

3D NATIVITY COLORING KIT

CREATE YOUR OWN NATIVITY AT HOME OR AT SCHOOL



Where higher learning meets faithful service.

INTRODUCTION

During Advent and Christmas, many Christian families display a Nativity set, or crèche. Nativities throughout the world often look very different, featuring unique artistic and cultural traditions. Nevertheless, they all tell the story of the Incarnation, when the eternal Son of God became man in Jesus of Nazareth, who was born of the Virgin Mary to redeem the world.

This resource includes:

- ◆ A 7-character nativity scene for you to color, cut out, assemble, and display
- A description of the nativity figures with verses from Scripture for you to contemplate
- A simple order for the Blessing of the Nativity Scene

Each character page has directions for coloring and assembly. To complete the nativity set, you will need the following supplies:

- A printed version of the 3D Nativity Coloring Kit
- Your favorite medium for coloring (crayons, colored pencils, markers, etc)
- Your preferred adhesive for crafts (staples recommended, but glue, tape, or rubber cement work as well)
- Scissors

Enjoy coloring and crafting your own nativity scene and let it be a reminder to thank God this Christmas for the gift of his Son, Jesus.

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

BLESSING OF A CHRISTMAS MANGER OR NATIVITY SCENE

In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223.

The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time. When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another family member.

All make the sign of the Cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R/. Who made heaven and earth.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example:

Listen to the words of the holy Gospel according to Luke:

2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The leader prays with hands joined:

God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy, and love.

Lord,

bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

R/. Amen.

The leader says:

Let us bless the Lord.

All respond, making the sign of the Cross:

R/. Thanks be to God.

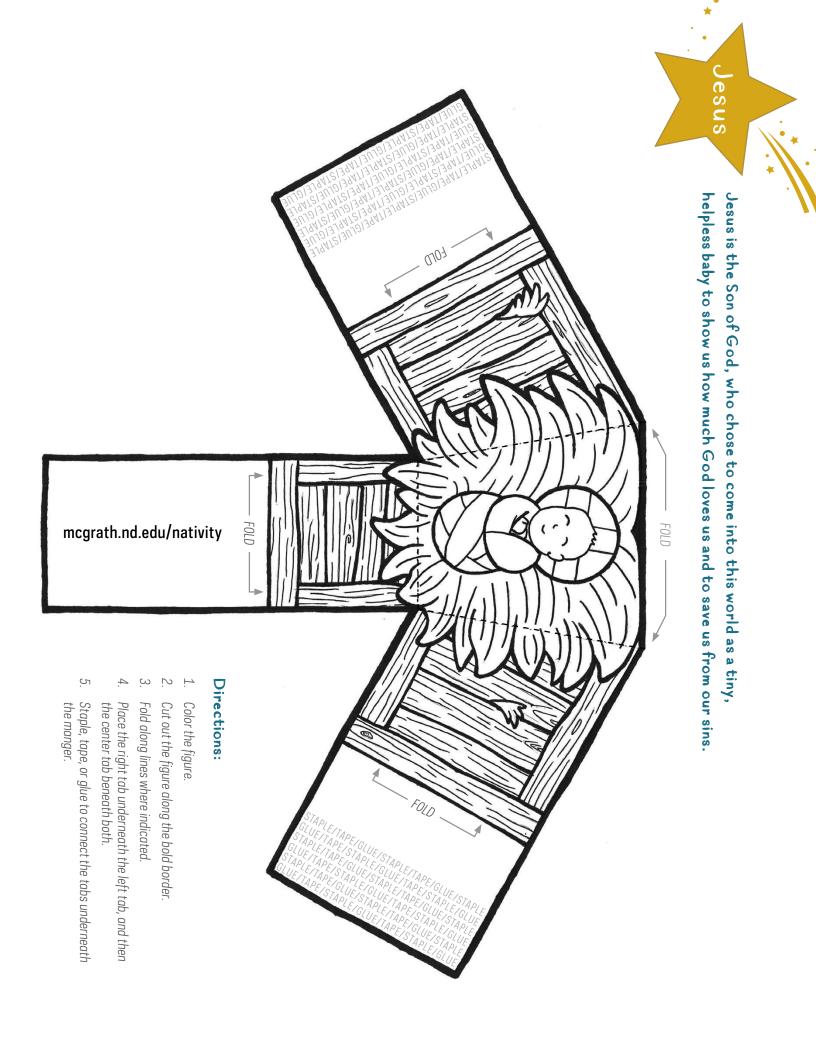
The prayer may conclude with the singing of an Advent hymn such as O Come, O Come, Emmanuel or a Christmas carol, depending on when the blessing is prayed.



JESUS

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

JOHN 3:16

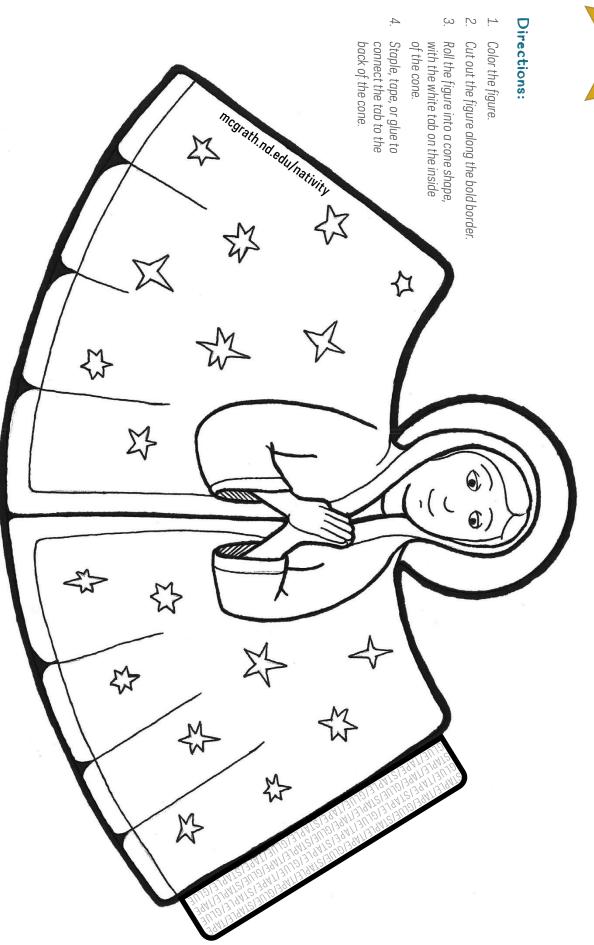




MARY

"Mary said, 'Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.""

LUKE 2:38a



our Mother, and her greatest desire is to help us love and serve God as she did. Mary is the Mother of Jesus; therefore, she is the Mother of God. Mary is also

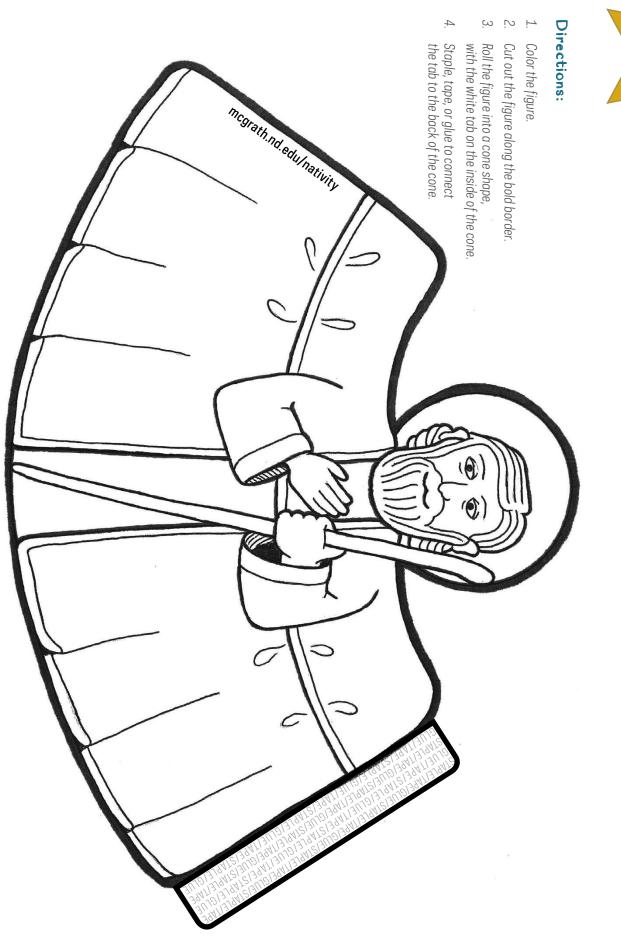






"When Joseph awoke, he did as the Lord commanded him."

MATTHEW 1:24a



to do, even when he did not fully understand God's will for him. Mary and Jesus and provided for them, and he always did what God asked him Joseph is the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus. He protected

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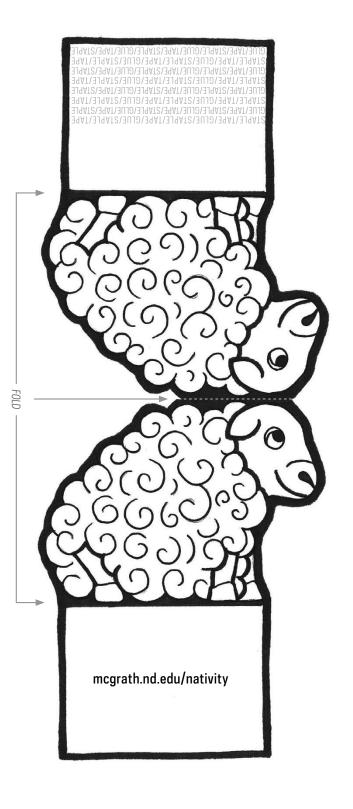
LAMB

"We are God's people, the sheep of his flock."

PSALM 100:3



lays down his life in order to save us, his sheep (see John 10:10-18). but it is also a symbol for Jesus' followers. We are called to follow Jesus, our Good Shepherd, who A lamb is a symbol for Jesus, the "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" (John 2:29b),



Directions:

- ŀ Color the figure.
- Ņ Cut out the figure along the bold border.
- ယ Fold along lines where indicated.
- 4
- Stack the white tabs beneath the lamb to form a tent shape.

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Staple, tape, or glue to connect the tabs underneath the figure.



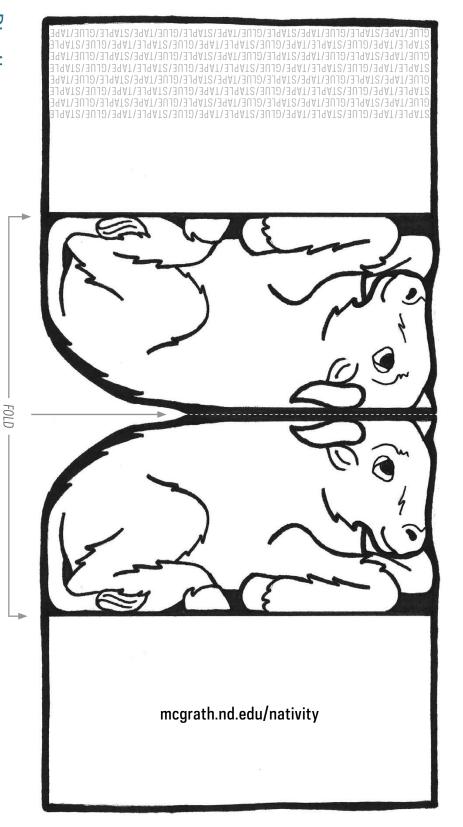
OX

"The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib."

ISAIAH 1:3a



and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28-29) world's sin in his Cross, and he calls his disciples to follow his example by carrying their own crosses. An ox is known for its strength in carrying heavy burdens. Jesus was born to carry the weight of the Yet we trust that he will always help us, for he said, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,



Directions:

- Color the figure.
- \mathbb{N} Cut out the figure along the bold border.
- ယ
- Fold along lines where indicated

ъ 4

Stack the white tabs beneath the ox to form a tent shape.

Staple, tape, or glue to connect the tabs underneath the figure.



CHILDREN

"Jesus said, 'let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

MATTHEW 19:14

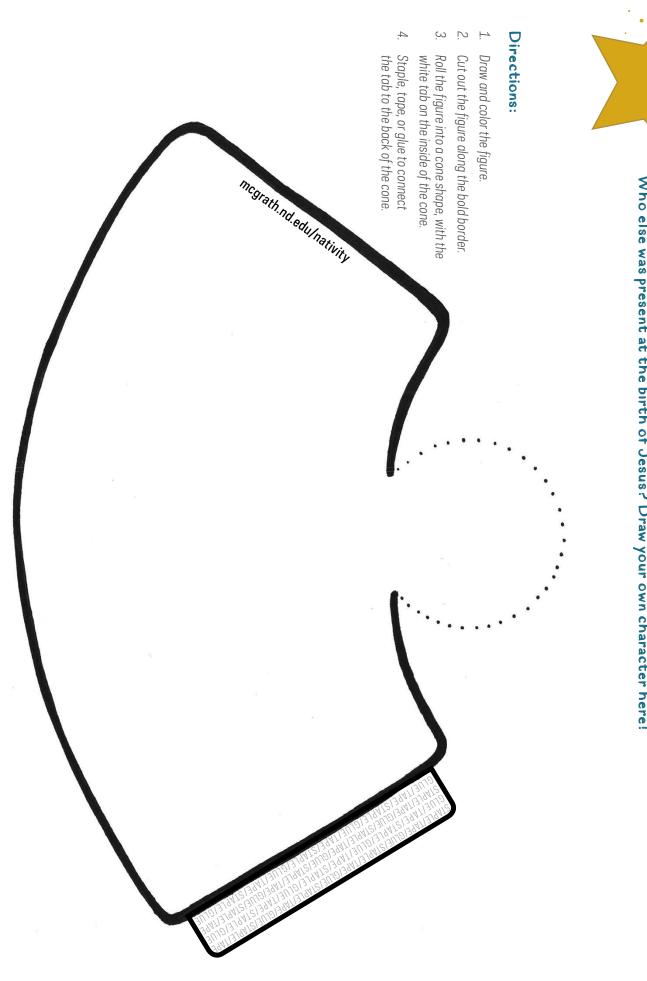


this Christmas. We can be kind and patient. We can forgive those who hurt our feelings. offer Jesus gold, frankincense, and myrrh like the Magi did, but we can offer him other gifts remind people of all ages to trust in God and depend on him completely. We may not be able to Jesus loved children when he walked this earth, and he loves children still, because they We can do little acts of service for others with great love. What gift will you offer Jesus?





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Who else was present at the birth of Jesus? Draw your own character here!

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