

The Posada 2020



What is a Posada? A Posada is an old Mexican tradition where young people dressed as Mary and Joseph would travel from house to house telling people in the weeks leading up to Christmas about the imminent arrival of Jesus. On Christmas Eve they would visit the local church to re-enact the nativity and place figures of Mary and Joseph in a crib. The word 'Posada' means 'Inn' in Spanish.



Today in this country, the Posada is often a shoe box with crafted or knitted figures of Mary, Joseph, and the donkey. The Posada is passed from house to house each day during Advent where it is given hospitality for the night. These 'guests' need no food or drink!

The posada reminds us of the journey that Mary and Joseph take Nazareth to Bethlehem while Mary is with child. Sadly, this year we are unable to pass the Posada shoe box with Mary, Joseph and the donkey from house to house.

So this year we are doing something different!

We are sending out Mary, Joseph, and the Donkey as templates to be coloured in – using crayons, paint or collage material and then cut out. Then we are asking you to place them in a front window for everyone to see.



Hopefully, we will be able to see a growing number of houses displaying Mary, Joseph, and the donkey as if we see them travelling around the village.

Please do enlarge the cut-outs, if you would like to, and make a larger display. If you wish, please do send the Benefice Office a photo of your cut-outs displayed in the window and we'll load them up onto the church website and Facebook page. Please look out for Mary and Joseph as you walk around the village.

Then on Christmas Eve, you could use the other characters in the pack to make the story of Jesus' birth and display them on the coloured in background.

We do have coloured in templates and pre-cut out characters if you would prefer; please just pop an email to the Benefice office: qv.benefice@gmail.com.

As you display your characters you might wish to read through ...

..... The story of Jesus' birth

At that time Emperor Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Roman Empire. When this first census took place, Quirinius was the governor of Syria. Everyone, then, went to register himself, each to his own hometown.

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David. He went to register with Mary, who was promised in marriage to him. She was pregnant, and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. She gave birth to her first son, wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger—there was no room for them to stay in the inn.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, as we hear the story of the birth of your son, help us to know that you sent Jesus into the world because of your love for each one of us and that you want the best for us. Lead us through these difficult times, show us how we can care for all in need and teach us to lives in your ways. In Jesus name we pray. Amen





Please colour in Joseph, cut him out and stick him on a front window with the colours facing outward alongside Mary and the donkey

Please colour in Mary and the donkey, then cut them out and stick them on a front window with the colours facing outward along side Joseph.



