

CHILDREN'S PACK

TWO SPECIAL PARAGRAPHS

Angels from Heaven appeared in the sky. They sang, "Glory to God in the highest. Peace on earth to men of good will."

Some **shepherds** – men who take care of sheep – saw the angels. The shepherds were afraid. "Do not be afraid," said the angels. "We have good news for you and for all people. Today in Bethlehem a Saviour has been born! You will find Him lying in a manger." Then the angels left.

The shepherds were amazed. They said "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this Child about whom the angels have spoken."

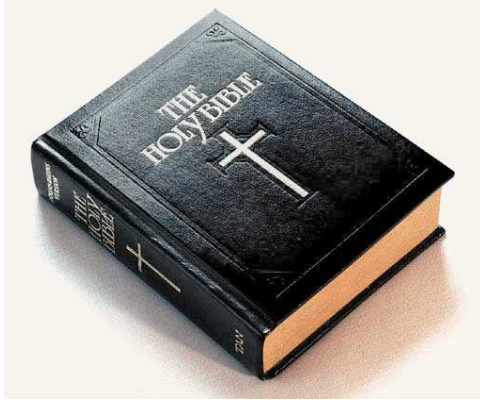
The shepherds hurried away and found Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They knelt down to worship their Saviour. To worship means to give your best love and praise to God. The shepherds remembered to thank God the Father for sending us His Son.

THE NATIVITY



Barocci, Federico ~ The Nativity, 1597, oil on canvas, Museo del Prado, Madrid

THE BIBLE STORY OF THE NATIVITY(LUKE 2:1-5)



The Birth of Our Lord

And it came to pass, that in those days there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that the whole world should be enrolled.

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This enrolling was first made by Cyrenus, the governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went

up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem: because he was of the house and family of David, To be enrolled with Mary his espoused wife, who was with child.

And it came to pass, that when they were there, her days were accomplished, that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him up in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds watching, and keeping the night watches over their flock. And behold an angel of the Lord stood by them, and the brightness of God shone round about them; and they feared with a great fear. And the angel said to them: Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, that shall be to all the people:

"Her firstborn"... The meaning is, not that she had afterward any other child; but it is a way of speech among the Hebrews, to call them also the firstborn, who are the only children.

For, this day, is born to you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David. And this shall be a sign unto you. You shall find the infant wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly army, praising God, and saying: Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to men of good will. And it came to pass, after the angels departed from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another: Let us go over to Bethlehem, and let us see this word that is come to pass, which the Lord hath shewed to us.

And they came with haste; and they found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. And seeing, they understood of the word that had been spoken to them concerning this child. And all that heard, wondered; and at those things that were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these words, pondering them in her heart.

<http://www.drbo.org/x/d?b=drb&bk=49&ch=2&l=20> - x And the shepherds returned,

glorifying and praising God, for all the things they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.



The Nativity of Our Lord

SING: AWAY IN A MANGER

Away in a manger,
No crib for His bed
The little Lord Jesus
Laid down His sweet head

The stars in the bright sky
Looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing
The poor Baby wakes
But little Lord Jesus
No crying He makes

I love Thee, Lord Jesus
Look down from the sky
And stay by my side,
'Til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,
I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever
And love me I pray

Bless all the dear children
In Thy tender care
And take us to heaven
To live with Thee there

CATECHISM QUESTION 24

Q. 24	<p><i>Where was Jesus Christ born?</i></p> <p>Jesus Christ was born in a stable in Bethlehem, and was placed in a manger.</p> <p><i>(Catechism of the Catholic Church 525; Luke 2:7)</i></p>
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