

## First Grade Family Creche Project – 2011-12

All families with a child in first grade are invited to work together as a family to create a simple Christmas creche. The work will be your expression of God's humble story of becoming one with us.

Keeping to the simplicity of the story, the family chooses very "simple" materials. The choices are endless. Some suggestions are paper, cardboard, wood, stones, metal, beans, dried fruit or nuts, rice, cork, cloth, tin foil, straw, sticks, noodles, or the like. This work is not meant to be competitive. Make your creche be a simple statement of the wonderful event of Almighty God's choosing to become a human child and to be born in a manger in a barn. The recommended size of your creche is that it fit easily on a TV tray.

Each family does its own Bible reading and study, chooses its own materials, and works on its own style of creche.

Suggested schedule for families:

1. Each family reads and discusses the Christmas story from Luke 2:1-20 and begins thinking about materials and the design of a creche.
2. Finalize the design. Find simple materials around the house without purchasing things, if possible, and put it all together.
3. Read the story again making any finishing touches. Let it become the family's central focus for the holiday season.
4. **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9 or 16** – Bring your creche to class. Fr. Curt will be blessing them Wednesday, November 16. This will be the only day Fr. Curt blesses the creches.
5. The creches will be moved to tables in the gym for the whole community to enjoy and admire during Advent.
6. Wednesday, December 14 (last class session before Christmas) families are invited to take their creches home to be enjoyed with family and friends. If for some reason you are unable to take it that night, be sure to pick it up Saturday or Sunday or at the Christmas Eve Mass. They will still be on the tables in the gym.

This project is an opportunity to share faith life as a gift with the larger community. There is a saying that goes – "It is in the intensity of the longing that does all the work." So put your heart in it, and we will all be blessed because of it. Any questions or concerns please call us at (763) 545-1443 or e-mail at [janstmarys@yahoo.com](mailto:janstmarys@yahoo.com). Thank you for your wholehearted cooperation in this blessed work.