

## *Third Sunday of Advent*

# **GOOD SHEPHERD CORNER**

### **INCARNATION**

There are three ways in which we discuss the Incarnation with children in the Level I Atrium: (1) Biblical Geography, (2) Prophecies, and (3) Infancy Narratives.

### **INFANCY NARRATIVES**

Sofia tells us that the Infancy Narratives, the events surrounding the birth of Jesus, are the richest texts in the Gospels. They are found only in Matthew and Luke. The same stories are not found in each Gospel account.

The Infancy Narratives help us to reflect with the child, "Who are you Lord?" Some of the other other key themes we find in the Infancy Narratives include:



- God's plan being unfolded throughout the history of salvation involves waiting and preparation and is always aimed at giving us the fullness of life in God's Kingdom.
- God does the greatest things with the smallest "vessels."
- The Holy Spirit brings forth life in difficult to "impossible" circumstances, as well as joy and mysterious knowledge.

We do not discuss this theme explicitly with the child, but it is an important seed being planted in the child and also through their work with the material.

Again, in our reflection with the children, following the solemn reading of the infancy narrative, it is crucial that we remain at the level of essentiality. Young children want to go to the heart of the matter and to linger there; they are really only interested in the riches, most important announcements. If we digress or add too much detail. We will lose them. With each infancy narrative we must first be aware of its most essential points of the Christian message, along with the particular stage of development of the child before us.

Happy Advent from Catechesis of the Good Shepherd families and catechists.

Erin, Suzanne, Phillip and Susan.

Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth.