



Family Advent Hunt 1: Messages

TRAIL



If you wanted to send a message to someone – how would you do it? Letter, What's App, Facebook, email, telephone call, carrier pigeon...

In the story of the first Christmas. Messages are often brought by an angel. An angel is a messenger from God. We don't really know what an angel looks like but often they are shown in white and particularly at Christmas we think of them offering songs and music in praise to God.



THE STORY....

A young girl was busy at home minding her own business, when all of a sudden an angel appeared. The angel said, 'Do not be afraid, I have a very important message from God. God has blessed you and you are going to have a baby, a baby boy and you should name him Jesus. He will be great and be called Son of the God Most High'. Mary was confused by this. She was planning to marry a man called Joseph. But Mary trusted and loved God and replied, 'may it happen to me as you have said'.

When Joseph heard Mary's news, he too was baffled and a bit cross. However, he also received a message from an angel, this time in a dream, 'Mary's baby is God's son. He is very special. Call him Jesus, he is Emmanuel. God with us'. Joseph heard and believed the message the angel had given him. Mary and Joseph were married. To be continued...

As you are out and about on your walks this week, see if you can find the following... Let us know how you get on. Perhaps a parent or carer could post a photo on Facebook or email us at office@stmarysely.org



Post boxes are used to send letters to other people. How many can you spot on your walk? Do they all look the same or are some different?



In our story there is someone who shares a name with the name of the street where the Post Office in Ely is found. Can you find the post office? What is the name of the street?



Today we often use wifi to connect to the internet and send messages. Can you find either of these symbols on your walk (HINT: you may need to look carefully in shop and cafe windows.)



Can you leave a message for someone on your walk? You could use sticks, stones, leaves or other things that you safely find? What was your message?



Somewhere near the tourist information centre (Oliver Cromwell's House) is a very special message written on a bench? Can you find it? What is the recipe for?

At the front of church there is a crib scene. Which characters can you spot?

If you close your eyes and think of a word for one or more of these characters what do you think of? You may like to say a prayer to thank God for the message of Christmas and the Good News that Jesus brings.

