



ON THE WAY HOME FROM MASS TODAY

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the region of Judea. Bethlehem means “house of bread.” There was no room for his family at the inn so his family sought shelter in a cave that was used as a corral for animals, and Jesus was placed in the manger, which is a kind of feeding trough.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

356. On what day was Christ born?

A. Christ was born on Christmas Day, in a stable at Bethlehem, over 2000 years ago.

357. Why did the Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph go to Bethlehem just before the birth of Our Lord?

A. The Blessed Virgin and St. Joseph went to Bethlehem in obedience to the Roman Emperor, who ordered all his subjects to register their names in the towns or cities of their ancestors. Bethlehem was the City of David, the royal ancestor of Mary and Joseph, hence they had to register there. All this was done by the Will of God, that the prophecies concerning the birth of His Divine Son might be fulfilled.

358. Why was Christ born in a stable?

A. Christ was born in a stable because Joseph and Mary were poor and strangers in Bethlehem, and without money they could find no other shelter. This was permitted by our Lord that we might learn a lesson from his great humility.

361. Who were among the first to adore the Infant Jesus?

A. The shepherds of Bethlehem to whom His birth was announced by Angels; and the Magi or Three Wise Men, who were guided to His crib by a miraculous star, were among the first to adore the Infant Jesus. We recall the adoration of the Magi on the feast of the Epiphany, which means appearance or manifestation, namely, of our Savior.

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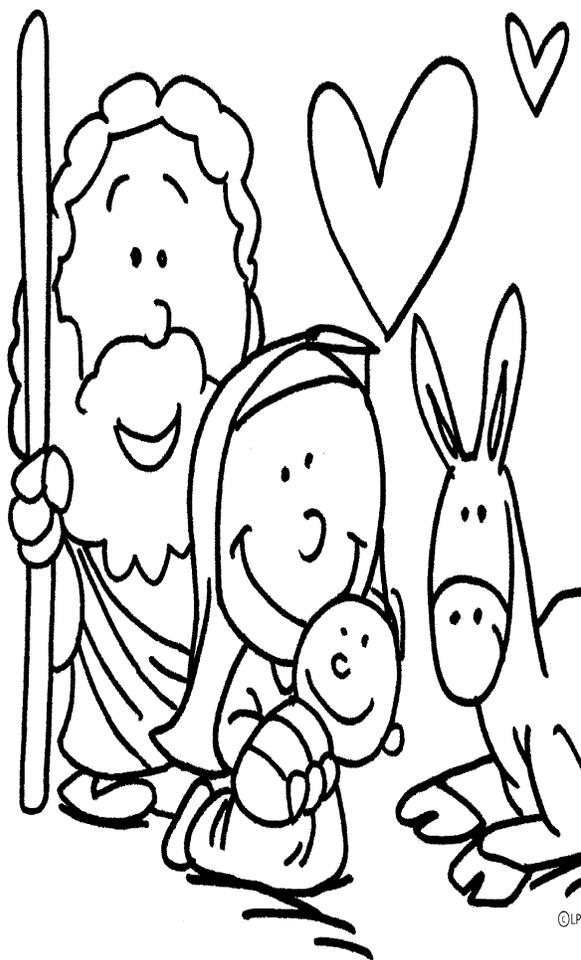
IN WHICH CITY WAS JESUS BORN?

DURING THE WEEK

. Which Christmas song do you know that you can sing to the Baby Jesus? Silent Night, Away in a Manger, Angels we have heard on High?



Read the Gospel and Color



ON THE WAY TO MASS NEXT

SUNDAY

Why do we call the Blessed Virgin Mary the Mother of God?