



Family Advent Hunt 4: Gifts

TRAIL



What is the best gift that anyone has ever given you?

Why did you like it?

What is the best gift that you have given someone else?
When we buy a present for someone we might think about what they like or need. In the Christmas story the Wise Men brought gifts with very special meanings...

THE STORY....



Three wise men also visited the baby Jesus, the new born King. They travelled for many months following a bright star from far away places. When they arrived in Jerusalem they headed for the palace as this is where they thought they would find him.

At the palace King Herod was secretly angry about the idea that there may be another King. This could be a threat to him. So he came up with a plan. He told the Wise Men that the new King was not at the palace but when they found him they should tell him where he was so he too could go and worship him (he really wanted to kill the new King). Later in a dream the Wise Men were warned not to return to Herod as it was a trick.

The Wise Men followed the star all the way to Bethlehem. When they found the baby Jesus they worshipped the small child and offered gifts with a special meaning. Gold for a King; frankincense, a holy incense used to worship God; and myrrh which symbolises the death that Jesus will go on to suffer to save us all. Jesus was the greatest gift ever given by God to everyone.

www.stmarysely.org

ST MARY'S
ELY



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



Sometimes gifts don't need to be something we buy someone. Sometimes gifts can be the time we give to people, to help them, to be with them, to play with them and to listen to them. On your walk how many different clocks or other ways of telling the time can you find? _____



The Wise Men came to find a new King. There are three pubs in Ely with royal sounding names can you find all three:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



We sometimes think of the Wise Men like three Kings. Can you find a building on 'Waterside' (as you walk towards the river from Forehill) that may have an item that each of our Kings might like to wear? (Clue: Number 31) _____



As Jesus grew up and started his ministry here on Earth, he spent time with those that were poor and on the edges of society, people who were not well liked or left out. Some of those were the sick and Jesus made them better. On St Mary's Street, on the same side as the Post Office, is a building that was also built to help 'heal the sick'. What was this building called and when was it built?



On the Palace Green opposite the front of the Cathedral is a present to the Ely Rifle Volunteers from Queen Victoria. What is this? Where did it come from?

At the front of church there is a crib scene. Which characters have joined the stable?

The crib scene is now complete. This Christmas story is for all of us here today in Ely. You may like to close your eyes for a moment and imagine holding the best present ever. What does it feel like? You may like to imagine now that, the present is Jesus. What might that mean for you this Christmas time?

You may like to take a little time to thank God for the best present ever!

