



Lancaster Christ Church C of E Primary School
Welcome to our Christmas Celebration

Welcome (Rev Carol):

Let's begin at the beginning....

Miss Simpson: In this time of waiting and preparation, we look forward to the birth of Jesus.

All: Today, we remember the many generations of Jesus' family tree.

Miss Simpson: We remember all those who came before him, preparing the way for Jesus' birth with hope.

Year 3:

In the beginning God said 'Let there be light.'

And there was light (*Child to light the big candle*).

God created people to live on the Earth.

As the names are read out, each Jesse tree decoration holder comes to stand at the front of church in a line of historical order, starting next to the lit candle and all the way to the crib.

First there was Adam and Eve, then there was Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Jacob, and Joseph and the story went on.

There was Moses, Samuel, David, Solomon, and Josiah and the story went on

There was Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel, and the story went on
And there was Mary and Joseph, who became the parents of Jesus,
and this is how it came about.

Children to rest their decoration on top of the altar and return to their seats.



When the winter day is dying (Light a candle in the window)

Reception children bring Mary and Joseph into the crib.

When the name in bold is read out, each child brings their decoration to add to the tree. (Joseph, Abraham and Sarah, Jacob, Noah and Adam and Eve)

Year 4:

Our story begins with a long journey. Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem so that Joseph could be put on the list to pay his Roman taxes their ancestor.

Joseph would've understood about organising taxes like this.
It was a hard journey travelling to a place far from home.

Abraham and Sarah would've understood what it was like to travel far from home.

When Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem. It was late in the evening. The town was full of travellers there was nowhere for them to stay.

Jacob would've understood what it was like to be in a strange place at night worrying about your family.

Then an inn keeper said that they could go into the stable where he kept his cow and donkey.

Noah would've understood what it was like to make a bed among the animals.

Mary and Joseph were alone.

Adam and Eve would've understood what it was like to have only each other for help.

And in the middle of the night, the time came for the baby to be born. They wrapped him in strips of cloth and put him in the animal feed box because they did not have a bed for him.



Away in a Manger

Reception children bring the shepherds and sheep into the crib.

When the name in bold is read out, each child brings their decoration to add to the tree. (David, Moses, Samuel, Josiah, Solomon)

Year 5:

That night there were Shepherds caring for their sheep sitting in the hills above Bethlehem.

David would have understood what it was like to sit in the hills looking after the sheep.

Suddenly a bright light shone in the sky on the ground and an angel spoke to them. The Shepherds were frightened.

Moses would've understood how frightening it was to see a bright lights from God.

'Don't be afraid,' the angel said 'I bring you great news of great joy. A baby has been born in Bethlehem. This baby is the Saviour, the Messiah, the Lord. This is how you will know him. He will be wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a feed box in the stable'.

Then a whole choir of angels appeared and began to sing 'Glory to God in the highest'.

The shepherds were stunned. When the angels had gone. The shepherds said to each other 'We must go to Bethlehem and see this child that the angels told us about.'

Samuel would've understood what it was like to receive a message from God during the night.

The Shepherds buried into Bethlehem. The town was quiet. They needed to find the right stable where the baby had been born.

Josiah would've understood what it was like to know that something precious was hidden in a dark place.

Eventually they found the stable and saw the baby just as the angels had said. Mary and Joseph were surprised that the shepherds had come to visit them.

Then the shepherds told them about the angels and the heavenly choir. Mary and Joseph felt overwhelmed that their baby had been sung about by angels. Would they be able to do everything that this special baby would need?

Solomon would've understood how it felt to wonder if you were wise enough to do the job God has given you.



Calypso Carol

When the name in bold is read out, each child brings their decoration to add to the tree. (Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Mary and Joseph)

Year 6:

When the baby was eight days old, it was time to have the naming ceremony.

It was usual to name a first son after his father so everyone expected the baby to be called Joseph, but both Joseph and Mary said 'No!'

Jeremiah would've understood how it felt to say something people did not expect you to say.

Joseph said his name is Jesus. Joseph was obeying what the angel had spoken to him in a dream.

Ezekiel would've known what it was like to do this

Mary and Joseph were a long way from home, but they held onto the promises spoken to them by the angels 'You shall call him Jesus, and he will save his people'.

Daniel would've understood what it was like to hold onto your faith in God.

Mary and Joseph listened and obeyed, and this is how they became the parents of Jesus the shoot of Jesse, the Messiah, the one for whom all his ancestors had been waiting.



Come, Join the Celebration



Prayer (Year 3):

As green as a healthy tree, the story of God's love keeps growing.
We thank you for Jesus born among us **Amen**

We say together the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin
against us.
lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and
for ever. Amen.**

Blessing (Rev Carol)



This Little Light of Mine