

TERM 2/YEAR 2 /CHRISTMAS (JOURNEYS)

For this week, we are taking a journey around the world to see how Christians celebrate Christmas in the Philippines, Peru and Uganda, thanks to <http://www.barnabasinschools.org.uk/find/christmas/ideas/1>

Please find additional details and ideas for this week of worship on the Barnabas in Schools website – especially the details about each country featured. The multicultural element gives plenty of scope for creating colourful and unusual Christmas displays.

SEAL link – Good to be me

Values link - Joy

GATHER	ENGAGE	RESPOND	SEND
<p>Use Christmas songs and carols from around the world, especially the country which is the focus for the day</p> <p>Glory to Christ, Son of Mary; born a child, you are one with us. Glory to God in the highest.</p> <p>Glory to Christ, Son of David; born to rule, you reign in our hearts. Glory to God in the highest.</p> <p>Glory to Christ, Son of man; born to save, you are the light of the world. Glory to God in the highest.</p>	<p>A Filipino Christmas (whole school) Matthew 2 v 9 Display a Filipino nativity picture – a crib set can be obtained through Articles of Faith. Such scenes are called 'belen' and many homes and churches will have their own version. Talk about the Filipino nativity: What do you like about this nativity scene and what puzzles you? What other features are particular to this part of the world? The 'parol', a five-pointed 3D star, is a special feature of Filipino homes and shopping centres in the Christmas season. They are also carried in parades and there are competitions to make the best and most colourful. They used to have candles inside but now, for safety, they usually have an electric light at the centre. They are made from bamboo sticks and rice paper. Make your own 2D parol using ten craft sticks arranged as a five-pointed star and stuck on to coloured cellophane cut to the dimensions of the star shape. Decorate this with pieces of red or green tinsel or streamers. When dry, attach a looped piece of string to one point so that it can be hung up in a window to let the light shine through. Remind pupils of the importance of the star in the Christmas story and of the importance of not giving up even when things are difficult as they were for the Wise Men who were following the star</p> <p>A Peruvian Christmas (whole school) Matthew 1 v 23 Display a Peruvian nativity picture - a similar crib set can be obtained via Tearfund's Created Gifts. Portable Peruvian nativity scenes are known as 'retablos' and are very popular. This custom dates back to the time of the first Spanish missionaries who would carry small altars around with them for festival days. These gradually developed into portable boxes with saints above the altar and scenes from everyday life below it. Now the retablos depict Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus, with local people crowding around.</p>	<p>Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen</p> <p>The pan pipes are a Peruvian wind instrument with a distinctive sound. Listen to music played on the Pan Pipes. Pray that 'Emmanuel',</p>	<p>May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ-child be ours this Christmas and for evermore. Amen</p> <p>May we be blessed with the spirit of the season, which is peace, The gladness of the season, which is hope, And the heart of the season, which is love. Amen</p>

DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

<p><i>If you have a crib scene, you may want to say a prayer of blessing:</i> As we meet to celebrate the birth of Christ, let us pray that God will bless this crib, that all who worship his Son, born of the Virgin Mary, may come to share his life in glory. Amen</p>	<p>Talk about the picture What do you like about this nativity set and what puzzles you? Pottery nativity figures are very common in Peru. Why do you think it is important that they are painted so brightly? Families in Peru often make or buy new figures for their nativity sets. Who from everyday life in your part of the world today would you include? What do you think this has to do with Christmas? The first missionaries to Peru taught the people to call Jesus 'Emmanuel', which means 'God with us'. The fact that God chose to become a person and to live a human life with all its pains and troubles is a key part of Christian teaching, and this seems to have made a deep impression on the Native American Indians. They had once been a proud people with their wealthy Inca Empire but were now conquered, so a God who comes alongside ordinary, lowly people was a God they could believe in.</p> <p>A Ugandan Christmas (whole school) Luke 2 v 14 Display a Ugandan nativity picture. Talk about the picture: What do they like about this nativity scene and what puzzles them? What other features are particular to this part of the world? Focus on the gifts of the wise men: If you were bringing three useful gifts for Jesus from your part of the world, what would these be? What gifts would you chose today that symbolised what you think about who Jesus is - a king, someone who brings people close to God, someone who understands suffering? The history of the Christian faith in Uganda is only about 150 years old. Its national Church has been through some testing times. In 1884, Bishop James Hannington was killed along with his African porters. Some years later, young converts faced death by fire and are remembered today as the first African martyrs. In 1977, Bishop Janani Luwum was murdered because he spoke out bravely against the injustice of the government of his day. Today, Uganda is a relatively stable and peaceful country, leading the way in this part of Africa. Bringing various tribal groups to work together peacefully is always a challenge, and the promise of peace through the birth of Jesus, is an important message for all Ugandans every Christmas. Where is a prayer for peace needed this Christmas?</p> <p>Joy to the World (class or key stage worship) Luke 2 v 1-20</p>	<p>God is with us, can be a prayer for those who need to feel God with them this Christmas.</p> <p>Here is a prayer used in Uganda: <i>Blessed are you, O Christ Child, that your cradle was so low that shepherds, poorest and simplest of earthly people, could kneel beside you and look, level-eyed, into the face of God. Amen</i></p>	
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DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

	<p>Collect together images relating to Christmas from around the world., including a star; a poinsettia; a camel; a crib scene; an Advent wreath; candle; an angel; shoes (put out for presents in central Europe on 6th December - St Nicholas' day); holly; a Christmas cactus; mistletoe; bells; a Christmas rose; a Christmas tree; a stocking. Hide these around the room and begin with a 'Christmas treasure hunt', challenging the children to collect the images. Use these images as a discussion starter about the wide range of symbols used for this festival and how they relate to the Christmas story.</p> <p>Learn how to say happy Christmas in various languages:</p> <p>Albanian: Gezur Krislinjden Arabic: Idah Saidan Wa Sanah Jadidah Bengali: Shuvo Naba Barsha Bohemian: Vesele Vanoce Brazilian: Boas Festas e Feliz Ano Novo Chinese (Mandarin): Kung His Hsin Nien bing Chu Shen Tan Dutch (The Netherlands): Prettig Kerstfeest Eskimo (Inupik): Jutdlime pivdluarit ukiortame pivdluaritlo! Esperanto: Gajan Kristnaskon Finnish: Hyvaa joulua French: Joyeux Noel Gaelic (Irish): Nolaig mhaith Dhuit Agus Bliain Nua Fe Mhaise Gaelic (Scots): Nollaig chridheil agus Bliadhna mhath ùr! German: Fröhliche Weihnachten Greek: Kala Christouyenna! Hindi: Shub Naya Baras Indonesian: Selamat Hari Natal Iraqi: Idah Saidan Wa Sanah Jadidah Italian: Buone Feste Natalizie Japanese: Shinnen omedeto. Kurisumasu Omedeto Maori: Meri Kirihimete Norwegian: God Jul, or Gledelig Jul Philippines: Maligayan Pasko! Portuguese: Feliz Natal Spanish: Feliz Navidad Urdu: Naya Saal Mubarak Ho Welsh: Nadolig Llawen</p>	<p>The Barnabas in Schools website provides words for 'Joy to the World' in the languages of the Philippines, Peru and Uganda – you may want to try singing this.</p>	
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