make everyone happy. This very day in King David’s hometown a Saviour was born for you. He is Christ the Lord. You will know who he is because you will find him dressed in baby clothes and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly many other angels came down from heaven and joined in praising God. They said: ‘Praise God in heaven! Peace on earth to everyone who pleases God.’”

The gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(Gospel text © Lectionary for Masses with Children (1993) Catholic Book Publishing Co. New York)

Prayerfully watch the video together <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gUJWKMMgtQ>
(10mins)

Scripture reflection and time of sharing: I wonder what part of the Christmas story you liked the best?

I wonder what God is saying to you this Christmas after having listened to the Christmas story?

Let us sing together our beliefs as Christians:

Yes Lord I Believe by John Burland <https://youtu.be/7MR2iGDyUtE> (3 mins)

Intercessions: Let us now spend some time in prayer asking God to listen to our needs.
(We respond to the prayers by saying the words 'Lord, hear our prayer')

1 We pray for Pope Francis, Archbishop Pat and all Church and world leaders: that they will be good leaders who bring the good news of Jesus to the world.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

2 We pray for people in our world who are suffering in any way at this time especially during this COVID-19 outbreak: that they know that they are deeply loved by God.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

3 We pray for all people in our parishes and in our communities: that together we can grow in love this Christmas and bring peace to the world through our actions.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

4 We pause for a moment and pray in our hearts or aloud for any intentions or people we would like to pray for at this time (*pause*) Lord, hear us **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

6 We pray for all people who have died recently and especially for people we know and love: that they will now be united with Jesus this Christmas.
Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer

Closing prayer: God who calls us to be close, we believe in your love - you are the Creator of the world. We believe in your love – you sent Jesus to show us how to live a life of faith. We believe in your love – because of the Holy Spirit who breathes life through us and guides us. Amen.

Closing song: *In a Stable* by Kids Praise <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SwReEZbJ-k>
(3mins)

Follow up activity suggestions after the time of prayer has come to a close.

- Write a prayer to Jesus in your prayer journal (special notebook) and decorate.
- Go to <https://adelaide.catholic.org.au/files/f/25115/Christmas%20Vigil%20-%20children's%20drama.pdf> and act out the play as a family.
- Christmas scenes to colour: <https://www.bestcoloringpagesforkids.com/free-printable-nativity-coloring-pages-kids.html>