

Celebrating Christmas 2020 at home



Preparing the Crib

Keep the crib as a focus from Saturday Dec 19th

- Place the figures, Mary and Joseph, and the animals inside the stable. Keep the shepherds and angels outside until Christmas night, and the wise men until the feast of the Epiphany, Jan 6th.

Make the crib a place of prayer for the family. As a family,

- Pray the Pope's Prayer for the family at the crib, **or**
- Pray the Guardian Angel prayer for those travelling home/staying abroad this year.

As a family, gather around the crib on Christmas Eve night to place the baby Jesus in the crib, just as the parish community is doing at Christmas Eve Mass.

Pope Francis' Family Prayer

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
in you we contemplate the splendour of true love,
to you we turn with trust.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,
grant that our families too
may be places of communion and prayer,
authentic schools of the Gospel
and small domestic Churches.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,
may families never again
experience violence, rejection and division:
may all who have been hurt or scandalized
find ready comfort and healing.*

*Holy Family of Nazareth,
may the approaching Synod of Bishops
make us once more mindful
of the sacredness and inviolability of the family,
and its beauty in God's plan.*

*Jesus, Mary and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer.*

Prayer to the Guardian Angel

Angel sent by God to guide me,
Be my light and walk beside me,
Be my guardian and protect me,
On the paths of life direct me.
Amen.