|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |
| Introduction | **Mary pondered all these things and treasured them in her heart. Luke 2:19**  From the moment Mary met the Angel Gabriel, her life was turned on its head. Not only had she had a baby, but everyone who met him had something to say about what his future held. When they took the baby Jesus to the temple, according to the Jewish customs, they met Simeon and Anna who knew straight away that this tiny infant was the Saviour of the world. When the wise men arrived from the East their gifts weren’t normal presents for a baby, but instead represented who Jesus was and what he would become: Gold for a King, Frankincense for God, and Myrrh for a sacrifice. | |
|  |  |  |
| Craft preparation | The squares of card will need to be cut quite accurately to make this easier. They need to be 4cm by 4cm. The string/ribbon needs to be at least 35cm long | * Card squares * Wrapping paper crosses as per the template with double sided tape stuck where shown * Lengths of string or ribbon |
|  |  |  |
| Craft Instructions | At Christmas we give each other gifts to remind us of God’s gift to us—Jesus. Make a gift tree decoration from a cross—another symbol that reminds us of Jesus  *The aim is to fold the wrapping paper around the cardboard square which is placed in the centre of the cross*  *Fold both arms of the cross in so that they cover the card*  *Fold the top of the strip down to cover the arms*  *Now fold this thick bit down twice and use the tape to fix it in place*  *‘Tie’ your parcel with the ribbon leaving enough to hang it from the tree* | |
|  |  |  |
| Scene setting | Required | Optional |
|  | * Introduction sheet * Craft instructions * Story – printed/videoed or read in person | * Display of the three gifts and a cross * Reflection questions |
|  |  |  |
| Reflection questions | * Even with all these strange occurrences surrounding his birth, do you think Mary had any idea what would happen to her son in the end? * What gift would you have given Jesus? * Read Simeon’s words. What strikes you most about them? | |
|  |  |  |
| Soundtrack | Breath of heaven by Amy Grant - <https://youtu.be/FWo3qlqyW1c> | |
|  |  |  |
| Story |  | |
|  |  |  |