

Family Faith at Home



Blessed Christmas to You All!

“Mary invites all, rich and poor, just and sinners, to enter the cave of Bethlehem, to adore and to kiss the feet of her newborn Son. Go in, then, all ye devout souls; go and see the Creator of heaven and earth on a little hay, under the form of a little Infant, but so beautiful that he sheds all around rays of light. Now that He is born and is lying in the straw, the cave is no longer horrible but is become a paradise. Let us enter, let us not be afraid.” – St. Alphonsus Liguori



Nativity of the Lord

Mass Readings:

2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Psalms 89: 2-3, 4-5, 27, 29

Romans 16, 25-27

Luke 1: 26-38

Readings can also be found at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Discuss

After reading the Sunday readings, discuss as a family:

1. How does the birth of Christ affect you in your life today?
2. What can you learn from God's humility by coming into the world as a baby?
3. Jesus came to save all people not just the Jewish people. How might that affect how you talk to and treat other people?
4. What can you do to bring the good news of Christ's birth to others like the angels did to the shepherds?

Share

The Church in Her wisdom has set up the liturgical year to teach us through signs and symbols. Have you noticed that as we draw closer to Christmas, the days have been getting shorter and darker? By choosing late December as the date for Christmas we have a sign built into the season. The short and dark days represent the spiritual darkness that came into the world through sin. John's Gospel tells us that Christ is the light that has come into the world. As we move forward into the liturgical year, the daylight grows just as the child Jesus grew and reminds us of the salvation which He brought to our souls, saving us from sin and death. Let us invite Christ into our hearts and souls and ask Him to dispel the darkness of sin and give us the light of His eternal life.

Watch

A video for [the whole family](#).

Pray

Moonless darkness stands between.
Past, the Past, no more be seen!
But the Bethlehem star may lead me
To the sight of Him Who freed me
From the self that I have been.
Make me pure, Lord: Thou art Holy;
Make me meek, Lord: Thou wert lowly;
Now beginning, and always,
Now begin, on Christmas day. – Gerard Manley Hopkins

Do

Check out this [great list of activities](#) for families with children of all ages. We love “Character Cards” in which you make birthday cards for Jesus and promise to gift him with living one of the fruits of the Spirit.



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