



## ALL SAINTS FOURWAYS GARDENS



**NOVEMBER 2021**

**THEME: Advent**

**Luke 1: 26 - 31**

### MARY AND JOSEPH

#### What you need:

- Toilet roll inner tubes
- Polystyrene balls (55mm – for the head, 35 mm for Mary's tummy, 10mm for the hands)
- Crepe paper/tissue paper for the clothes – I chose blue for Mary's dress and black for Joseph's robe. You can make the head cover with different colours – I used cream for Mary and silver for Joseph.
- Scissors
- Koki pens
- Gel glue (I use polystyrene glue available from Westpack Lifestyle – the craft section because it sticks well but is not too runny and dries fast)
- String or wool oddments (for Joseph's belt and head band)

#### How to make Mary and Joseph

- Draw on their faces – use the larger balls.
- Glue the balls onto the bodies.
- Cut the 35 mm ball in half and attach one piece to Mary's body for her tummy. Allow it to dry.
- Cut a piece of crepe/tissue paper – 20cm wide and 11cm long for Mary's dress.
- Cut a piece of crepe/tissue paper about the same size for Joseph's robe.
- Cut pieces 15cm wide by 17cm long for their head coverings.
- For the arms – cut 2 squares 10cm wide by 8 cm long in each colour. Roll the squares up lengthwise to form a tube and glue on the long edge.



- When dry attach the small (10mm) balls for hands on the rolled edge.
- To attach the robes – start at the middle back of the body and glue around the neck - make small pleats in the paper to fit it evenly.
- To attach the arms - gently flatten the top half of the tube and glue at the neck edge on either side of the body.
- Gently bend Mary's arms so her hands rest on her tummy. Glue them in place.
- Cut a piece of string or wool for Joseph's belt and tie it on. You might need a bit of glue to hold it in place.
- For their head coverings take the piece for Mary and glue it on around the line where her hair would be. Make a little tuck where each ear would be and fold it so it hangs over her shoulders. Glue the tucks to hold them in place.
- Do the same for Joseph and attach a piece of string or wool for the band holding it in place.
- Optional – draw some feet on card, cut them out and attach to the toilet roll tube body. Also optional – cut a piece of brown paper or felt in a beard shape for Joseph's beard. If you prefer you can just draw it on.

During Advent (in the lead up to Christmas), place Mary and Joseph in different rooms in your house, representing the journey that they would have taken to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Take photos of Mary and Joseph in different parts of your house/garden and What's App them to 066 132 7755.

### Talk about:

Talk about journeys and what we need to prepare in order to undertake a journey, and the anticipation associated with reaching the destination. Talk about the different modes of transport that you use for your different journeys.

## STRESS BALLS

### What you need:

- Balloons
- Bits of wool
- Scissors
- Flour
- Paper and some cello tape
- Clean and empty drink bottle
- Permanent marker



### What to do:

- Use the paper to make a funnel, and put some flour into the empty drinking bottle.
- Blow up the balloon.
- Carefully place the blown-up balloon over the open mouth of the bottle.

- Turn the bottle upside down and tap it so that all the flour goes from the bottle into the balloon.
- Once all the flour is in the balloon, carefully remove the balloon from the mouth of the bottle, squeezing out all the air (and making sure it doesn't all go in your face!).
- Tie a knot in the balloon.
- Attach some wool for the hair.
- Draw a face on the balloon with a permanent marker and let it dry before you start playing with it!
- You can also look at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fz5iEBdJM84> for an instructional video.

### **Talk about:**

Talk about the stresses at this time of the year, and the distractions and busyness. What are the most useful strategies you have to deal with stress? Advent is a time of preparation and hope. How can you take time out to think about God, life, the universe and everything during Advent?

## **PRAYER BOXES**

### **What you will need**

- Squares of wrapping paper
- Pens
- Gift ribbon



### **What to do:**

- Invite people to write on one of the smaller pieces of paper a prayer to God: something they are worried about, something they are thankful for, someone they want God to look after and something private to them.
- Make this paper into the base of the box using the origami folding, and make a second, larger piece of paper into the lid using the same pattern.
- Fit them both together so that the prayer is hidden in the folds of the paper and under the lid.
- Tie the box with ribbon.

### **Talk about:**

Talk about what it is like to wait for prayer to be answered? What is it like when the answer is not what you are hoping for?

## BANANA SPLIT DESSERT

### What you will need:

- Fire (preferably hot coals)
- One banana per person
- Chocolate – two blocks per person
- Knife to slice banana
- Foil

### What to do:

- Prepare the fire.
- With the skin still on the banana, slit it in half lengthways with a knife.
- Cut the chocolate pieces into tiny blocks and insert between the two pieces of banana.
- Wrap in foil so that the foil package is sealed.
- Place in the coals for five minutes or until the chocolate has melted.



### Talk about:

Talk about strategies to prepare yourself for waiting and anticipating. What stands out in your mind as something you have had to wait for? The making of this dessert requires both preparation and waiting.

We hope you have enjoyed Messy Church at Home with us this month.

Please join us again on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 3pm.

Remember to sign-up on the church website beforehand.

With love from

*The All Saints Messy Church Team*

<https://www.allsaints.co.za/messy-church/>

