



What's New in Media

DEC 15, 2010

Christmas

What we think of as ordinary Christmas symbols have Christian meanings. Below are some of these symbols and their Christian meanings.

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Christian Meanings of Christmas Symbols



Christmas Trees —The Christmas tree is an evergreen. It stands in stark contrast to the dead, brown, leafless trees of winter. It is ever green and ever alive, reminding us that we are created for everlasting life.

Christmas Tree Lights — Candles were first used, and now modern strands of lights, to symbolize Christ as the "light of the world."



Star/Angel — The tree is often topped with a star or angel, reminding us of the Star of Bethlehem guiding the Wise Men to Baby Jesus and the angels that announced the birth of our Lord Jesus.

Nativity Scenes — St. Francis of Assisi started this custom. After returning from a trip to Bethlehem, he wanted to dramatize the story of Christ's birth for his fellow friars. He set up a hay filled manger and had people portraying Mary and Joseph. A wax figure was used for the Christ Child. The manger scene is also called a crèche.



Gifts — The tradition of exchanging gifts is meant to remind us of the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh offered by the three kings who traveled to visit the Christ Child.

Candy Canes – The shape of a candy cane is that of a shepherd’s crook, reminding us of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Candy canes are colored white and red, symbolizing the blood shed by Christ and the purity of the grace and new life that He offers us. The candy cane has stripes woven around it, alternating groups of one and three. These remind us of the Holy Trinity – three persons in one God.



Wreaths – The wreath is made from an evergreen, symbolizing our everlasting life in Christ. In addition, it is round circle with no beginning and no end, reminding us of God who is eternal, never beginning or ending.

Advent wreath – The Advent wreath is usually a horizontal evergreen wreath with four candles that are lit, one each week until all four are lit. Some Advent wreaths include a fifth, "Christ" candle which can be lit on Christmas day. It symbolizes the anticipation of the birth of our Lord, the four weeks of Advent.



Santa Claus – Santa Claus originated in St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra in the fourth century, who was known for his generous and often anonymous almsgiving. St. Nicholas would give money to the most impoverished people in desperate circumstances. Over time, the bishop’s fur-trimmed garments became the outfit of Santa Claus, the anonymous gift-giver whose visit children look forward to each Christmas. The modern Santa Claus arose during the 19th century as a jolly, bearded, red-suited man; described in Clement Moore’s poem, *A Visit From St. Nicholas*...later titled *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*.

Poinsettias – Poinsettias are native to Mexico. They were named after America's first ambassador to Mexico, Joel Poinsett. The Mexicans in the 18th century thought the plants were symbolic of the Star of Bethlehem. The actual flower of the poinsettia is small and yellow. But surrounding the flower are large, bright red leaves, often mistaken for petals.



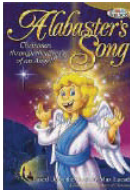
Holly – Holly is an extremely hardy shrub with clusters of red berries and stiff, glossy, sharp pointed leaves. The holly leaf reminds us of the crown of thorns and the red holly berry represents Christ's blood, shed for all people.

VTE 1610**Advent: A Time for Hope**

Language: English Year: 1991 Length: 20

Family activities such as Christmas shopping and card writing reveal a spirituality that can teach us about Advent. We live in a hectic world, and Christmas is a busy time but God calls us from within this world to witness to the presence of Christ. Kathleen Chesto shows how family life can provide signs and symbols of hope as we wait for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: Adult

DVD 1149**Alabaster's Song**

Language: English Year: 2007 Length: 60

A touching story by Max Lucado of a young boy who befriends a Christmas angel. Only a young boy can hear the song of Alabaster, the little angel on the Christmas tree. This delightful story of a boy and a gap-toothed cherub teaches the value and wonder of childlike faith.

Media Type: DVD Age Group: All

DVD 1123**Amahl and the Night Visitors**

Language: English Year: 1955 Length: 46

The yearly live telecasts of Gian Carlo Menotti's Amahl And The Night Visitors were a cherished Christmas tradition throughout the 1950s. The work was tailored by Menotti for children. This production, staged by the composer himself and originally telecast on Christmas Day, 1955, is a testament to the work's enduring power to move the heart and stir the soul.

Starring Rosemary Kuhlmann as Mother and Bill McIver as Amahl, this is the story of the Three Kings visiting the cottage of a poverty-stricken shepherd's widow and her crippled son. Members of the Symphony of the Air are under the direction of Thomas Schippers. Also on the DVD, from the same broadcast, is The Columbus Boys Choir performing Christmas carols. The DVD also includes an exclusive 2007 interview with Rosemary Kuhlmann. (black & white/mono, 46 min., plus 30 min. bonus features)

Media Type: DVD Age Group: All

VTE 1620**American Sign Language Christmas Stories**

Language: English Year: 1986 Length: 180

These Christmas stories are brought to life with a unique blend of drama and skillful storytelling. The special talents of our story tellers and actors will delight you as you enjoy this Christmas season. So whether you know sign language or not come share the Christmas spirit with the rich culture of Deaf America.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 2462**An Advent and Christmas Journey: Hope in the Darkness**

Language: English Year: 2005 Length: 22

Father Himes has a great gift for taking traditional ideas and biblical stories and helping us see them in a whole new light. Watch these videos and experience Advent and Christmas in a new way. Father Himes refers to biblical passages used in this season without relying on one particular liturgical cycle, so this series can be used in adult education, group discussion and sermon preparation for any year. Himes reflects on the spiritual themes and personalities of the season.

We are creatures of time and God is timeless. We look for the timeless one, God, to speak to us. We are constantly restless and nothing on this earth ultimately satisfies us. We wait, and hope, for God. Advent is only one month of the year but as Christians we are always in Advent. Father Himes uses quotes from the great poet W.H. Auden and his favorite theologian St. Augustine of Hippo to delve into the deep issues of what it means to be a human being and what it means to live in time, time that is constantly "slipping away."

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: Adult

VTE 2465 An Advent and Christmas Journey: Prophets: John, Mary, Joseph

Language: English Year: 2005 Length: 29

Father Himes has a great gift for taking traditional ideas and biblical stories and helping us see them in a whole new light. Watch these videos and experience Advent and Christmas in a new way. Father Himes refers to biblical passages used in this season without relying on one particular liturgical cycle, so this series can be used in adult education, group discussion and sermon preparation for any year. Himes reflects on the spiritual themes and personalities of the season.

Prophets live in expectation of something new. That is why they play such a prominent role in Advent. Something new is about to happen—the Savior will be born and that will change everything. With humor and wisdom, Himes looks at Old Testament prophets like Isaiah and three of the key New Testament figures of Advent—John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph—and shows how they inspire and challenge us today.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: Adult

VTE 2466 An Advent and Christmas Journey: The Eternal Giving of God

Language: English Year: 2005 Length: 28

Father Himes has a great gift for taking traditional ideas and biblical stories and helping us see them in a whole new light. Watch these videos and experience Advent and Christmas in a new way. Father Himes refers to biblical passages used in this season without relying on one particular liturgical cycle, so this series can be used in adult education, group discussion and sermon preparation for any year. Himes reflects on the spiritual themes and personalities of the season.

How can we say anything new about Christmas? Himes offers a Christmas banquet of provocative insights into the feast day. He looks at the early church controversies concerning the divinity and humanity of Christ. He connects Christmas and Easter: God gives life where life could not possibly exist—in a virgin womb and an empty tomb. Christmas is a season of generosity. Himes asks us not to reject the secularization of Christmas but to reinterpret it. Finally Himes talks about what Christmas tells us about the Trinity.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: Adult

VTE 2463 An Advent and Christmas Journey: The Second Coming is NOW

Language: English Year: 2005 Length: 24

Father Himes has a great gift for taking traditional ideas and biblical stories and helping us see them in a whole new light. Watch these videos and experience Advent and Christmas in a new way. Father Himes refers to biblical passages used in this season without relying on one particular liturgical cycle, so this series can be used in adult education, group discussion and

sermon preparation for any year. Himes reflects on the spiritual themes and personalities of the season.

Himes talks about the second coming of Christ—a major theme in Advent and a topic of much discussion in American culture. Himes tells us that the coming of the Kingdom of God is not predictable but takes us by surprise. The Kingdom is constantly, relentlessly coming upon us in ordinary ways. Himes shows us that the Kingdom of God is among us now, reconciling all people with the living God.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: Adult

VTE 2464 An Advent and Christmas Journey: Threatened by Grace

Language: English Year: 2005 Length: 27

Father Himes has a great gift for taking traditional ideas and biblical stories and helping us see them in a whole new light. Watch these videos and experience Advent and Christmas in a new way. Father Himes refers to biblical passages used in this season without relying on one particular liturgical cycle, so this series can be used in adult education, group discussion and sermon preparation for any year. Himes reflects on the spiritual themes and personalities of the season.

Himes explores what the Last Judgment might mean. He does this by looking at what the "world" means in the Scriptures. Sometimes the world is seen as "good" but in other passages is seen as the enemy of God. Himes invites us to live in this tension and see the world as is transition. The Last Judgment will not mean the annihilation of the world but its transformation.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: Adult

VTE 1609 Angel's Advent Lesson, The



Language: English Year: 1995 Length: 11

In this production, a young boy and a winsome guardian angel are featured. They try to help children learn what Christmas is really about. It is much more than just presents and new toys. It is the time to view Advent with a sense of reverence, hope, and joy - a special time in preparation for the coming of Jesus into our lives.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6

VTE 1643 Best Christmas Pageant Ever, The



Language: English Year: 1992 Length: 60

Beware of the Herdsmans! The nastiest, dirtiest kids you could meet...and they've decided they belong in this year's Christmas pageant. The town thinks they belong in the care of the police. But when the curtain goes up, a miracle happens.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

VTE 1626 Best Night of the Year, The

Language: English Year: 1995 Length: 11

Children will love this imaginative retelling of the story of Jesus' birth and learn from the stable animals that kindness and generosity are very good things indeed. Even on the coldest night of the year, wonderful things can happen - so wonderful in fact that it can become the BEST night of the year. Still frames put on video with a narrator.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, PreK

DVD 1128**Bible Animated Classics: The King is Born**

Language: English Year: 2005 Length: 45

Beginning with Gabriel announcing God's blessed plan for Mary, this video brings all the elements of the timeless story of Jesus' birth to life. DVD includes Chapter Access and a Sing-A-Long Activity.

Media Type: DVD Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, PreK

VTE 1617**Birth of Christ: The Nativity Story**

Language: English Year: 1992 Length: 97

The love story of Mary and Joseph, and the birth of Jesus are realistically portrayed in this film. The film depicts the emotions and relationships of the participants of the first Christmas

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 11-12, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, Adult

DVD 1100**Celebrating the Seasons of Advent and Lent**

Language: English Year: Length: 33

Advent: Celebrating the Season (Grades 3-8, 15 min.)

The custom of the Advent wreath is the focus of this video. In the light of the Advent wreath, we remember, live and hope for the one who has already come. We warm our hearts to live justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God. The simple Advent wreath tells the story of a people yesterday and today who yearn for more light in their life.

This program also includes other Advent activities and traditions such as the Jesse Tree, an Advent Friend, Straw for a Crib and an Advent House to help young people appreciate the spiritual dimension of the Advent and Christmas season.

Lent: Celebrating the Season (Grades 3-8, 18 min.)

We begin our journey through the season of Lent by being marked with ashes in the Sign of the Cross on our forehead with these words: "Keep Lent and turn to God with all your heart." This video explores customs, traditions, prayers and ways we can keep Lent as we walk together on the path to Jerusalem, preparing for the new life of Easter. During these 40 days, we pray, we fast, we do good works, we remember.

Media Type: DVD Age Group: 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

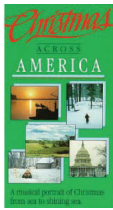
VTE 1648**Charlie Brown Christmas, A**

Language: English Year: 1990 Length: 30

The PEANUTS gang is really getting into the spirit of Christmas. Snoopy has decked out the doghouse with tinsel and lights. The rest of the kids have bought an aluminum revolving tree for their school play. But Charlie Brown is wondering "Is this what Christmas is all about?"

We join Charlie Brown and his friends as they discover the true meaning of Christmas in this heartwarming holiday classic.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1649**Christmas Across America**

Language: English Year: 1991 Length: 40

From the excitement of New York City, to a tiny church in historic Genoa, Nevada; from the tireless work of the Salvation Army, to the silent splendor of candlelit luminaries in Arizona and new Mexico; and from winter carolers in New England and Colorado, this video truly grasps the music and spirit of Christmas across America.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1646**Christmas for Little Children, A**

Language: English Year: 1996 Length: 30

Through exciting music and stories, the richness of the Christian faith comes alive. Children share in the Bethlehem experience, visit a colorful family of puppets for a home celebration and worship Jesus in the beauty of the Church. Ten lively Christmas songs are shared.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, PreK

VTE 1630**Christmas Gift, A**

Language: English Year: 1980 Length: 8

Clay animation illustrates Peter, Paul and Mary's ballad "Christmas Dinner," - the story of a waif and a poor elderly lady's Christmas.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1621**Christmas Is**

Language: English Year: 1987 Length: 20

Benji is a disappointed little boy who must play the second shepherd in the school play - again. But his disappointment turns to joy when a daydream transports him and his lovable pooch, Waldo, back to the first Christmas. There they join the real second shepherd, and in the magic of the holy birth, Benji learns that the true meaning of Christmas makes each of us, even second shepherds special.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4

VTE 1651**Christmas Joy**

Language: English Year: 1998 Length: 40

Christmas is a time for singing. Here is a masterpiece of rich visual imagery, filled with warmth, humor and imagination. Put this presentation on while decorating the tree, wrapping presents, or having a party in class.

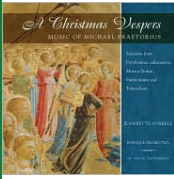
Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1637**Christmas Spirits**

Language: English Year: 1990 Length: 16

Several children on summer vacation learn that Christmas is not about the time of year, it is how they act towards one another.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 5-6, 7-8

CD 1061**Christmas Vespers: Music of Michael Praetorius**

Language: English Year: 2007
 Edited by Jeannette Sorrell with Apollo's Fire The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra.

Selections from:

Polyhymnia caduceatrix (1619)

Musica Sionae (1621)

Puericinium (1621)

Terpsichore (1612)

Media Type: Music CD/Musica CD Age Group: All

VTE 1645**Christmas Wish, A**

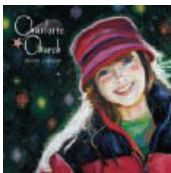
Language: English Year: 1998 Length: 9
 Little Justine wishes Christmas might come right away. There's a surprise in store, though, when her wish is granted, for it doesn't turn out exactly as she hoped. This presentation stresses the importance of Advent as a season of expectation.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, PreK

VTE 1638**City That Forgot About Christmas, The**

Language: English Year: 1974 Length: 30
 "Sometimes I wish there wasn't a Christmas" Benji declares amidst the Christmas bustle. But Grandfather knows that Benji's outlook on Christmas is only fogged by its frenzied activities. He shares the story of a woodcarver who lived in a village that had forgotten about Christmas. When the woodcarver tells the children about the town where Jesus was born, the mood of the city changes and becomes filled with the joy of

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, PreK

CD 1026**Dream a Dream**

Language: English Year: 2000
 Charlotte Church - Christmas music

Dream A Dream (Elysium) * O Come, All Ye Faithful * The Little Drummer Boy * Mary's Boy Child * Ding Dong! Merrily On High * Winterwonderland * The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting On An Open Fire) * Hark! The Herald Angels Sing * The Coventry Carol (Lully Lullay) * Joy To The World * When A Child Is Born * What Child Is This? * God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen * Draw Tua Bethlehem/Far Over Bethlehem * Ave Maria * Gabriel's Message * O Holy Night * Lo! How A Rose E'er Blooming * Silent Night

Media Type: Music CD/Musica CD Age Group: All

VTE 1625**First Christmas Snow, The**

Language: English Year: 1975 Length: 23
 Lucas the shepherd boy is blinded and nearly lost in a paralyzing winter storm but is saved by the sisters of a nearby abbey. Sr. Theresa allows him to stay until Christmas. In return, the boy decides to give all he owns - his flock. For his rare kindness, Lucas experiences a miraculous recovery. The pint-sized shepherd with the king-sized heart enjoys the greatest gift, the gift of love.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, PreK

VTE 1619

**First Christmas, The**

Language: English Year: 1998 Length: 24

The traditional story of the birth of Jesus beginning with Mary and Joseph's trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem is told in this presentation. Witness their encounter with the innkeeper who had no room, the announcement to the shepherds, and follow the Magi who trek across the desert guided by the mysterious star. This is all done through the magic of claymation.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, PreK

VTE 1596

Following Jesus Through The Church Year: Christmas Crossroads

Language: English Year: 1991 Length: 10

Krispin, a special agent whose mission is to find Jesus, leads us through the church year. He travels the roads that surround the life and ministry of Jesus, and picks up clues about who Jesus is and what he does. Krispin is lost in the crowded streets of Bethlehem. The census is on, and there is no room for him to stay at the inn. Aaron, a shepherd, brings Krispin to the stable where he says Jesus was born and tells Krispin about the birth. Jesus is not longer in the stable, though, so Krispin must travel to Nazareth to find him.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2

VTE 1628

**Francesco's Friendly World: The Gifts of Christmas**

Language: English Year: 1997 Length: 44

Celebrate Christmas through songs, suspense and surprises as Francesco initiates a Christmas tradition destined to be emulated the world over for centuries to come. Meanwhile, Beatrice, the raccoon, Fleurette, the bluebird, and Leopold, the bear cub donate their winter treats toward a cake to celebrate Jesus' birthday. Luigi, the bee, volunteers his bees wax for a beautiful candle. Gabriella, the ewe and her lamb, Anthony, offer their wool to be woven into a warm new robe for Francesco. Though the animals give up much to surprise Francesco, they sacrifice even more to learn that love outweighs all Gifts of Christmas.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, PreK

VTE 1618

Gift, The

Language: English Year: 1997 Length: 6

Once upon a time there was a little bug who heard about the newborn king. He searched and searched until he found him in a manger in Bethlehem. This delightful story is told in rhyming verses and is beautifully illustrated. It is sure to remind young children that the most important gift they can give Jesus at Christmas is love.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, PreK

VTE 1631

**Go Look In the Manger**

Language: English Year: 1995 Length: 30

Eight-year-old Ricky borrows his mother's favorite record to take to school for show-and-tell on the condition that, if it is broken, he will get no Christmas presents. He forgets his promise and the record is broken during a game. That night at church, Ricky hears the story of the greatest Christmas gift ever, the gift of Jesus, and makes a significant discovery.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, PreK

DVD 1090**How Can I Celebrate Advent?**

Language: English Year: 2006 Length: 27
Beth and her Brother, Digger, can hardly wait for the Christmas celebration to come, so they are excited to learn that the church has a special season of waiting and preparation in expectation of the coming Savior: the season of Advent. Beth and Digger happily hear God's plan of salvation as they light the candles of their Advent wreath and mark the days until the coming of Emmanuel, our "God With Us." This program uses a combination of live-action puppets, illustrations, and 3-D computer animation.

Media Type: DVD Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, PreK

VTE 1623**Innkeepers, The: A Christmas Story**

Language: English Year: 1991 Length: 30
This is the story of the first Christmas as experienced by the innkeepers, Aramus and Ramada. This delightful show is filled with song and the message of how Jesus' birth changed the world for all time.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, PreK

VTE 1639**Jacob's Gift**

Language: English Year: 1999 Length: 30
"The one who builds the best project will be asked to help build the new synagogue," Rabbi Simeon announces to the students in his woodworking shop. Young Jacob struggles to choose just the right project to show his craftsmanship, until he finally discovers a great idea. But harassed by his fellow students for his creativity, and with his father's inn overflowing with guests, Jacob is pulled away from his woodworking by duties and distractions. In the end, Jacob sacrifices winning the contest to do a kindness for a family with a newborn baby, and learns an important lesson about giving.

Media Type: Video Cassette & DVD Age Group: All

VTE 1603**Jesus Comes**

Language: English Year: 1994 Length: 15
By the way he lived and the words he spoke, Jesus showed us how to live as friends with him and one another. In this video we walk through Advent, Christmas, and Jesus' early life discovering the wonderful joy Christ's birth brings us.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, PreK

VTE 1259**Jesus of Nazareth: Born for Us**

Language: English Year: 1981 Length: 28
Experience the person of Jesus, his life and times. A catechetical/educational version of the television production of Jesus of Nazareth. Teacher's guide include commentary, full script, suggestions for prayer and other activities with children, teenagers and adults.

Tape 2 contains: Joseph and Mary leave for Bethlehem; no room in the inn; shepherds watching their flocks; Jesus is born; Simeon prophesies; Magi bring gifts; Herod's rage; Flight into Egypt.

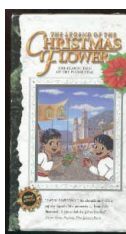
Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 11-12, 7-8, 9-10, Adult

VTE 2488**La Gran Posada: A Christmas Celebration**

Language: English Year: Length: 57

La Gran Posada is a Mexican tradition recreating the story of Joseph and Mary in their search for an inn (posada) in Bethlehem before the birth of Jesus. Centered on the annual devotional procession organized by San Fernando Cathedral in San Antonio, Texas, this documentary is a behind-the-scene look at the procession, music, costuming and foods that are an integral part of the contemporary expression of a tradition with its roots in Mexican colonial history. It is also the story of Mexican immigrants who arrive San Antonio with nothing and through La Gran Posada find a home, a family, and a new life.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 11-12, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, Adult

VTE 1644**Legend of the Christmas Flower, The**

Language: English Year: 1995 Length: 40

While in Mexico in 1825, Dr. Joel Poinsett discovered the beautiful flower that now bears his name, the Poinsettia. But throughout Latin America, the flower is known as "The Flower of the Holy Night." Here's the whole history of the world's favorite Christmas flower.

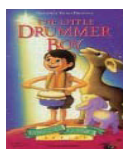
Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1920**Lighting the Way**

Language: English Year: 1997 Length: 25

This multi-cultural video features four young people and their family celebrations of: Kwanzaa; La Posada; Hanukkah; Christmas. Viewers look at the diversity of cultures that call the United States home.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 11-12, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, Adult

VTE 1636**Little Drummer Boy, The**

Language: English Year: 1994 Length: 30

This is the touching story of an orphaned drummer boy whose gift of music for the Christ Child is repaid with a wondrous miracle.

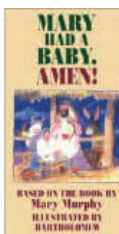
Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1627**Littlest Angel, The**

Language: English Year: 1997 Length: 24

When a mischievous little boy enters heaven, he finds a new world of wonder. One day the archangel makes an announcement - God is to have a son. Every angel rushes to find the perfect gift. The little boy, with his tilted halo and untested wings, has no idea what to give until he realizes that the most valuable gift always comes from the heart.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, PreK

VTE 1616 Mary Had a Baby, Amen**DVD 1165**

Language: English Year: 1995 Length: 15

Simon the rhyming mouse tells the delightful story of the birth of Christ. He invites youngsters to travel back in time with him to experience the first Christmas. They will relive all the events of that night - Mary and Joseph finding refuge in a stable, angels and shepherds worshipping the baby Jesus, the three wise men bearing gifts, and the Star of Bethlehem leading the way.

Media Type: Video Cassette & DVD Age Group: PreK

VTS 3104 Meet Jesus' Home

Language: Spanish Year: 1995 Length: 30

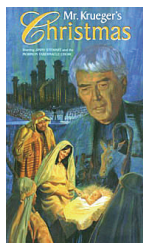
Media Type: Video Cassette

VTE 1622 Mouse In The Manger, The

Language: English Year: 1993 Length: 20

Oscar the mouse becomes angry with his father when he is refused extra hay for his bed, and leaves home. In his adventures he feels a deep sense of loneliness. He meets Martha the cow, Hank the sheep, and Sidney the donkey. They share stories about themselves. Oscar learns a lot about himself and returns home with a better understanding of himself and those around him.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, PreK

VTE 1647 Mr. Krueger's Christmas

Language: English Year: 1987 Length: 25

Mr. Krueger, an elderly widower who works as a janitor, is alone at Christmas. As he wishes others a Merry Christmas, they ignore him as he is old and unkempt. This story is one of hope and an unexpected encounter with the Christ child. The theme of love as the reason for Christmas is shown throughout. A heartwarming story that brings the true meaning of Christmas to all who see it.

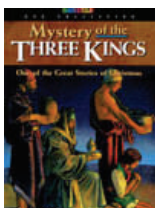
Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 11-12, 7-8, 9-10, Adult

VTE 1921 Multicultural Christmas

Language: English Year: 1993 Length: 22

Christmas is celebrated in different ways throughout the world. One main ingredient that stays the same is family. Five families from different areas of the world share their celebration of the Christmas holidays with us.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1632 Mystery of the Three Kings

Language: English Year: 2002 Length: 50

People across the world are familiar with the Christmas card image of these exotic kings paying homage to the newly born Jesus at the stable in Bethlehem, but their true story is filled with mystery. From Yemen in Southern Arabia to Persia and the ancient centre of astronomy at Babylon in Mesopotamia, we search for the origins of the Three Wise Men, and learn the secrets of the gifts they brought for the Baby Jesus. Using new evidence we discover explanations for the miraculous appearance of a star which led them to Bethlehem. As we journey into a world of prophets and ancient myths, we shed new light on the early traditions of the Wise Men - from long-hidden frescoes to dusty sacred texts and beautiful mosaics in early churches throughout the ancient and medieval world. By retracing the steps of the Wise Men, we piece together a fascinating puzzle to reveal how their incredible trip has influenced every aspect of the Christmas story, from the time of the Church Fathers to the present day.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 11-12, Adult

VTE 1614 Nativity Story, The

Language: English Year: 1990 Length: 12

The masters of renaissance painting, illumination and sculpture, helped by the narration of the Christmas story and the singing of traditional Christmas carols, colorfully and dramatically tell the redemption story in this Christmas program.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 11-12, 7-8, 9-10, Adult

VTE 1615 Nativity, The

Language: English Year: 1987 Length: 30

All roads lead to Bethlehem as God fulfills a prophecy and a promise to people. A child is born in a stable beneath a shining star.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 3-4, 5-6

VTE 1762 Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa

Language: English Year: 1989 Length: 30

This video presents the fascinating story of the boy whose love and care for others make him one of the most popular legendary figures. We learn the story behind the feast we celebrate on December 6.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4

VTE 1633 Ordinary Fir Tree, The

Language: English Year: 1982 Length: 12

A special fir tree grows up in the forest next to another tree which is fuller than he. Yet, he has a great wish to be full and tall enough to be used as a Christmas tree. This presentation helps teach children to face the future with confidence and optimism, even in the face of temporary setbacks.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1635 Perfect Present, The

Language: English Year: 1989 Length: 20

Five year old Amber is excited about Christmas, especially the expected visit from Santa Claus. Her father tells her the story of the Nativity while setting up the family manger scene. When she goes to sleep, Amber finds herself outside Bethlehem. She talks with Joseph, the innkeeper, a shepherd, one of the Wise Men, King Herod, and Mary. When she awakens, she hurries to open her presents but decides to first go to the manger scene and wish the baby Jesus a Happy Birthday.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, PreK

VTE 1611 Preparing For Christmas

Language: English Year: 1986 Length: 60

Christmas is a special time of year...family reunions, gifts, music and most of all the joy of togetherness. But the true meaning of Christmas is much more than these things. This four part program spends 15 minutes each week of Advent preparing for Christmas. The themes of Waiting, Hoping, Preparing, and Giving/Receiving are used each week to help us "wait in Faith" for what Christmas is really meant to be.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1612 Preparing For Christmas II

Language: English Year: 1988 Length: 56

Each week of Advent Fr. Anthony Scannell presents reflections on the Advent season through scripture readings, fully dramatized stories, beautiful photography, music and reflective prayer. This program will help rediscover the meaning and beauty of your family's Christmas preparation.

Week One: The Child in Us

Week Two: Santa Clausing

Week Three: The Perfect Gift

Week Four: The Journey to Bethlehem

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

BK ADV/CMAS BENE 2009**Preparing for Christmas with Pope Benedict XVI: An Advent Novena**

Pope Benedict XVI and Lucio Coco, compiler

ISBN: 978-1-59471-233-3 Language: English Year: 2009

Preparing for Christmas with Pope Benedict XVI is an ideal prayer companion for the busy days leading up to Christmas. Portable and practical, this novena is brief enough to be used whenever a few minutes are available and can easily be carried in a purse or pocket. The antiphons, reflections, and meditations in this novena are all composed from homilies, audiences, and other talks by the Pope. Whether joined to a parish's celebration of daily Mass, prayed at various parish meetings, or used at home around the table, this booklet offers a wonderful way to reflect and re-center during

Media Type: Book/Libro Age Group: 11-12, 9-10, Adult

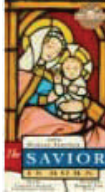


DVD 1168**Red Boots for Christmas****VTE 1629**

Language: English Year: 2002 Length: 30

It's nearing Christmas in a small town in Germany. Hans the shoemaker works into the night, purposely shut away from the holiday festivities around him. Alone in his shop, with no family and few friends, Hans has never learned the true meaning of Christmas. While he mocks the townspeople's merry preparations, he is visited by an angel who brings the promise of a very special gift. Hans eagerly awaits the return of this angelic messenger and crafts a gift to give in return--the finest boots ever made. Hans learns the joys of sharing and fellowship while learning the true meaning of Christmas, the ultimate gift, a gift from God.

Media Type: DVD & Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1139**Savior Is Born, The**

Language: English Year: 1992 Length: 30

Morgan Freeman delivers a poignant re-telling of the first Christmas from the gospels of Matthew and Luke. The inspiring musical score is performed by the Christ Church Cathedral Choir of Oxford, England.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 11-12, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, Adult

VTE 1650**Songs of Christmas**

Language: English Year: 1987 Length: 49

The stories behind some of our most popular and loved Christmas carols are told in this video. As the children act out the story, the scene fades back to the time when the carol was composed. Excellent for teaching about Christmas customs and traditions.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1761**St. Nicholas and the Legend of Santa Claus**

Language: English Year: 1990 Length: 15

Youngsters learn the amazing story of the adventures of St. Nicholas, the Man of God who became Santa Claus. Tells the story of St. Nicholas as a legend.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4

VTE 1624**Story of Christmas, The**

Language: English Year: 1994 Length: 47

Take an enchanting animated journey back in time, and witness the miraculous birth of the Christ child, as seen from the perspective of a humorous ox and a feisty donkey. When the evil King Herod schemes, it's up to the resourceful barnyard animals to warn the wise men and save the day.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: All

VTE 1196**The Animated Stories from the New Testament: King Is Born, The**

Language: English Year: 1987 Length: 25

The story that never grows old comes alive once more in this remarkable animated video which retells the birth of Jesus. Travel with Joseph and Mary as they embark on their long journey to Bethlehem and the birth of the baby Jesus, the Messiah.

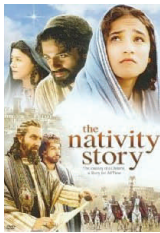
Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 3-4, 5-6

DVD 1148**The Crippled Lamb**

Language: English Year: 2007 Length: 60

This heartwarming animated special is based on Max Lucado's story of Joshua, a little lame lamb, and the special chance he had to honor the Christ child one starry night in Bethlehem.

Media Type: DVD Age Group: All

DVD 1122**The Nativity Story**

Language: English Year: 2006 Length: 101

Dramatization of the New Testament birth narratives from the Annunciation to the birth of Jesus, focusing on the relationship between Mary (Keisha Castle-Hughes) and Joseph (Oscar Isaac) and their arduous trek from Nazareth to Bethlehem, with subplots tracking the journey of the three Magi and the efforts of King Herod (Ciaran Hinds) to prevent the prophecy of a messiah from coming to pass. A composite of the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, embroidered with apocryphal traditions and the imagination of the filmmaker, the Bible story gets the prestige treatment in director Catherine Hardwicke's artful, reverent and affecting retelling, with soulful performances from an excellent international cast -- including Shohreh Aghdashloo as Elizabeth -- and impressive production design. Mike Rich's screenplay manages to flesh out Mary and Joseph while remaining faithful to Scripture, poignantly suggesting the humanity beneath the halos. Some violent images. USCCB rating A-I -- general

Media Type: DVD Age Group: 11-12, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, Adult

VTE 1123**The Visual Bible for Kids: The Birth of Jesus**

Language: English Year: 1998 Length: 30

A cozy fire, cookies and cocoa, and a favorite uncle played by Kirk Cameron (Growing Pains), to read the Christmas Story. It's tree trimming night for the Barnes family and a young guest. The young guest thinks the Bible is "just another story." As Uncle Kirk reads the timeless words of Luke and Matthew and the events of the first Christmas unfolds, the Bible comes to life. Children, even the young guest, Sam, discover the truth of God's love and the reality of Jesus in his life. The video features film sequences from The Visual Bible using the NIV translation from the gospels of Luke and Matthew.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6

VTE 1640**Timmy's Gift**

Language: English Year: 1991 Length: 24

This is a story about an ordinary someone, much like you or me, who is called upon to accomplish a very important task. Little Timmy the angel is given the greatest honor in all of heaven - to deliver the jeweled crown to the newborn Prince. But he's sure they've made a mistake. He's much too little for such a long journey...and who knows what frightful things lie ahead.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, PreK

DVD 1005**VeggieTales: The Star of Christmas**

Language: English Year: 2002 Length: 45

Cavis Appythart and Millward Phelps (Bob and Larry) are putting the finishing touches on their first Christmas musical -- "The Princess and the Plumber." With more electric lights than 1880's London could ever hope to illuminate, Cavis is sure his show will "teach London how to love!"

Unfortunately, little Edmund's (Junior Asparagus) Christmas pageant, featuring the unveiling of a beloved artifact, is scheduled for the same night. Which will London turn out to see? Find out in this classic new look at the one Christmas story that really can teach us to love each other

Media Type: DVD Age Group: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, PreK

VTE 2188**VeggieTales: The Toy That Saved Christmas**

Language: English Year: 1998 Length: 30

With award winning writing, catchy songs and ground breaking computer animation, The Toy That Saved Christmas teaches children of all ages that "Christmas isn't about getting, it's about giving. And it's especially about a little baby named Jesus, who was the greatest gift of all."

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 5-6, PreK

VTE 1613**What Is Christmas?**

Language: English Year: 1980 Length: 10

Simple yet complete details of the first Christmas story are explained through the heartwarming tale of a young boy and his dog as they come to know the real meaning of Christmas.

Comment: The story is told by a child and would appeal to children. Good discussion questions.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, PreK

VTE 1634**Wish That Changed Christmas, The**

Language: English Year: 1993 Length: 23

Holidays are full of special wishes and dreams. And if your heart is in the right place, any dream can come true, especially at Christmas. This story is about Ivy, an orphan who has no place to go for the holidays. She boards a train on Christmas Eve to spend a miserable holiday alone, until a special message sends her on a search for the grandmother she's always wanted, and into an adventure that will change her life forever.

Media Type: Video Cassette Age Group: 1-2, 3-4