

Learning Outcomes:

The Gospels proclaim that Jesus is the fulfilment of God's promises; that Jesus' death on the cross expressed his love for his Father and for all people and changed the world. **KU2a KU3a KU3c**

- Know the main features of the Christmas story from Matthew's Gospel. **KU1**
 - Understand some reasons for King Herod's anxiety over the birth of Jesus. **KU3a**
 - Discuss and write about the thoughts and feelings of Herod, Joseph, Mary and the Wise Men at the birth of Jesus. **KU3a KU3c**
 - Know some of the journeys in the Christmas story. **KU1**
 - Understand some difficulties these imposed on the Holy Family. **AE1**
 - Be able to trace the journeys on the map. **L6**
- That the commandments are guides to true love of oneself and others. **KU2a KU2b KU3c**
- Know that Jesus was born in poverty. Understand some of the difficulties faced by homeless people and refugees today. **KU3a**
- The Church celebrates the life and love of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. **KU2b KU2c KU3a KU3b**

Christmas: Year 5

Knowledge Organiser

In this unit, you will hear about the story of Christmas from St. Matthew's Gospel. You will explore the difficulties faced by Mary and Joseph and the tensions that arose in King Herod. This unit builds on previous work on the characters in the Christmas story.



Vocabulary

Matthew, Wise Men Herod, Bethlehem, Egypt, refugee.

Bible Reference:

Matthew. 1: 18-2: 23 - The Birth of Jesus

1. What questions do you have about this painting?
2. Why do you think the artist represent Herod in this way?
3. What puzzles you about this painting?

Opportunities for thought and reflection throughout:

ER 1

Having read about the journey and experiences of the Three Wise Men, what do you think is the most difficult thing for a follower of Jesus to do?

Talk to your partner.

Did you agree/disagree?

What do others on your table think?

What do you think about Herod's attitude and jealousy? What does your talk partner say?'

ER 2

Give some reasons why the characters in the Christmas story visited Jesus? What do they believe is important about Him?'

AE 1 Can you back up your response with a piece of scripture?

Background information about Herod:

At the time of Jesus' birth, Judaea was under the rule of King Herod. Herod was born in 73 B.C. Herod came to power and developed the Jerusalem city. The Three wise men went to King Herod to ask where Jesus could be found. The Birth of Jesus or the New King of Jews made King Herod anxious. King Herod was afraid of losing his power and was intent to kill the newborn child. He asked the three wise men to look for the child and to inform him as soon as the child is found. King Herod waited for the arrival of the wise men but when they did not reveal the location of Jesus. He sent his men to kill all baby boys within the age of two years in Bethlehem and in the vicinity thinking one of them must be Jesus. However, King Herod did not succeed as Joseph had already taken his family to escape into Egypt. Joseph returned only after the death of Herod. Herod was known as a brutal man who killed his father-in-law, several of his wives, two sons and others to make himself the king. But he died a painful death at the end. His son, Herod Antipas was one of the conspirators in the trial and execution of Jesus.

