|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Reflection question | Activity |
| **Sunday 20th December**  **Mary** | | |
| Luke 1  While Mary was engaged to Joseph, she saw an angel who said she would be the mother of Jesus, the Messiah and Son of God. Mary gave birth to Jesus and brought him up. She stood at the foot of the cross as Jesus died.  **The symbol of the white lily represents the purity of Mary, the mother of Jesus.** | What is the best news you have been given? | Advent Journey playdough mat (attached). You can use the mat as a prayer labyrinth – follow the labyrinth to the centre and think about people who are travelling on a journey.  **Prayer**  **Dear Lord, help me put my complete trust in you every day. Amen.** |
| **Monday 21st December**  **Joseph** | | |
| Matthew 1  Joseph was going to leave Mary when he found out that she was expecting a baby. However, an angel told him that the baby was God’s son. Joseph was an earthly father to Jesus. He worked as a builder and carpenter.  **The symbol of the hammer represents Joseph, who fulfilled God’s promise that Jesus would come from a descendent of Jesse.** | What did Jesus learn from Joseph?  What can we learn from Joseph? | Joseph was a carpenter and made things. Make a Christmas decoration for your house.  **Prayer**  **God, Joseph reminds us that you can use us in amazing ways when we let you. What part do you want us to play in your story? Amen.** |
| **Tuesday 22nd December**  **Shepherds and Angels** | | |
| Luke 2  Angels appeared to some shepherds on the night Jesus was born. They told them that God’s promised King, a saviour, had been born in Bethlehem. The shepherds went to Bethlehem to find the child.  **The symbol of the sheep and crook represents God’s promised King to be the Good Shepherd to his people.** | Why do you think God chose to tell the shepherds about Jesus before anyone else? | Make a sheep picture by painting or with cotton wool.  **Prayer**  **Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we might share in the song of the angels and the gladness of the shepherds. Amen.** |
| **Wednesday 23rd December**  **Wise Men and Stars** | | |
| Matthew 2  Wise men in the East saw a new star rising in the sky. They know that a child, who was the promised King to the Jews, had been born. They followed the star to Bethlehem and gave gifts of Gold, Frankincense and myrrh to Jesus.  **The symbol of the stars represents our own place in the history of God’s people. We are Jesus’ family in the world today.** | What is the best gift you have ever been given? | Wrap up a gift for someone in your household.  **Prayer**  **Jesus, we’re so glad you came. Thank you for being born into our world. Thank you for loving us enough to live with us and save us. Amen.** |
| **Thursday 24th December**  **Jesus** | | |
| Luke 2  Luke’s gospel says that Jesus was laid in the animals’ feeding trough in the stable where he was born. God’s promised King, who is a descendent of Abraham, had humble beginnings in Bethlehem, the city of King David. He came as the light of the world and brought great joy.  **The symbol of the manger represents the humble beginnings of Jesus, God’s promised King.** | What will it be like when Jesus comes again? | Sing a Christmas carol.  Light a candle as you say the prayer.  **Prayer**  **Jesus, I’m excited for you to come again. Will you help me to be ready? Amen.** |



  

 