



Creatively Catholic

A Resource for Parents and their Family

Your Child's Faith

Children (and many adults who are visual/kinesthetic learners) learn about their faith through stories, pictures, and hands-on activities. What kind of nativity scene do you have for your young children? When children can touch/play with the pieces of a nativity set, they better understand the story—where it took place and the people involved!

Book List:

24 Christmas Stories to Welcome Jesus by Eric Puybaret

"Because of his boundless love, Jesus became what we are that he might make us to be what he is" ~Irenaeus

Why are Candy Canes associated with Christmas? And why do we think it's a good idea to bring a full size, living tree into our homes every year? First, the candy cane is very appropriate for Christmas time. If you hold the candy cane with the curve down, it looks like a J for Jesus. If you hold the candy cane with the curve up, it looks like a shepherd's hook, reminding us of Jesus the Good Shepherd. Second, the Christmas tree has many different legends of how the tradition began. One of the most interesting legends comes from Germany in which a poor, young boy was welcomed into a family's home on Christmas Eve. In the morning the family heard a choir of angels singing and the boy had transformed into the Child Jesus. The Child Jesus gave the family a pine bow, and we now continue welcoming Jesus into our homes with the tradition of a Christmas tree.

Why Do We Do That? Candy Canes and Christmas Trees?

St. Mary
Family Ministry

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Dinnertime

Discussion Questions

What can we do year round to remember Christ in Christmas?

How can our family be like the Holy Family?

What is your favorite prayer? Why?



Christmas Around the World

Countries around the world celebrate Christmas in many different ways. Try incorporating one of these traditions into your already established Christmas traditions. You might find something new your family really enjoys!

Costa Rica—Since Christmas happens during summer in Costa Rica, they decorate their homes with tropical flowers! Add some flowers to your home and Christmas tree.

Lebanon—The Nativity is more important than the Christmas Tree. Make the nativity the center of Christmas and decorate it with natural elements to incorporate God's creation.

Denmark—Among many traditions, people in Denmark will share Christmas joy with animals. You too can share Christmas joy with animals at the Humane Society.

Philippines—Celebrate the coming of the kings by decorating a pole with a star on top to help light the way for the kings. Or put a star on top of your tree.

Ghana—The big cocoa harvest begins in December in Ghana. Celebrate Christmas with a large mug of hot cocoa!