



St Richard's Church, Nativity Trail

Running 12–24 December 2020

Thank you for taking part in the St Richard's Church Nativity Trail!

The Trail starts at Woodland Way and ends at St Richard's Church where you will find the last display. Follow the Trail using the map and find the different nativity characters (typed in bold in the story) in windows around the estates.

Clue: You'll find the Trail characters have a **red spot** next to them in the windows.

When you've completed the trail, why not make your own Nativity character to display.

We'd love to see them all!

(Children should always be accompanied by a parent/carer!)

The Christmas Story

On 25th December we celebrate the birth of Jesus who was called Christ (God's Promised King). God told Mary that she would give birth to Jesus. Before Jesus was born, **Mary and Joseph** went to a town called **Bethlehem**. It was very busy and they couldn't find anywhere to stay. A friendly **innkeeper** let them sleep in his **stable** with the **animals**. When Jesus was born Mary wrapped him in cloths and put him in a **manger**. A star appeared in the sky over the stable. Out in the fields, some **shepherds** were looking after their **sheep** when suddenly an **angel** appeared. The shepherds were very scared. The angel told them not to be scared because he had brought good news. He told them that Jesus had been born and that he would be the person who could save people from their sins. He told the shepherds to go and see Jesus, which they did. They knelt down in front of the manger and were very happy that they had found the one who had been sent by God. When they left they told everyone about Jesus and about how he was going to be the Saviour of the **world**. Later on, some **wise men** came from the East, to the place where the **star** appeared, to see Jesus. They had brought special gifts because they knew Jesus was a king. They were surprised that he had been born in a stable and not a palace. They worshipped Jesus and gave him the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And so.... each Christmas we celebrate Jesus being born. God gave us **Jesus** as a gift to show us that He loves us. We give each other gifts to show people that we love them, and to remember God's greatest gift of Jesus to us.

You can find the full Christmas story in these passages in the Bible:

Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2:1-20, Matthew 2:1-12, John 3:16.

