



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF
ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

3100 W. Spring Creek Parkway

Plano, Texas 75023

(972) 596-5505

Fax (972) 985-7573

Dear Parents:

As we mentioned in the E-Newsletter, we are excited to embark on our 2nd annual **Home for the Holidays**. Last year's feedback was really encouraging – so many families commented how nice it was to have this opportunity to share time and faith with their family. Of course, we can and should do this anytime, but this initiative seemed to give people more space to do so.

You may remember from last year. Instead of meeting up here for regular class, we are sending home materials (see back side) for you and your family to share faith with each other during the Advent season. No more having to juggle schedules and drive up here. You will be able to do the activities when you want, where you want in the comfy confines of your home without having to travel up here. ***Not only will this save time, but more importantly it will provide a great opportunity to share your thoughts, feelings and faith with one another.***

Find a time that works best for you (perhaps it is the time they are normally in their faith formation group). **Do the activities together as a family and then turn in the Completion Form to the Children's or Youth Ministry Office when you return in January.** You only need to turn in one Completion Form per family (not matter how many kids you may have).

Please let us know if you have any questions at all. We pray that you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas Season! ***God Bless and we will see you at Mass!***

-Seton Faith Formation Staff

Preschool and Kindergarten Faith Formation

At Home Session - Advent Packet

Parents and Guardians,

It is extremely important that parents be involved in the faith formation of their children. Many of you are very active here at Seton and in our Children's Ministry programs, teaching and aiding the program in many ways. We wish to give you the opportunity to work with your child one on one with the Advent lesson. **There will not be classes in the Faith Formation Center 11/19/17 – 1/03.18** Please complete the lesson and activities listed below with your child at home.

1. Read Advent - We Prepare for Jesus and answer questions
2. The Birth of Jesus! worksheet
3. Complete Advent ornament activity
 - a. Color ornament
 - b. Cut it out (adult supervision please)
 - c. Hole punch the top of ornament
 - d. Use a piece of string to place through and tie into a knot
 - e. Place on tree

Advent - We Prepare for Jesus

Advent is the first season of the Church Year. It is a four week season of hope and expectation. It is a wonderful time of preparation for the great feast of Christmas. Advent is a time of reflecting on all that the coming of Jesus means to us and to the world. We are to live Advent. We are to reach out to others during this season and bring them hope. We are to share God's love.

The scripture readings for the first half of Advent speak to us of hope for the future. We focus on the coming of Jesus at the end of time. We live in constant hope and expectation of living with Jesus in glory. The readings for the second half of Advent focus on the coming of Jesus at Bethlehem. God's promise to his people was fulfilled in a way more glorious than anyone could have expected: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (John 3:16). We celebrate all that Jesus' coming means to us.

Jesus is the light of the world. The candles that we light during Advent remind us of his coming as the light of our lives. Uncovering these themes of Advent help children learn that they are to follow him always in all things. Through prayer, service, and participation, children learn the fruits of living in hopeful expectation of the Messiah. Come, Lord Jesus.

1. How can we share God's love during advent?
2. Why do we light candles during Advent?
3. How do we share the joy of Christmas with others?

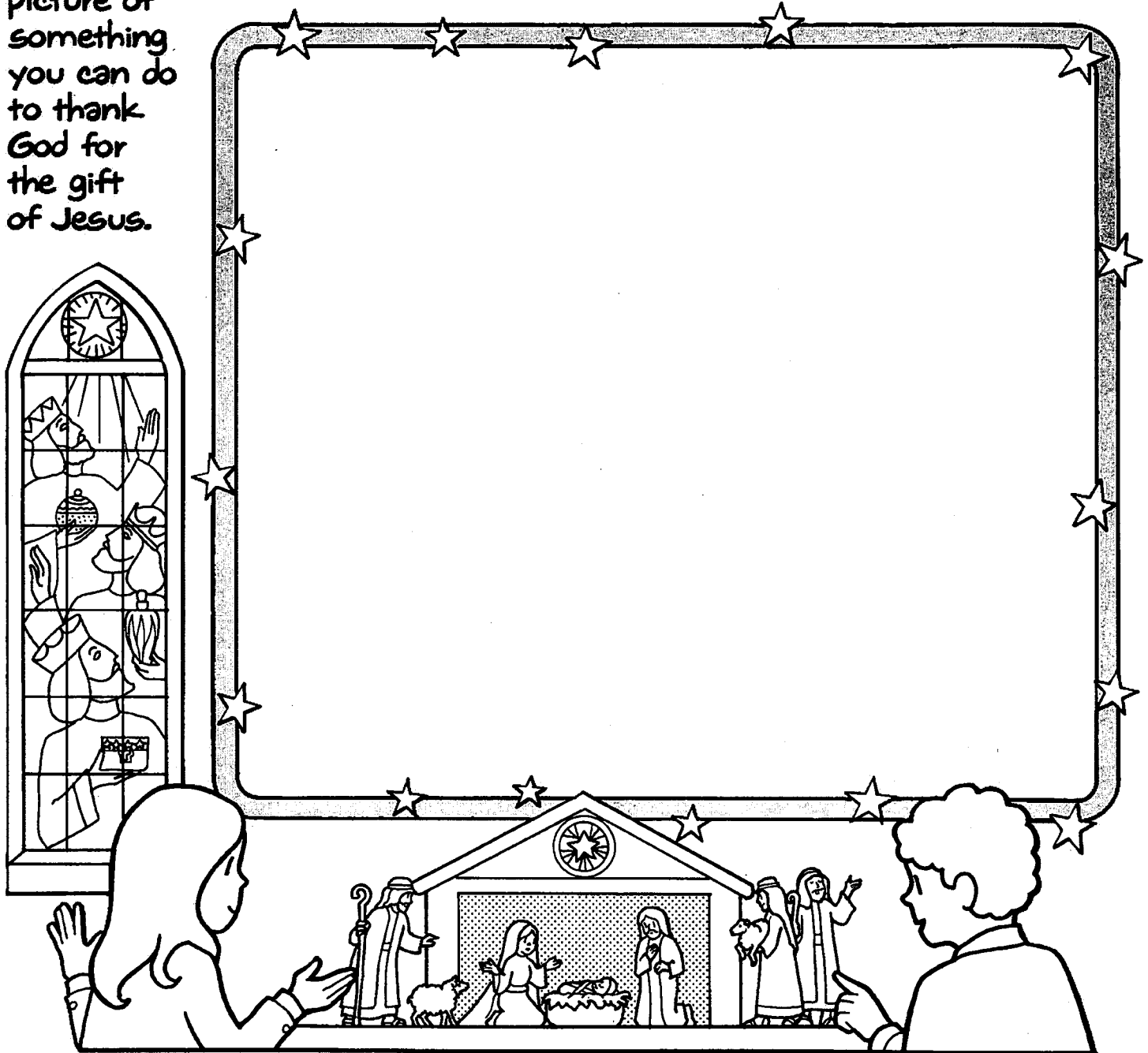
Excerpt from Seasons of Celebration by Patricia Mathson.



Soo--

On Christmas Day we celebrate
THE BIRTH OF JESUS!

Draw a picture of something you can do to thank God for the gift of Jesus.



Completion Form

We, as a family, have shared faith and completed the Home for the Holidays activities.

Student Names (please list all of your kids in the Faith Formation/CREW Program)

What we learned...

Feedback/Input (positive or negative) on the process or activities...

Parent Signature

Please turn this page in (one per family) to the Faith Formation Offices when you return in January. Thank you and God Bless!