

**St Joseph's
Pudsey**

Travelling Crib

2015 Diary

Could you offer Mary and Joseph a room for the night?

This journey symbolises Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before the birth of Jesus.

The idea behind the diary is so as many people as possible can join in the journey, even if you are unable to have the crib in your home.

We have 2 cribs that are travelling around the parish during Advent.

All diary entries will be posted in this diary.



Keep coming back to see what has been happening on its travels.

29 November 2015

After collecting the crib from church on Sunday morning, the Rudds and the Caseys met at the Casey home with our aunty Paula. First we lit the candle and sang a song, then we set up the nativity. Then we said the prayer together. We took turns to read the book (we read a page each, not including baby Charlotte). We acted out the nativity story with the characters and stable. It felt very special to be the first family to have the travelling crib.

From Beth, Alex, Jack, Helen & Matt Rudd, Ciaran, Charlotte, Catherine & Tom Casey & aunty Paula.



29 November 2015

The girls were thrilled to have the travelling crib for the first night. We enjoyed setting up the crib and remembering the Christmas story. We lit the candle and Ava remembered that this showed Jesus being the 'light of the world'. The girls took turns reading the story, then we sang the song and said the prayer. Even Oscar enjoyed playing with the characters. His favourite was the 'horse' and he put baby Jesus to bed.

From
Grace, Ava & Oscar Scott

30 November 2015

The children enjoyed setting up the crib and listening to the story. We turned the light down low and said the prayer. The children also enjoyed blowing out the candle and smelling the vanilla fragrance.

We will definitely do it again next year.

From

Denise, James, Luke, Aaron & Caitlin
Robson

30 November 2015

A really lovely start to the Christmas period.

The Harris Family

1 December 2015

Agnès greatly helped setting up the crib. We turned the light off and lit the candle. We sang together and Gary said the prayer. Agnès played with the characters whilst Lalia read out the story.

Agnès drew an angel in the diary.

From
Agnès, Lalia & Gary Double



1 December 2015

We didn't have any visitors today, we didn't meet any new families as we had to go to school. We lit our candles and said a prayer and we put the travelling crib in our prayer corner.

Kate and Gerry Mckeown.

Kate and Gerry really enjoyed having the travelling crib, we all said prayers together and I read them the nativity story before they went to bed.

Jane Mckeown.



2 December 2015

We collected the crib after choir and set it up in a corner of the living room. Before bed we used this as our night prayer. Dad joined us and we sang together as we lit the candle. We thought about how Jesus came to bring peace and love to the world and we prayed that his love comes into the hearts of all involved in making decisions about our world today. Ryan narrated the story and Liam did the voices.

Merry Christmas everyone!
Liam, Ryan, Jon & Pauline Wilson

P.S. Ryan thought the shepherd in orange looked like him!



3 December 2015

We had a lovely evening setting up the crib. Iona love lighting the candle and arranging figures. We read the nativity story at bedtime.

Thanks for letting us be part of this special journey.

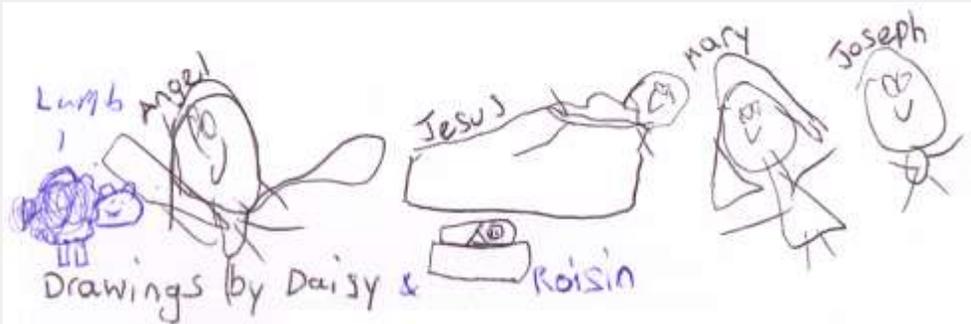
From
The Rogers Family



3 December 2015

We received the travelling crib and lit the candle. We took it in turns to read a page of the book. It was fun every time it mentioned someone's name we put them in the stable. We had a couple of minutes silence to say a prayer before bed.

written by Violet, Roisin & Daisy
Langridge



4 December 2015

This year, having the Travelling Crib is very poignant as it will probably be our last Advent together as Niall will be at University next year. I think the boys feel they are too big for the travelling crib but we all took turns with reading the story and I'm sure they secretly enjoyed singing the song !!!!!!!

For 10 minutes it was lovely to put away all the electronic devices, that unfortunately dominate our lives, and just focus on Christmas. We chatted about what we all wanted to do as a family for Christmas.

Christmas isn't Christmas without having the Travelling Crib.

From
Maria, Lawrence, Niall & Dónal Hogan

4 December 2015

Joss read the story and we made the crib together. It was fun and we all enjoyed it.

Very nice, calm and peaceful.
Very quiet.

From
Joss, Anya & Michelle Torkington
& Megan B Morrice

5 December 2015

We set up the crib and lit the candle. Mummy and Alex sang the song and read the prayer. Daddy read the story and Dominic sang songs about the wise men and Mary.

We always enjoy the Travelling Crib and will look forward to the next time.

From
The Bowers

5 December 2015

After mass we all got together, (everyone came out of their rooms).

Annie set up the crib and lit the candle.

Finlay played the piano (Twinkle, twinkle).

Frances read the story.

It was nice for us all to take time out and think solely about the true meaning of Christmas.

We continued the evening having a family sing song.

From

The Jezzards

Sue, Mike, Frances, Finlay & Annie

6 December 2015

We collected the crib at 9.30 mass. The boys were very excited to have it again. It's become a real Christmas tradition. We set up the crib together after mass. Even Oliver aged 1 enjoyed playing with the figures. Before bed we lit the candle, said the prayer and sang the song. We read the nativity story and talked about the true meaning of Christmas.

From the Kelly family
(Kate, Stephen, Daniel, Thomas and Oliver)



6 December 2015

We shared a special experience in the retelling of the most important story, the Truth of God intervening in our time and space; of the fulfilment of the waiting of the Messiah – 4000 years over 4 weeks of Advent.

Our baby daughter looked inquisitively on as we used the figures to bring the scene to life, ending also with a rendition of *Away in a Manger*, which she loves!

What a beautiful time is Advent!
How many riches to pass onto and live through with our children.

Praise God – O Come Emmanuel.

From
The Doherty Family

7 December 2015

Jack and Macie were so excited to host the travelling crib. Macie unpacked the crib unaided and set everything up where it needed to be. Macie could not read the words for the songs so she learnt it from Jack and I singing it to her and her repeating it after us which she really enjoyed. Jack then read the prayer for us and I read the book. Whilst reading the book Jack and Macie used the figures to act out the story. We also sang, little donkey, we three kings and away in a manger. It was such an amazing thing to be able to stop and focus on this at the end of a very busy day and to focus on the reason why we celebrate Christmas and what this means to each of us.

We wish all our other families a safe and happy Christmas.

Love from Jack, Macie, Paul and Gemma

7 December 2015



7 December 2015

Phillipa had the crib delivered to her classroom and we enjoyed putting the crib up after our evening dinner. Before bedtime we lit the candle, sang the song and said the prayer. We read the story of the Nativity as our bedtime story and talked about Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus.

From
The Crabtree Family
(James, Rebecca, Phillipa & Zack)

8 December 2015

I took the crib to my school (St Joseph's Keighley) where we put up the crib, sang the song and read the payers together as part of our collective worship. We also lit our Advent Wreath.

The children liked the crib and enjoyed hearing about another St Joseph's.

From
Clare Tiffany (and 3CT)

8 December 2015

We lit the candle and looked at the book, then sang *Away in a Manger*. Romeo played with the pieces and blew out the candle.

From
Teresa, Tim & Romeo Devereux

9 December 2015

We all sang together and I read the prayer. James and I read the nativity story. Daddy lit the candle and James set up the crib.

Merry Christmas and I enjoyed the travelling crib.

George Lawrence

From
The Lawrences

9 December 2015

The girls loved having the crib again and couldn't wait to set it up. We had to do it twice so each could have a turn. We lit the candle and sang the song. Even Lucy could join in humming the tune. We read the prayer and talked about baby Jesus being born and what it meant. Daddy then read the story to us as a family.

From
The Matthews Family
(Sarah, Thomas, Lia & Lucy)

10 December 2015

The boys were excited to set up the crib. I lit the candle and Oscar remarked how lovely it smelt. We sang the song and said the prayer together. My oldest sons took turns to read pages of the story of nativity, then I went through the book again with my youngest son to show him pictures in the book and same part on the crib which he liked very much. The crib staying with us has been a lovely reminder for the children of the true meaning of Christmas, which is very important.

From the Burton family
(Julie, Chris, Oscar, Samuel & William).

10 December 2015

We set up the pieces and Joseph recognised baby Jesus and the three kings. We lit a candle and read the prayer and thanked God for all the things and people in our lives.

Joseph then sang 'We three kings' as he had sung this in the nativity at nursery.

Thank you

From
The Littles

11 December 2015

This year we are having the crib for the first time - it was our surprise for the children. As soon as they saw the bag they could not wait to open it! They took it in turns to set up the crib - we talked about each figure and explained who they were. We lit the candle, switched off the lights, said the prayer and sang some Polish carols. After reading the story the children were thinking what they could offer to Baby Jesus - Helena wanted to give some of her story books and sweets, and Tymek wanted to share money out of his money box so that the Holy Family could move out of the stable into a warmer and cosier place. Before going to sleep Helena put all the figures in her doll's cot and covered them with a blanket so that they were warm overnight. We wish everybody a peaceful Christmas filled with love and joy!

From
Magdalena, Marek, Helena and Tymek

11 December 2015



11 December 2015

Greg set up the crib with Adam.
Adam loved learning about the story
and even added some extra animals
from his Ark!

A lovely way to prepare for
Christmas as a family!

From
The Langtons

12 December 2015

Daddy set up the crib and explained the nativity story. Emily Grace was excited and enjoyed looking at the pictures throughout the nativity story book.

A lovely way to welcome the Christmas season into our home. Little Joseph was a bit young so we look forward to next year.

From
The McDonald Family

12 December 2015



Picture by Abigail

From
The Farmer Family

13 December 2015



Naomi drew the crib

From
Dawn, Naomi & Rosemary

13 December 2015

Me, Martha and my mum set up the Travelling Crib. I lit the candle and put it at the front of the crib. We said the prayers in the booklet, then we read the Nativity story out loud. And then put everything neatly back into the bag.

I enjoyed going this.

From
The Callaghan Family
(Amelia, Martha, mum & dad)

14 December 2015

Daisy and Sam set up with crib. We lit the candle and said the prayer and read the nativity story. Daisy and Sam enjoyed hearing the story.

A great way to prepare for Christmas.

From
The Stasiak Family

14 December 2015

Max set up the crib scene. I lit the candle and we sang the song. The children all thought what Christmas means to them. The children thought that Christmas is about celebrating the birth of Jesus and that Christmas is not just about presents but being kind and generous and thoughtful to other people. We said the prayer and I read the Nativity story. Roan blew out the candle.

From
Barbara, Martin, Roan, Olivia & Max
Langan

15 December 2015

We were lucky enough to share the travelling crib with Grandma. We lit the candle, read the story and Olivia moved the characters around. It was lovely to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas at such a busy time as a family.

Merry Christmas to everyone that has the crib next!

The Massies



15 December 2015

Mrs Church joined me to pray before the crib. We thanked Our Lady for being our mother and asked her to help us to be good mothers. We prayed the Visitation decade of the rosary and prayed for peace and for all refugees in the world.

We enjoyed taking part in this journey.

From
Mrs Harrison & Mrs Church

16 December 2015

The travelling crib really did travel today. Matthew wanted to take the crib into his school (Horsforth Newlaithes), so Linda Hook (Catechist in the parish) and I visited Matthew's year (60 year 3 children!). We enjoyed watching them set the crib up, we lit the candle, sang the song and said the prayer. Linda read the story and we all discussed the true meaning of Christmas. We were very impressed with the children's ideas, thoughts and understanding of Christmas. A very special day indeed.

Matthew and Helen Hart
and Linda Hook.

17 December 2015

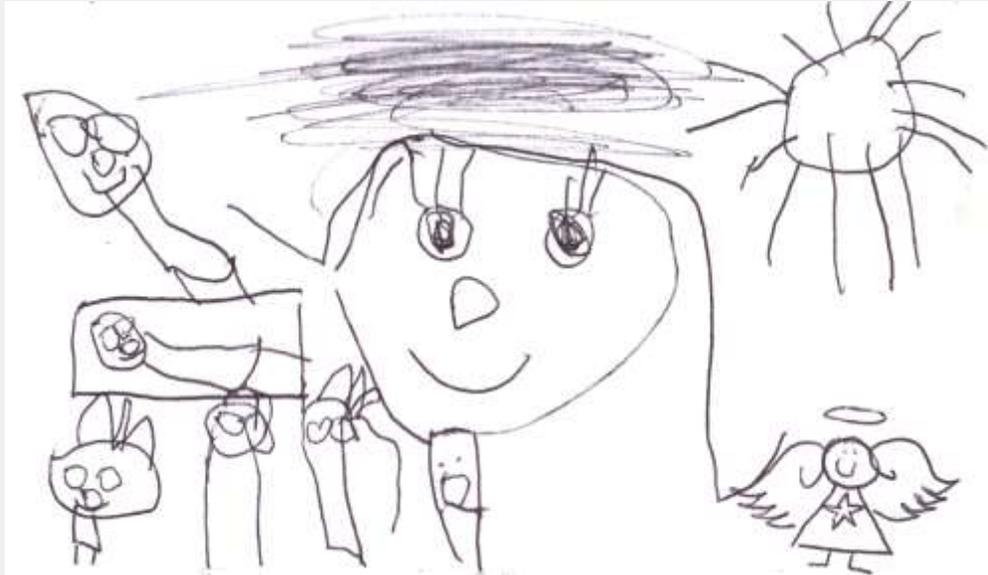
We were all very excited to be a part of the travelling crib this year for the first time and with so much going on at this time of year it was great to have a quiet evening to read the nativity story together and light the candle. Isaac enjoyed retelling the story with the crib and characters (with some modern twists – Mary & Joseph travelled to Butlins rather than Bethlehem)

Thank you for including us and
Happy Christmas to all.

With love

Ellie, Owen & Isaac Parry

17 December 2015



Both Evelyn and I loved this!
We prayed for peace.



From
Evelyn Pridmore & Deborah Pridmore

18 December 2015

Jack helped his daddy set the crib up while Mollyrose sang the song and read the prayer. I then read the Nativity Story.

It is a lovely way to prepare for Christmas. We all enjoyed taking part in this.

From
The Young Family



18 December 2015

We set up the crib and I read the nativity story to everyone. Then we said a prayer and I blew out the candle.

From
Isia Healy and Erin, Olivia, Sean & Kara

19 December 2015

We set the crib up. Dad read the Nativity story and we used the crib and figures to act out the story.

From
Taylor & Connie Schofield

19 December 2015

Emilia, Louie & Freddie couldn't wait to open the crib and set everything up. Emi & Louie started to tell us the Christmas story before we'd even got everything out. Grandma started to sing whilst mummy lit the candle. We began to use the book to tell the story but the children wanted to use their version! We sang Freddie's favourite 'Little Donkey' and 'Away in a Manger'.

A great way to remember the real meaning of Christmas during such a busy time.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

From

Caroline, Matthew, Emilia, Louie & Freddie x

20 December 2015

We read the Nativity with the crib. Heidi and Maddie acted out the story (we weren't sure who Joseph was – he was almost one of the 3 kings – thankfully Madeleine sorted that out!!)
We sang 'Away in a Manger'.
It was lots of fun.

From
Clare, Heidi & Maddie Roach

21 December 2015

Hosting the travelling crib is our favourite day of Advent. Anthony & Madeleine set up the crib and together we read the Nativity story, the prayer and sang the songs.

From

Gareth, Rebecca, Anthony & Madeleine Winks

23 December 2015

Bethany and Luke were very excited to receive the travelling crib. Luke and Bethany set up the crib. We then sang the song and said the prayer. We read the story together and then talked about the meaning of Christmas.

From
Bethany, Luke, Chris & Sam Jackson

24 December 2015

It was extra special to have the travelling crib tonight on Christmas eve. It is a special year with Matthew on his First Holy Communion journey too. Matthew placed all the figures carefully to create a lovely scene. He called everyone round (grandparents staying), we lit the candle, sang the song, said the prayer and then I read the story. We sat and reflected on the true meaning of Christmas.

Wishing everyone a happy and Holy Christmas.

Helen, Giles and Matthew Hart

The End

**Thank you for
being part of the
Travelling Crib
journey**