



The Nativity Trail

Prayers and poems by the children of
St. Thomas Becket School



Advent 2020

Advent is the time leading up to the celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas.

Get ready: 4 weeks to prepare for Jesus' coming!

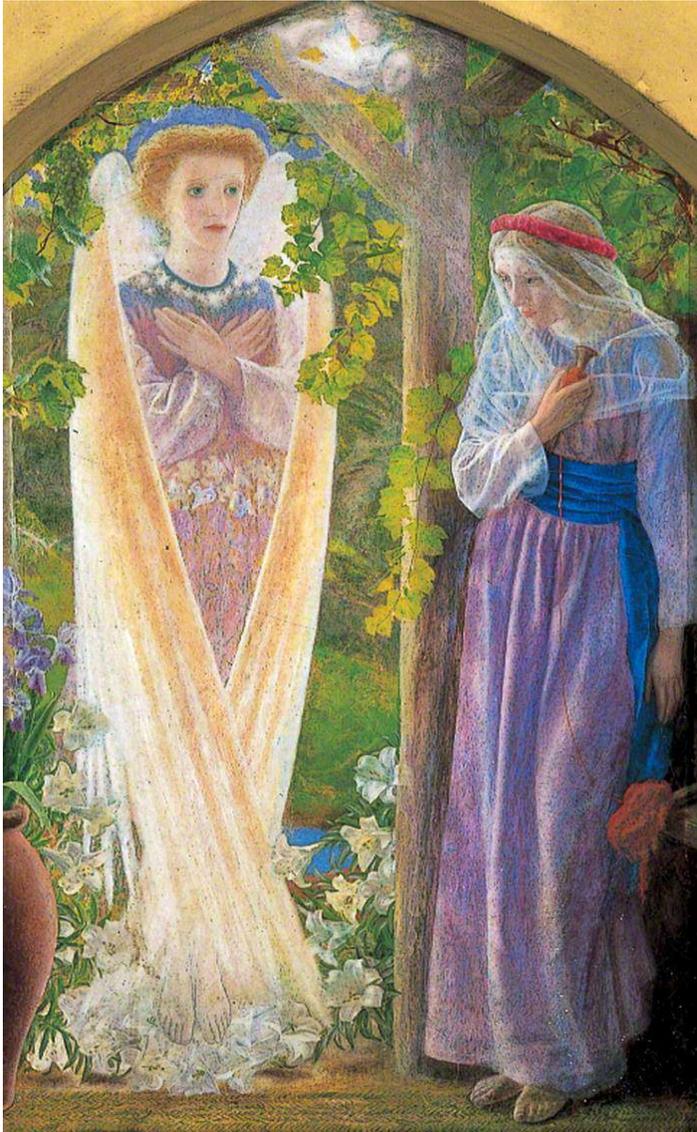
Get ready: 4 weeks to make room for him in my life!

Get ready: 4 weeks to say, "How I want to be like him!"

Get ready: 4 weeks to love one another better!

*Prepare for Jesus' birthday by remembering the events leading to his birth.
Join the Nativity trail and wonder at what was seen and heard.*

The Annunciation by Arthur Hughes



The angel Gabriel was sent by God to Mary who lived in a town in Galilee called Nazareth. The angel told her she was to have a baby and she must call him Jesus.

Friday 4th December 2020

Once there was a day
where Mary felt weak
When one flash of light
came beaming down like a streak

Not knowing ^{what} would happen or what
would come.

A glorious angel came down from the sun
Mary felt shocked and confused.

There will have a baby, there will
call it Jesus, the heavenly son.

Mary was puzzled
not sure what to say
but then she knew what the
right thing was "Yes", she
said with joy in her heart.

Then off the angel went
up and above.

St. Brigid

Friday 4th December 2020
Expectations of Mary

Dear Diary,
Today, the most holy thing happened to me. I was getting some water from the river and was bringing it back home, when suddenly, an angel appeared right in front of my eyes! He called me most highly favoured lady and told me that I will have a child and call him Jesus. He will take the throne like his ancestor David; he will be called Son of the Highest. He then walked away and ascended into the clouds. I am very scared now because Joseph may break up with me or even ask for a divorce because he will think I had a baby with another man. I hope the angel that visited me visits him as well to tell him I didn't cheat and we are having the Son of God.

From Most Highly Favoured Lady, Mary.

Lisa-Marie
St Benedict.



St. Benedict



Hollie
St. Brigid

Friday 14 December 2020

The Annunciation

The Lord is my son
How can it be?

I was just collecting water

The old water well with the rusty bucket

All of the a sudden the Angel Gabriel glow down to give me
good news.

He said "Mary you will have a son and he will be called Jesus."

I sat there and replied trembling "I know of no man"

But the only thing Gabriel said was "He will come from
the line of David"

Before he glowed away

I accepted his offer

I sat there - bewildered

Wondering what happened.

Worried at first

But I slowly I eased into happiness.

Amazed that my son will be the Messiah

I must tell my betrothe the good news.

St. Brigid



St. Brigid

Dear Diary,

Today I received astonishing news. It all began when I came back from collecting some fresh water and before I knew, I felt a strong feeling in my heart. It was a very strong one. Suddenly, it told me to turn around - so I did. As soon as I did, a powerful light slightly blinded me. As it faded away, I saw a beautiful silhouette which I was an angel. He told me I am going to have the Son of God. I didn't feel worthy but he told me I am favoured. I told him I am God's servant so I agreed to have God's child. He also told me that Elizabeth is pregnant six months!

After the angel left, a huge wave of anxiety overcame my mind. But you're not married? What will Joseph think? Although I was nervous, I knew I would have to put up with it. I'm going to ask Elizabeth for some advice since I am slightly stressed but I'll go later.

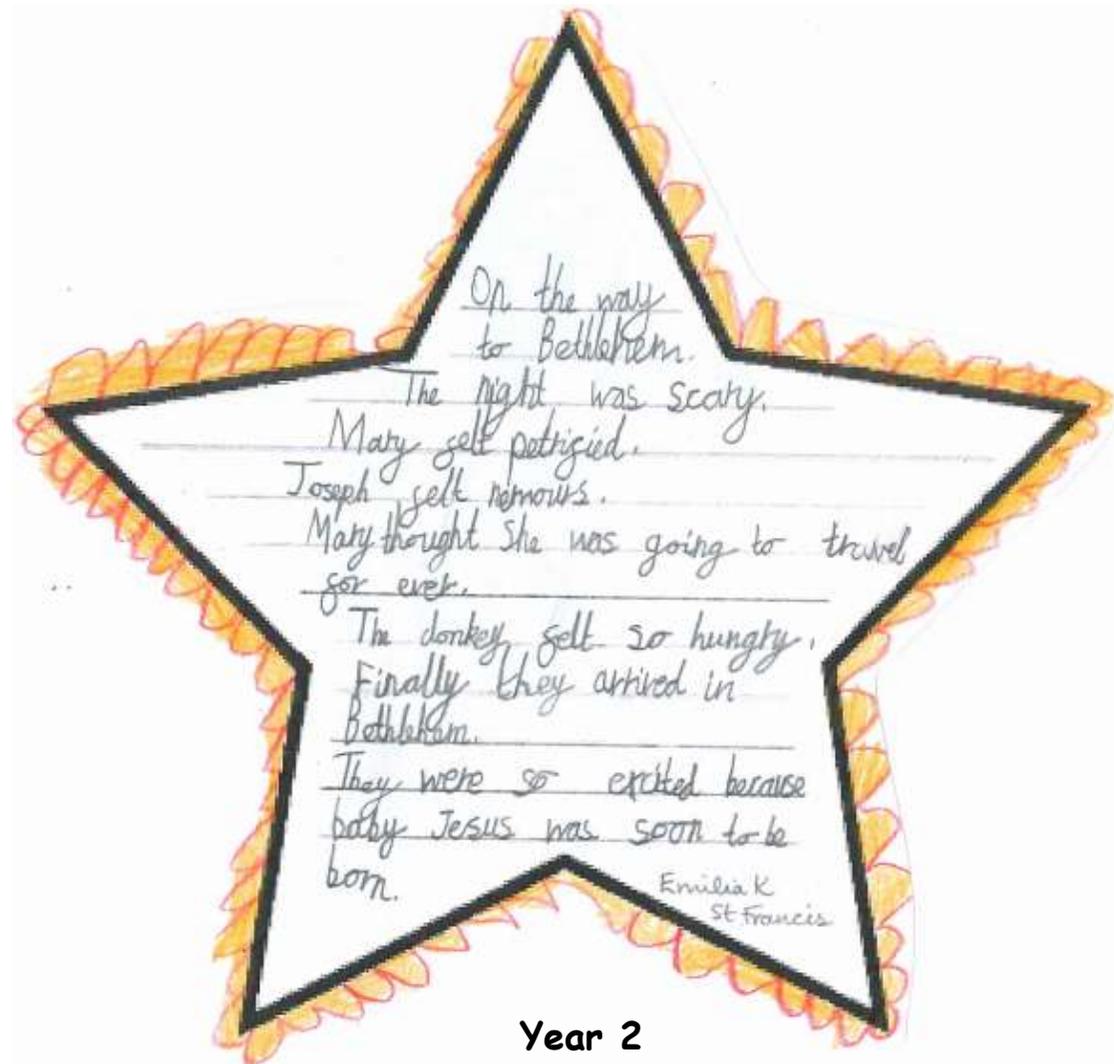
I couldn't believe his words at first, but after a solid two minutes I did. I can't believe I will be the Mother of the holy Messiah! I am certain my life will change immensely. I was speechless. I couldn't utter a word. Out of all women God chose me; I was slightly perplexed about why it was me. I forgot to mention that his name would be Jesus. Now, I am going to go and serve the one and only holy God.

Lofra
St Benedict

The Journey to Bethlehem



A census was to be taken so Joseph and Mary travelled up to Judaea, to a town called Bethlehem, to be registered.



Year 2

Mary
was
feeling happy to
have a baby! Jesus!
Joseph was very
worried. They had a
donkey and Mary
was sitting down
on the donkey.
Joseph was looking
for a room. They
went to Bethlehem.
Aiyanna
St Francis

malik
On the way to
Bethlehem the stars were
shining in the windy
sky. Mary felt scared
and tired. Joseph
felt exhausted
and cold. The donkey
felt hungry and
cold. They were so
happy when they got
to Bethlehem.

Year 2

Elena

Travelling
to Bethlehem

was very long because
it went on from day to night. Mary is
Excited because she's having a special
baby called Jesus. Mary and Joseph
are hungry because they
haven't had any food.
Mary is lonely because
she's only with Joseph.
Mary is worried because
it's dark and she might get lost.

Year 2

Elena

Mary is
tired because

it's a long Journey to
Bethlehem. Mary is cold because at night
it gets very cold.

Fine

Year 2

Travelling to Bethlehem on
a dark and cold night
worried that they don't have
a place to sleep. The donkey
might not have food to eat.

Mary and Joseph went on
a donkey to Bethlehem.
Mary and Joseph went
on a journey to
Bethlehem.

Travelling

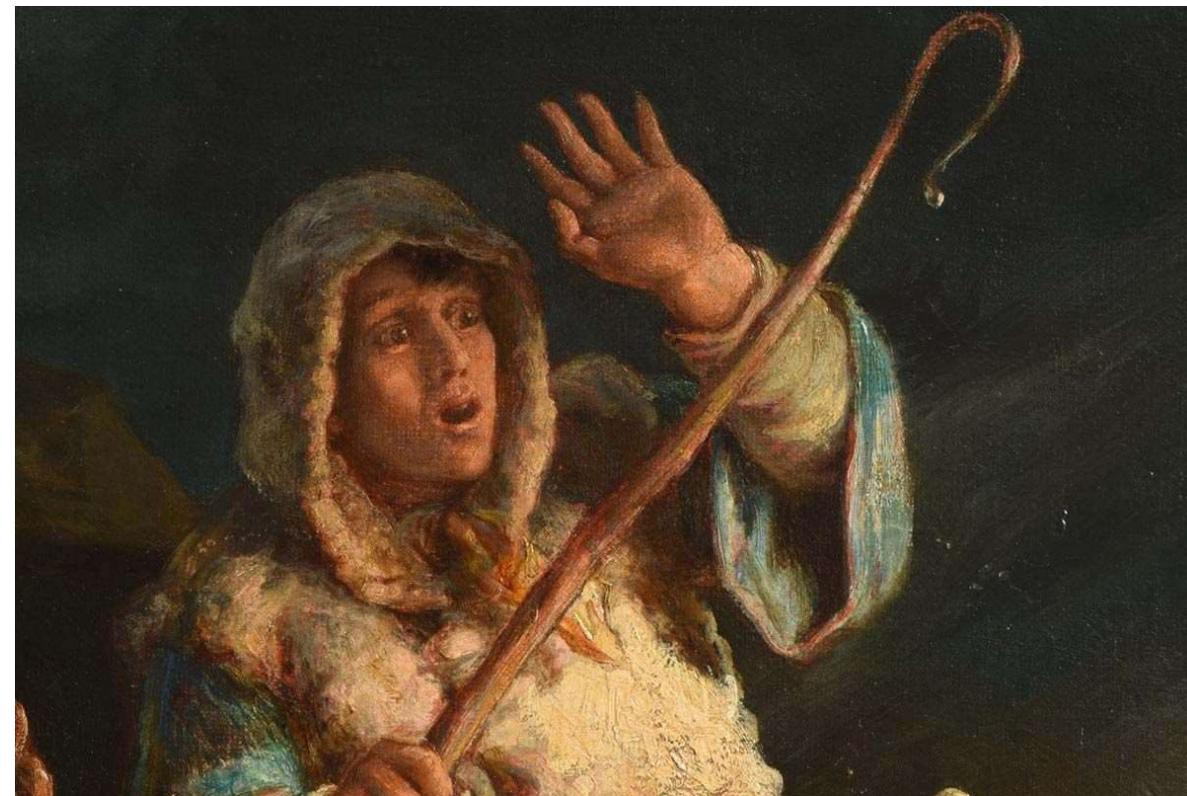
On a donkey

and it was a long journey
and the donkey was hungry.

Mary and Joseph had to go
to Bethlehem to be counted.

Mary and Joseph felt sad
and hungry. Mary and
Joseph were worried.
They felt tired.

Mari



In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified but the angel said "Do not be afraid. Listen. I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

Luke Ch2 v8-12

The Shepherds



How did you feel when the angel appeared?
Did it change you?
What went through your mind?

I felt scared, afraid, worried, shocked I saw a bright light in the sky and then an angel appeared it said to me dont be afraid the it said a new king is born in bethlehem and lots of angels appeared singing then they disappeared. Yes it did chase me but I dont know why it came to us. My mind was terrified I thought I was going to die but I got better when the angel said dont be afraid.

Monty St. Bernadette

The Shepherds

Dianka
St. Peter



How did you feel when the angel appeared?
Did it change you?
What went through your mind?

One calm, dark evening ~~we~~ I was looking after my sheep. In a couple of minutes something amazing happened! There was a lovely, soft voice in the sky. All of us looked up, and suddenly we saw a white, shimmery angel! We felt ~~surprised~~ surprised and extremely happy. The angel said, "There is a new born baby in town. You shepherds are welcome to come."

All of us were very shocked, excited and joyful. It was such a big ~~worrying~~ ~~decisive~~ decision to make. Should we stay or go? Now we decided and we will go.

We saw the baby Jesus in a manger with hay around. There was Mary, Joseph and many different animals.

Dianka

Jesus was swaddled and wrapped up in a cloth. Then we went back and we? I promise I'll always remember baby Jesus.

The Shepherds



How did you feel when the angel appeared?
Did it change you?
What went through your mind?

Last night I was watching my sheep when suddenly a blaze of light flashed before my eyes. Then an angel appeared and me and my fellow shepherd friends were terrified. But the angel said don't be afraid a new baby has been born he is sleeping in a manger Bethlehem. So we left our sheep and went to Bethlehem. Then I spread the word to more people.

Layla St. Bernadette

The Shepherds



How did you feel when the angel appeared?

Did it change you?

What went through your mind?

My ^{friends} and I were shepherds. We were looking after our flock so ~~none~~ that none of the animals can capture them. Just then something amazing happened.

It was so bright I couldn't see. It looked like a human but with wings. An angel I said to my friends. The angel said, "Shepherds my name is angel ~~Gabriel~~ Gabriel. In Bethlehem there is a king of all kings, people, worlds and animals His name is Jesus." I said, "Where is this baby? How do we find it?" Angel Gabriel said, "Follow this star it will lead you there." Just then it vanished ^{and} I saw a star.

We and my three friends were amazed because out of anyone God chose us. We decided to follow the star. We were so excited.

On the way we saw sheep, cows, lambs all sorts of ~~and~~ animals. When we arrived there ~~there~~ was a stable. We were so lucky.

There on a trough a little baby called Jesus lay in a manger. It was the most remarkable sight I have had ever seen. All around I saw Mary Joseph, animals and angel Gabriel above.

After a ~~while~~ while we left. We slept for the rest of the night. ~~As~~ As we were sleeping we thought about our day. How it changed our lives I am so grateful this is the most miraculous miracle ever.

Nathan St. Peter

The Shepherds



How did you feel when the angel appeared?
Did it change you?
What went through your mind?

I felt astonished, terrified and shocked when the Angel appeared.

I changed me alot because meeting the saviour of the World will be the best thing that happened to me ever.

At a moment I thought in my mind that this wasn't happening.

Aseda St. Bernadette

The Shepherds



How did you feel when the angel appeared?
Did it change you?
What went through your mind?

It was a very dark night. I was on a field and suddenly, an angel apired. I was amazed as the angle said, "A very special boy is being born in a stable." I couldn't believe my eyes, what will his name be? The angle said, "His name is Jesus he will be the light of the world." The angle flew back to heaven and in his place a glowing star apired. I didn't know what it was or how it got there. When the angle left I changed som how, maby the saviour will change the world into a ~~bet~~ beter place. I felt so so happy and excited at the same time. I

I started to follow the glowing star and after some

time a saw the stable that the angle was talking about. A baby laded in some hay with a girl called Mary and a boy called Joph. There were lots of animals in the stable my sheep had to down next to some hay. Everyone was silent.

Imogen St. Peter

*Sing this Carol with your family.
Imagine you were one of the shepherds.
How would you have felt?*

While shepherds watch'd their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.
"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind;
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind."
"To you, in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line
The Saviour who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign:
The heav'nly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid."



The Adoration of the shepherds by Bonifazio de' Pitati
(called Veronese)



Dear Heavenly Father,
Please help me to share my
gifts of helping people when
they're hurt, sad or alone.
Please allow me to be kind
to others when I'm playing
with them. Thank you for
sending Jesus to us.
Amen

(Carsten St. Therese)

Dear Heavenly Father,
Please help me to share my gifts
of time, kindness, helpfulness,
generosity and forgiveness.
Please allow me to be friendly to
others when it is Advent and all
the time. Thank you God for my
friends, family and teachers.
Thank you for our world and what
my teacher helps me to learn.
Amen

(Jakub St. Therese)

*So they hurried away and found Mary and Joseph, and
the baby lying in the manger.*

Luke Ch 2 v16-17

Year 4 Prayers

Dear Heavenly Father,
Please help me to share my gifts of generosity,
kindness and being helpful to others. Please allow me
to be helpful and loyal to others when they need help
or advice. Thank you for not leaving our side and
keeping me confident. I appreciate what you have done
for me and for others, also thank you for sending your
Son to live with us on Earth.
Amen

Lydia St. Therese

Dear Lord,

Please allow me to be aware of other's feelings when I'm
speaking to them. Please help me to share my gifts of
enthusiasm when I can see someone needs help.

Amen

Adaeze St. Paul

Dear Lord,
Please help me to share my gifts of love, kindness and loyalty. Thank
you for giving me the confidence to try new things. Thank you Lord
for helping us have forgiveness. Lord, please allow me to be caring to
others when they're down or sad. Thank you for sending Jesus Christ
down to earth. Please help us to love one another like you taught us.
Amen

Eabha St. Paul



Dear Lord,

Thank you for all of the wonderful gifts of you have given me in this beautiful world. Please allow me to be the person I am meant to be and help me give the gifts of love, loyalty and hope.

Amen

Sasha St. Paul

*Who will you pray for this Christmas?
What special gift can you give to others?*

Dear Lord,

Thank you for my good deeds and help please me share them so other people can have some too. Please allow me to be generous to others, loving, caring and sharing.

Amen

Gabriel St. Paul



The Visit of the Magi

A Diary extract from a Wise Man.

As I was on my way to the new born king, I saw the brightest star in my life. May be it will lead me to the new born king. It was the brightest most biggest star ever! It was a dark starry night and I was wondering how the King was special. Once I got there (Bethlehem) I thought he would be in the rich wealthy Palace. Our gifts were Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. We've been travelling for months, where is this baby?.....

By DeMarco. St Martins, Year 5.

Remarkably, I had found a big bright star brighter than anything I had ever seen as an astronomer..... ..I found that it had been the sign of a new born king. We are going to try and find this king and worship him. I have packed gold, as a sign of kingship, the other wise men have packed frankincense for priesthood and myrrh for burial.....

...It's been 12 months and we have found this Saviour and he is surprisingly in a lowly house. We gave him our gifts and found him quietly with his mum. We knew he was a King. We knelt down...it was an honour to meet him. It wasn't what we expected.

By Sophia. St Martins, Year 5.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. "Where is the infant king of the Jews?" they asked.

"We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage."

Matthew Ch2 v1-3





The Star of Bethlehem by Edward Burne-Jones

Dear diary,
What an eventful night yesterday! The wise men and I were looking at the beautiful stars when we saw a particularly bright star shining. We were convinced that a King had been born. Later that night, we set off to find the King of the Jews.

Days later, we arrived in Jerusalem where we stopped off at King Herod's castle. He said to find this king so he could also worship him, but all Herod wanted to do was kill him.

We finally arrived at a stable where a baby lay. I wasn't expecting a King to be born in a stable! It was such an amazing sight and I felt overjoyed. As my gift, I bought myrrh which represented that the baby Messiah was a human and one day he would die for us all. In my dream, God sent us a message saying, 'Don't go back and pass Herod's castle as he wants to kill the new baby, Jesus!' When dawn arrived, the Kings and I, Mary, Joseph and Jesus travelled back to Nazareth.

By Lily. St. Cecilia



Brilliant prayer Dania. 9.12.2020

Dania
Dear God,

Thank you for looking after me. Thank you for loving me.



I promise to be kind to my friends and my two best cousins.

Amen Dania St. Elizabeth

Year 1 Prayers

Arya 9.12.2020

Dear God,

Thank you for loving me and thank you for making the trees.



I promise to be a good big sister and a good girl.

Amen Arya Arya St. Elizabeth



Lilya St. Joseph

Dear God,

Thank you God for giving us baby Jesus to look after us.



I promise to pray when something bad happens to me. When it is Christmas I want to pray for happiness. I will look after kids and go around the playground.

Amen A beautiful prayer Lilya

Dear God, x mara

Thank you for baby
Jesus to take
care of us. ✓



I promise to be good for
Miss Marshall and
be kind to my family. ✓

Amen

A lovely prayer Amara ✨
Amara St. Joseph

Sana 9.12.2020

Dear God,

Brilliant Prayer Sana

Thank you for making
slewers so we
can get oxygen. ✓



I promise to look after my
Baby sister. ✓

Amen

Sana St. Elizabeth

Savannah

Dear God,

Thank you God for giving us
baby Jesus to look after
us. ✓



I promise to do the dishes and be
kind to Santa and to be kind
to my family. ✓

Amen

A lovely prayer Savannah ✨
Savannah St. Joseph



Away in a manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus
I ask thee to stay.
Close by me forever,
And love me I pray.

Bless all the dear children,
In thy tender care.
And take them to heaven,
To be with thee there.



You may like to sing this Carol with your family on
Christmas Day.
It will help you to remember why we are celebrating Christmas.



A very happy and holy
Christmas
to all the children of
St. Thomas Becket School
and their families.