

A Holy Night

FOCUS

1. At Christmas we remember the birth of Jesus.

During these lessons your child :

- *identified that Jesus was born on Christmas Day;*
- *re-told the story of the visit of the Wise Men;*
- *explored the meaning of giving gifts at Christmas time.*

Matthew 2:1–12

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote. And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.' Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child and his mother Mary, and falling on their knees they did him homage.

Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

SUGGESTED HOME ACTIVITIES

These are some suggested activities to do at home with your child.

1. Place a star on the top of your Christmas tree as a reminder of the star the Wise Men followed.
2. As a family, pray the prayer on the Student Activity Page.
3. Complete the activity on p. 84.
4. More activities can be found at www.ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au Click on **Home Activities**.



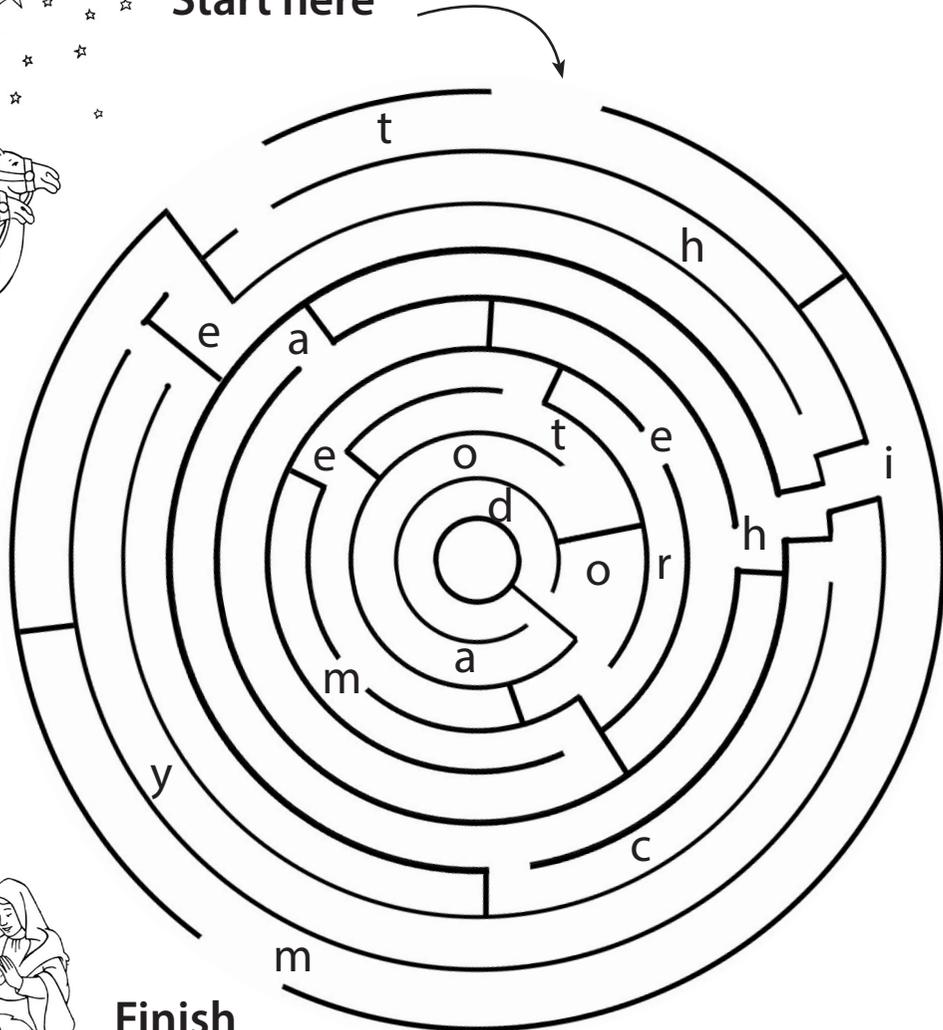
To Remember:

Jesus is our guiding light.

Help the three Wise Men journey through the maze to see Jesus. Collect the letters to complete the mystery message.



Start here



Finish



Dear God,
 you are holy and kind. You sent us your only Son to guide us.
 Help us to be like the Wise Men.
 Help us to follow the star that will lead us to Jesus.
 Amen.