



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON

SETTING UP AN ADVENT CRIB



A very special Christmas journey, setting up an Advent crib at home

When you set up your crib this year why don't you try to follow the nativity story?



You might have a **precious family set** or you could make your own special set of figures. Whatever you use, try to be gentle with the figures. They tell **an important story**, so try to keep them safe on their different journeys towards Bethlehem.

Perhaps you have a stable already, if not you might use a box filled with straw?

FIRST STEPS



Decide where you want to place your advent scene; it is nice to put it somewhere very **visible**, either in a hallway where you pass can it on your way in and out, or on a table so that you and can see and talk about it.

Make sure that the **stable is empty** to begin with - apart from any animals you might want to add.

Decide where **Mary and Joseph** are going to begin their journey. They will arrive at the stable on **Christmas Eve**.



Include a **beautiful star** to hang high above the stable. You might have one already or you could make one?

You could **pray near the stable** every day, as you wait for Jesus to arrive.





Place the **Shepherds** and the **three Kings** in different places around your home.

Perhaps an **angel** could meet the **shepherds** or the **Kings** could catch a glimpse of the star?



Baby Jesus should be placed in the manger on **Christmas day**. Perhaps you could sing the carol '**Away in a Manger**' as you place Jesus in the stable.

You can find out more about the about Advent and the Christmas story here:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Primary-teaching-resources/Advent-for-children>

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/christmas/>