



Dear Parent / Carer,
In these current times of the pandemic we have produced an
electronic version of the prayer bag for Christmas!



## Celebrating Christmas

Please take some time over the festive period to come together, as a family, in prayer.

Christmas day would be great if you can find a quiet moment!

#### A Message from our new Bishop

Dear Friends,

Our Catholic schools are so helpful in helping your child to grow in so many different ways, not least in their understanding of faith and their personal relationship with Christ. This meant to support the fundamental work of passing on our faith which takes place within the family. During these days of the pandemic lockdown, we have all come to recognise the importance of the family as a setting for prayer and faith sharing.

I am grateful to those who have worked hard to put together this virtual prayer bag. Hopefully you will find the resources helpful in encouraging your child to prepare for Christmas and to enter into the spirit of this wonderful Season of Advent.

Be assured of my loving prayer for you all. There must be many challenges in these days to family life. In the name of our Infant Saviour, many thanks to all you do to respond to your vocation to be parents who share our faith with your children.

Yours devotedly in Christ, +David

Bishop of Northampton

#### **Gathering**

Set aside some time in your day
to gather together for prayer
Make sure you are all sitting comfortably
Light a candle

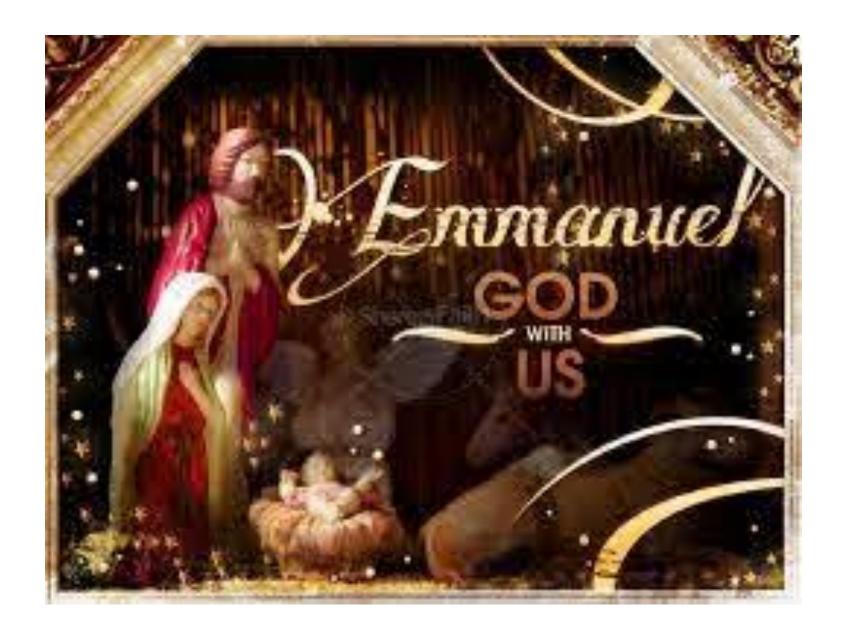


In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

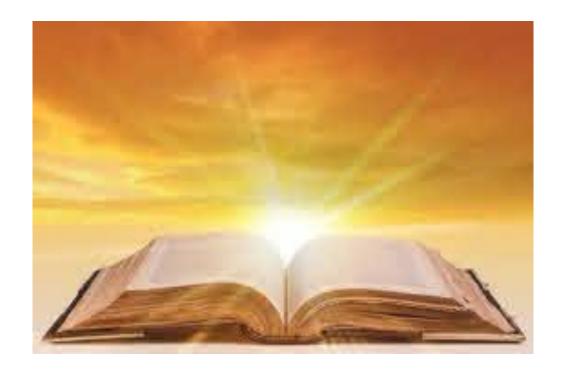


# Jesus is born





#### God's Word



A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you O Lord

# The Nativity



# A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke Glory to you O Lord

The Roman Emperor, Augustus, issued an order. Everyone in the Roman Empire must register at the town his family came from.

Joseph's family were descended from King David. So he had to go to Bethlehem, where King David was born.

Joseph took Mary on the long journey south through the hills eighty miles of rough dirt roads.

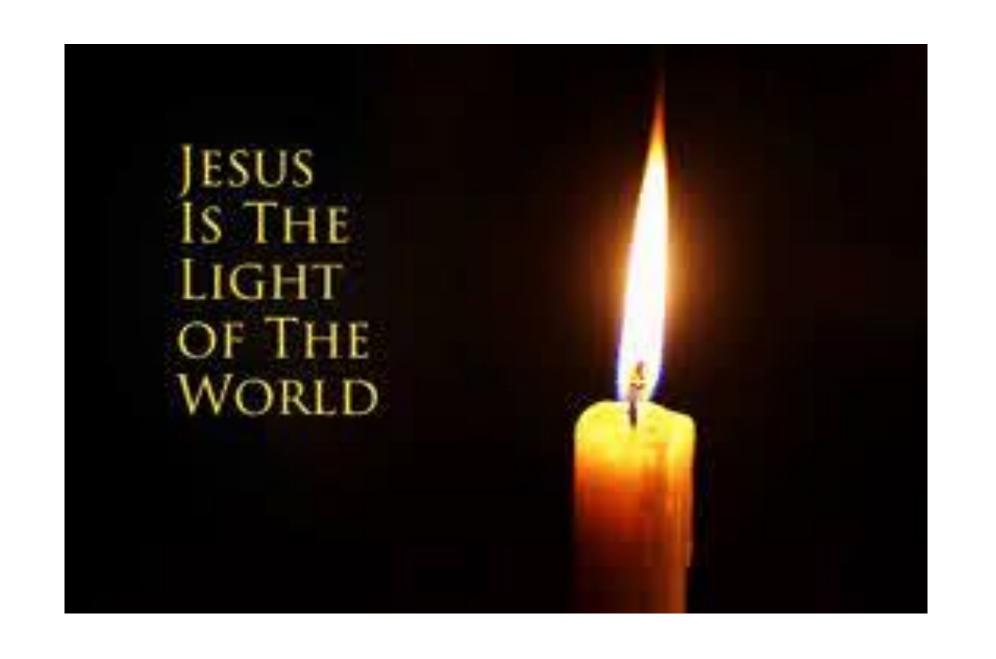
The donkey carried food, warm cloaks for the chilly nights and clothes for the baby who was due to be born any day.

Mary was tired when they arrived in Bethlehem. But there was nowhere for them to stay. The inns were already crowded with travellers. One inn – keeper felt sorry for Mary but the only space he had left was in the stable.

It was dirty and smelly in there with the animals.
But at least Mary could rest there and there was nowhere else.

That night Mary's baby son was born. She wrapped him up warmly in the clothes she had made, and laid him in a manger to sleep.

The Gospel of the Lord Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



# Let us pray together

You bring us light and joy.

May we carry your light, in our hearts this day and share it with all those we meet.

Amen.





We walk in the light when we show good example.

We pray to the Lord Light of Christ guide us

We walk in the light when we treat others fairly
We pray to the Lord
Light of Christ guide us





We walk in the light when we listen to others
We pray to the Lord
Light of Christ guide us

We walk in the light when we respect others
We pray to the Lord
Light of Christ guide us





We walk in the light when we forgive others

We pray to the Lord Light of Christ guide us

We walk in the light when we help others
We pray to the Lord
Light of Christ guide us





We walk in the light when We are kind to others
We pray to the Lord
Light of Christ guide us

We walk in the light when we talk with God each day We pray to the Lord Light of Christ guide us



Loving Father we thank you for sending your son, Jesus, to be one like us.



We welcome him now into our home, we welcome him into our hearts and we welcome him into our lives.

May the light of the Christ-Child shine into the darkness of this world that we may walk in his light and bring that light to those we meet this Christmas.

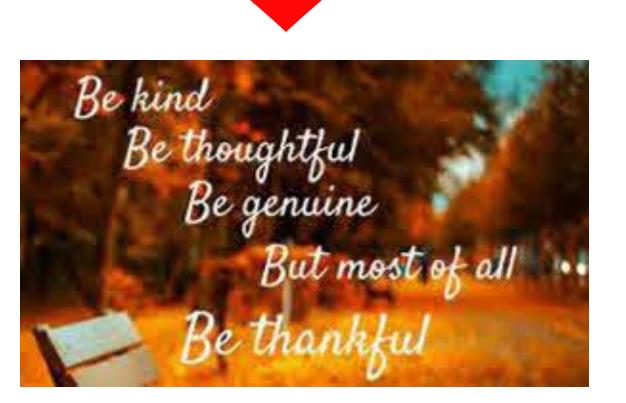
We make this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen

### **Sending Forth**

















Click on the link below to watch / listen / join in with

**Away in a Manger** 

## Or sing it yourselves!

Away in a manger no crib for a bed the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. Hove you, Lord Jesus look down from the sky and stay by my side until morning is nigh

Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven to live with you there