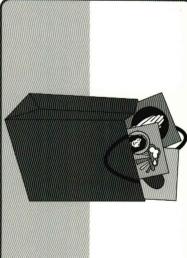
Mary and Joseph Prepare for Jesus' Birth

the birth of baby Jesus. Activity: The child gathers together things that helped Mary and Joseph prepare for



(693165)

prepared for the birth of Jesus. During Advent, we get ready for Jesus' birth, just as Mary and Joseph

What You Need

- school backpack
- assorted school items: pencil, sharpener, etc. eraser, book, writing tablet, small tissue pack, ruler, hand pencil
- photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- art supplies
- small gift bag or decorative box

answer by naming or pointing to the about the cards that the child can their child. Have them ask questions contents of the bag or box with Invite the parents to review the correct choice

Lesson Steps

Opening Prayer

us with love, listen to our prayers, and strengthen our faith as we look forward to the birth of our Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: Dear God, help us prepare for Jesus' birth. Fill Savior. Pray the Sign of the Cross.

5 Begin with Life Experience

prepare to go to school. They found the things they needed so they would be ready for the baby Jesus. or invite the child to do so. Then say: Mary and Joseph had to prepare for Jesus' birth just as we have to child to unpack the backpack and examine the objects as you identify each one and tell why it is needed, we get ready to go to school. This backpack has things we need so we are prepared for school. Invite the Show the child a school backpack filled with a variety of objects needed for the school day. Say: Each day

35

of the image or share one of his or her own. After all pictures are put away, say: These are the things Joseph and Mary needed to get ready for Jesus' birth. the matching picture (love) and then put it in the bag or box. Invite the child to repeat your description were filled with love. They loved God, one another, and their baby very much. Have the child point to talk about each picture: love, prayer, Mary's faith in God, Joseph's faith in God, and Gabriel's promise. each of these is something Mary and Joseph needed to help them prepare for Jesus' birth. Display and Help the child color and cut out the pictures from the photocopy of Side B of this card. Explain that dentify each picture and describe how it connects to Jesus' birth. For example, say: Joseph and Mary

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: Dear God, thank you for guiding us to prepare for Jesus' birth this Advent as you guided Mary and Joseph. Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.