

St. Aloysius Religious Education 2017-2018
1st Grade

- 4:00pm Welcome (Three Wise Men coloring page and *to ensure accuracy, class attendance must be accurately recorded by a catechist and not another student - class attendance is an official document retained by the parish and the diocese*)
- 4:05pm We Gather - in Prayer at the prayer table
(use colored table covering for appropriate liturgical season)
Use the Gospel Reading “Hearing the Word” from the previous Sunday in Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families book in the prayer box
- 4:10pm Story time at the Prayer Table – a prime time to share our faith teaching children the Word of God. Read aloud the true story of God's amazing love for us in “*Catholic Book of Bible Stories*” written in reverent tone just for young children. Start at the beginning with “*God’s Wonderful Creation*” read a new story each week and use *God’s Blessing* to end the story ...
OR -- Read “Christmas in the Manger” by Nola Buck and Felicia Bond. *Walk over to (if it is set up) the St. Aloysius Nativity and crèche that will be set up (or is set up) on the corner of South Avenue and Pine Street and describe the statues inside.*
- 4:15pm Review previous lesson using one of the pages from the Activity Book.



4:20pm

Chapter #11

“Three Wise Men Arrive”

Christmas Day is the beginning of the nearly 2-week Church season of Christmas. We celebrate the light (*Jesus*) at the darkest time of the year and rejoice in the truth that Jesus is our light and life! Epiphany is the feast 12 days after Christmas when God made himself known to the non-Jews – represented by the Wise Men (Magi) of the East. Though the wise men offered magnificent gifts, a person need not be rich, powerful or important to be loved by Jesus!

- *We Believe* –
Wise Men = priestly men (Magi) from the East
King = someone who rules over a land and people.
- *We Respond* – watch “*The Beginners Bible – The Nativity*” dvd 30 min.

Ask the children who would they want to be in the Nativity and why?

The Nativity tells the story of Christ's birth from the Scriptures. It also shows that all creation is taking part in Christ's birth. The angels give thanks with their song; the heavens give the star; the Wise Men give their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The poor, humble shepherds give their praise and amazement; the earth gives the cave or manger, and humanity gives the Virgin.

4:55pm

Closing Prayer – *remember your candle at home!*

“Candle, candle burning bright,
Shining in the cold winter night.
Candle, candle burning bright,
Fill our hearts with Christmas light.”

Ask the children to say a petition aloud for someone or something they would like to pray for.

***“Do you follow the Magi in adoring our Savior by going to Mass on Sunday?
What Mass will your family attend on Christmas day?”***



1. The Baby Jesus: The Baby Jesus is the main event. He is why all the animals and people have traveled to the manger, for He is a very special child—the Son of God!

2. The Virgin Mary: At the center of the miracle of the Nativity is Jesus' mother, Mary, the virgin who conceived a child of the Holy Spirit.

3. Joseph: Also present near the Baby Jesus is Mary's husband, Joseph.

4. The Angels: The angels serve two purposes in the Nativity of Christ. They give glory to God and announce the good news to all mankind.

5. The Star: According to the Bible, the Magi were able to find the Baby Jesus by following a star that appeared above the stable.

6. The Shepherd (not pictured): Most Nativity scenes feature the shepherd, who was said to have traveled from a nearby village in order to witness the birth of the Son of God.

7. The Animals: The Donkey, The Camels, The Sheep, and The Cattle -

8. The Three Wise Men: The Magi who traveled to the birthplace of the Baby Jesus by following the star to worship Him and bring Him gifts.