

PRAYER AS YOU UNPACK YOUR CHRISTMAS MANGER SCENE

Each person in the home is invited to take out a figure until all are figures are unpacked and placed. Set creche where you want it to be. As they unwrap each peace, find the sentence below and pray it.

As we place **our stable**, we remember how a place that was never meant to be a home sheltered Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We pray that our home will always be a place that welcomes others.

As we place **the star** that burned brightly for the magi to follow, help our faith in Jesus to grow.

As **the shepherds** were the only ones to whom the angels appeared when Jesus was born, may we never forget that God calls the most simple among us to tasks that give him glory.

As **sheep and donkey, oxen and lamb** looked on the miracle of Jesus' birth and sang the newborn child to sleep, may we also stand in awe before each miracle our God works every day.

As **Joseph** wondered and obeyed even when he could not understand, may we always listen to you, even when we don't always understand.

As **Mary** opened herself to the miracle of God working through her, may also we be instruments of God's love in whatever humble ways we are called to show God's love.

As **the angels** proclaimed the tidings of God who became a human being like us, may we be also show by our lives that Jesus lives in and through us.

As **the Magi** followed the star because they believed God was acting in our world, may we always look for Jesus still acting in in our time, and never be so proud that we cannot seek our Lord with child-like faith.

PRAYER:

God, help us to get up!

Now is the time for celebrating.

Now is the time for singing.

You invite us to come and see this wonderful thing that is happening.

Today there is news of great joy; Jesus is born for us.

O Happy Day!

Take courage, my friends, let us celebrate and give God praise,
for today Jesus, the Good News, is born for our world.

Amen.

Sing "Silent Night" or another Christmas Carol.