## *Christmas Starts Here*

## *C:\Users\Anne\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\USHRRKC8\MC900431559[1].png Welcoming Children and Families to consider ‘Real’ Christmas.*

An idea for a local church to invite people to experience and spend

some time in the church (or hall) during Advent to enable them to

recognise Jesus’ coming into the world.

**Team:**

Set up a team to host, welcome & support those who drop in.

**Team tasks:**

\* People available to listen to/Pray with those who ‘pop in’

\* Mary and Joseph to invite people in and talk with them

\* Prayer snowflakes.... ‘Thank you’ we are all different...and loved

\* Prayers on a Local map...on ‘baubles’ requests of prayer for Leeds families and places

\* Glitter pipe-cleaners.....make stars and trees - Jesus is promised for all

\* Cinnamon-toast words/characters – using letter/shape cutters on cinnamon bread and put into

toaster!

\* Calendars- pray for the year ahead

\* Decorating crowns- ‘you are special’ – celebrate

\* Christmas smells good.....Frankincense and Myrrh candles in a comfortable space

in which to reflect.

\* Christmas music : ambiance for a focussed meditative space with comfy seating/cushions

\* Baby Jesus: a cradle/cot and some small ‘baby Jesus’ pictures:

Useful/needed items in the church/room:

> A Christmas Tree or two >Map of Local area

> Cushions and blankets >sticky pads for attaching things

> board to mount map on......or floor? >glitter pipe-cleaners

> toaster(s) >letter cutters &butter &cinnamon

> crown blanks- gold/silver pre-cut out >snowflakes

>jewels for crowns

> costume for Mary and Joseph  >small cot and baby doll (straw/blankets)

> cards to stick calendars on (or small foam sheets) >Frankincense & Myrrh tea lights

> CD player  >Small calendars

>’gentle’ Christmas music

> Nativity set suitable to play with >glue sticks/pens/scissors/card/paper

> **Two people to ‘be’ Mary and Joseph and invite people in**