

Charity No 251394

READY!!!.....



STEADY!!!.....



WAIT FOR IT.....!



December 2023

**Something special is about to happen!**

**We're on the countdown to Christmas.**

But are we ready for it? This month there is a weekly craft activity leading you to Christmas.

### **Week One – Preparing Ourselves**

Hundreds of years ago, a man called Isaiah tried to tell the people that God was going to send someone, a Messiah, to lead them to a new Kingdom of Heaven.

Isaiah was a Prophet, a man who listened to God and tried to pass on messages to the people. Isaiah said they were to be ready for when this new King comes. It was to be many years before Isaiah's words came true and most people had given up hope. But we know what happened so we can prepare to celebrate that new King who came as a humble baby.

How should we prepare ourselves?

As the Christmas lights go on they remind us that light helps us to see those things that need to be cleaned or tidied away. Do we need to prepare our hearts for Christmas by saying



sorry for anything we have said or done that has hurt others. Draw & cut out a heart shape, make it sparkly if you can.

Write the word sorry on it and hang it up somewhere, perhaps on your Christmas tree.

### **Week 2 – Thinking of Others**

At Christmas we are often asked to think about those less fortunate than ourselves – refugees, the homeless, those suffering war, the hungry, the sick and the elderly. Perhaps you could think of some of these sorts of people and make a paper prayer chain to hang on your Christmas tree at home or in your church. Add several links to the chain for each group of people you think about. Perhaps you could write the words 'refugees', 'homeless' etc on each group of links. You might like to use a different colour for each group and add sticky stars as decorations.



### **Week 3 Angels, God's Messengers**

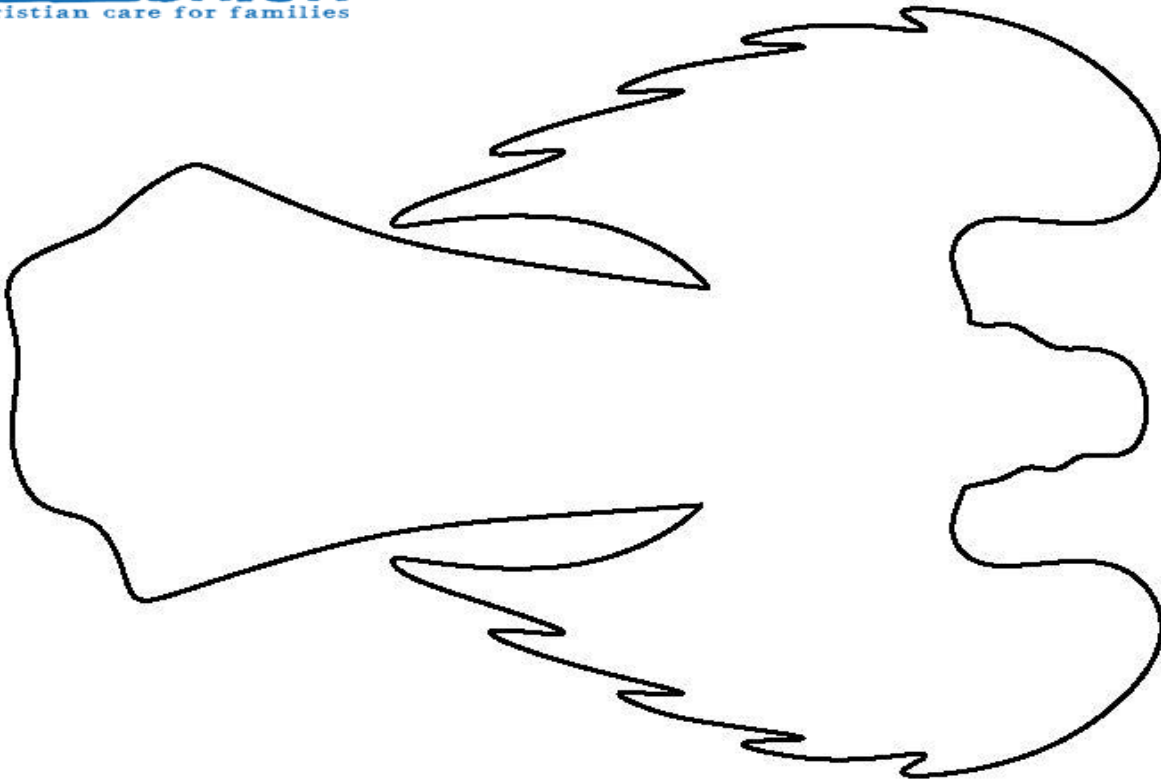


The angels played an important part in the story of Jesus' birth. First of all Angel Gabriel was sent to tell Mary that

God wanted her to be the mother of his son. Then when Jesus was born, a whole host of angels told the shepherds the wonderful news, and where to find him. They wished PEACE for the people on earth. Sadly there are places where there are wars and there is no peace. Make an angel prayer tree decoration (see next page) and write PEACE TO THE WORLD on it.

### **Week 4 Guiding Stars**

God wanted the whole world to know about Jesus, which is why he sent a special star to guide some men from countries far away to find Him. The wise men saw a new star in the sky and followed it. They brought precious gifts to give to Jesus. If you were a visitor to that stable, what gift would you take for the baby? Think about all those children (and adults) who will not be getting any presents this year because they are homeless, on their own, or living where there is war. Pray for those who try to help these people.



## The Wise Men Wordsearch

U	N	O	R	S	H	I	P	S	P	G	L	E	R
K	E	S	N	E	C	N	I	R	S	N	O	S	A
P	R	E	S	E	N	T	E	D	U	A	L	L	L
R	S	E	U	O	R	L	B	H	N	R	T	H	D
E	S	E	D	J	U	E	E	G	P	J	L	S	E
P	P	S	A	R	E	L	S	I	E	U	E	H	C
O	R	O	N	R	A	S	C	F	O	D	H	E	E
R	E	S	A	S	C	S	U	T	P	A	I	R	G
T	E	T	U	B	L	H	H	S	L	H	G	O	N
E	S	R	O	P	R	O	P	H	E	T	A	D	I
I	E	M	C	H	I	L	D	S	G	U	M	H	K
J	E	H	E	H	E	L	H	T	E	B	U	H	R
D	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	H	E	A	S	T
C	H	R	I	S	T	G	I	E	H	R	R	Y	M

WORSHIP GOLD SEARCH JESUS  
 JERUSALEM KING PRESENTED  
 CHRIST MAGI HEROD BETHLEHEM  
 EAST MYRRH PROPHET REPORT  
 INCENSE PEOPLE RULER  
 STAR GIFTS SHEPHERDS



You need 3 wooden teaspoons (or craft sticks and cut out a circle for the head) Find scraps of material to make the robes, crowns and beards. Make them look as rich as possible using glitter glue sticks and sequins. Copy the star shape and stick your Wise Men on it. What gift would you take to baby Jesus? Write it on the back of the star and think about children who will not have a present this Christmas.

Wise Men  
Spoon  
Decorations

