



## Focus Scripture – Luke 2:1-20

We are living very different lives this year! Although we cannot meet in person, we can still celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ together. The baby who changed the world! Messy Church at Home focuses on the true meaning of Christmas and explores our journey to how Jesus was born on a very special Christmas night!

# Messy Christmas Outline

adapted from Messy Church Canada Advent  
theme materials by Nancy Rowe - St. George's AC, Georgetown  
(Regional Coordinator for MCC) <https://messychurch.ca/>

**Welcome – Nikki**

**Opening Prayer – Lisa**

Dear Lord:

We are living very different lives this year! Although we cannot meet in person, we can still celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ together. The baby who changed the world!

Be with us here tonight as we explore the journey to how Jesus was born on a very special Christmas night!

Amen.



# Magi - Jean P

## **You will need:**

3 pieces of Cardstock with pink at the top

Googly eyes

Markers

Gold crown

Material piece

Wool for the hair

Jewels for crown

## **How to make it:**

1. Choose a piece of material to be the clothing for your magi.
2. Glue on the clothing below the pink part of the cardstock.
3. Choose hair for your magi and drape it over the top of the cardstock using glue around the top to make a beard as well.
4. Pick a crown for your magi and decorate it with the jewels.
5. Glue on googly eyes.
6. Use the marker to make a mouth.
7. Roll the cardstock to make the Maji stand
7. Glue the crown on top.

## **Talk about:**

The magi were learned scholars who came a long way to see Jesus. They probably travelled for 56 months to get there. What would they need to do to prepare for a trip of 56 months!

Maji were learned scholars who studied creation for signs of messages from the divine being.

Our acts of kindness can be signs of God's love. What kind act did you do today?



## Star of Bethlehem – Bird Feeders – Heather

Adapted from Simple Joy website [http://www.simplejoy.com/diy\\_bird\\_feeder/](http://www.simplejoy.com/diy_bird_feeder/) Video Instructions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zFMqXg0pymY&feature=youtu.be>

You will need: 2 cups of bird seed (not heaping)      Parchment lined baking sheet  
2/3 cup flour – spoon in 1-0.25 ounce packets of unflavored gelatin (or 2.5 teaspoons)  
1.5 tablespoons of corn syrup      Cooking spray  
¼ cup water      Star cookie cutter  
Skewer      Ribbon or Wire to hang

How to make it:

1. Mix together the dry ingredients (the birdseed, flour, and gelatin mix) in a bowl.
2. Stir in the wet ingredients (the corn syrup and the water). You will probably need to use your hands to get it sufficiently mixed.
3. Spray a cookie cutter (any shape as long as it has thick sides) with cooking spray.
4. Press the bird feed mixture into the cookie cutters.  
Then use a skewer to make a hole.
5. Gently remove the cookie cutter.
6. Allow it to dry overnight.
7. String a ribbon through it and give it away or hang it in your trees.

Talk about: How the Star of Bethlehem helped guide the Magi to the birthplace of baby Jesus.



## Popsicle Stick Manger – Elizabeth

### **You will need:**

Popsicle sticks  
Glue  
Burlap

Raffia  
Wire to hang  
Marker or pen

### **How to make it:**

1. Make sure the two holes of the popsicle sticks are at the top.
2. Put a small amount of glue and form an X.
3. Fold blanket piece in half from bottom to top, then fold in each side
4. Draw a small face on your bead and
5. Add to blanket.
6. Attach the small wire to hang your ornament from.
7. Add glue to the top part of the manger at the back and attach the burlap for straw.
8. Place baby Jesus in the manger and add your star to the top corner



### **Talk about:**

How special baby Jesus' birth was and how they made a manger filled with straw for his bed. What do you think 'preparing a manger in our hearts to receive Jesus' means?

# Grow a Heart - Lisa

## What you will need:

Green balloon

Red Sharpie

Empty water bottle

Funnel

White vinegar

Baking soda

## How to make it:

1. Take a green balloon and use your red Sharpie to draw a simple heart on the balloon.
2. Give it a minute to dry before you begin to grow the heart.
3. Add white vinegar to about the second groove from the bottom of your empty water bottle.
4. Attach your balloon to the bottom of your funnel. Fill the balloon with about 2 to 3 spoonfuls of baking soda. You may have to shake it a bit to get all of the baking soda into the balloon. Then remove and attach the balloon to the top of the bottle, making sure not to dump any of the baking soda into the bottle.
5. Once attached, lift the balloon up and shake the baking soda into the bottle. Your balloon will start inflating and you can then let go and watch the heart grow.



## Talk About:

How each day everyone's heart grows, just like Jesus' love for us grows stronger each and every day.

### Gingerbread Man – Marlene

#### Messy Grace

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ** (hold hands out in front of you)  
**And the love of God** (place your hands over your heart)  
**And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit** (hold everyone's hand)  
**Be with us evermore** (raise your hands to the sky)  
**Amen**

#### **ROYAL ICING SUGAR FOR DECORATING Gingerbread Man**

##### **Directions: Just add water:**

Place content of Ziploc into a small mixing bowl with 1.5 tsp. of cool water. Add extra drops if too thick. Mix with whisk for 2 minutes. Scrape down the bowl at least once during the mixing process. Cover bowl with a damp cloth to prevent royal icing from crusting. Place back into Ziploc and cut off corner of bag to make a piping tip. Decorate with Candy!



#### **Talk about:**

How making and eating this snack reminds us of celebrating joy and togetherness with family and friends and celebrating the birth of Jesus.  
How might this be different this year because of Covid 19?

### Song – Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild;  
God and sinners reconciled.”

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

## **Prayer**

God, thank you for Your love at this special Christmas time.

Thank you for baby Jesus and the thoughts of angels singing.

I hope everyone can remember that this wonderful time of the year is all about You.

Thank you for the good food and time we have spent together during our Messy Christmas here tonight, but still, help us to remember, it's all about You.

That we will leave here with the love of our family and friends, and most importantly You!

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

## **Following the Star:**

Right from the very beginning God was preparing the world for his coming as Jesus. God spent a very long time getting us ready. Do you think longer than 100 years? For sure. Do you think longer than 1000 years? For sure. Do you think longer than 10,000 years? For sure. God was very patient and it took a long time for us to be ready for God to come and live among us as Jesus. Advent is our time to make ourselves ready. To make a manger in our hearts ready for Jesus to come and live in us. What do you think we can do to get ready for Jesus to come and live in us? Allow time for answers. All those are good ideas. I want each of us to pick one and ask God to help us during Advent to do that. I want each of you to ask God each day when you are getting ready for school or work or for the day to help you with that.



**JOIN US FOR MESSY CHRISTMAS At Home on Friday,  
January 22nd @ 6:30pm**

by registering at

<http://www.stouffvilleuc.ca/event/messy-church-at-home-january-2021/>

Close with singing – “We Wish you a Merry Christmas” with the families.