

## THE YEAR IN OUR CHURCH *Christmas*

# B

### The Angel Told the Shepherds About Jesus

**Activity:** The child uses a flip picture to retell how an angel brought news of Jesus' birth to the shepherds.

#### Concept

The angel told the shepherds about Jesus' birth.

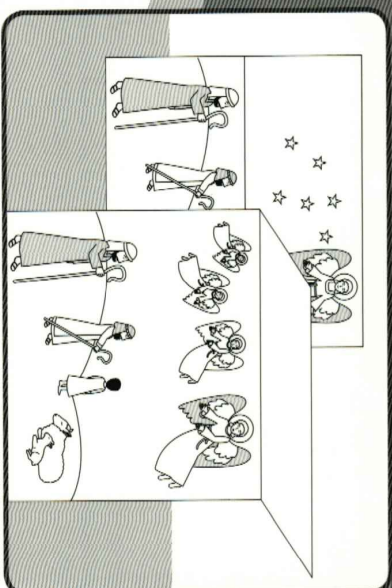
#### What You Need

- ▶ two toy phones
- ▶ children's Bible, such as *The Catholic Children's Bible* (St. Mary's Press)
- ▶ photocopy of Side B of this Lesson Card
- ▶ art supplies
- ▶ sheet of construction paper

#### At Home

Invite the parents to review the flip picture with their child. Encourage them to read aloud Luke 2:1–14, pointing to relevant parts at the appropriate times.

Example



#### Lesson Steps

1

##### Opening Prayer

Pray with the child: *Dear God, guide us to do our part to bring peace on earth. Jesus is born.* Play the Sign of the Cross.

2

##### Begin with Life Experience

Display the toy phones, and set one phone in front of the child. Say: *When I have good news, I use a phone to tell someone.* Pantomime making a phone call to the child. When the child picks up, say: *Good news! Jesus is born! The birth of Jesus was very good news. God wanted people to know the good news. God sent an angel to tell people. Angels are God's messengers.* With the child at your side, read Luke 2:1–14 (The Birth of Jesus) from a children's Bible. Then say: *God sent an angel to tell the shepherds the good news of Jesus' birth.*

3

##### Connect

Ahead of time, color and cut out the two flip-picture parts from the photocopy of Side B of this card. Tape the single angel part as indicated, above the host of angels. Place the tape along the top edge of the two parts so you can lift or flip the top image of the single angel to show the hosts of angels. With the child beside you, read Luke 2:1–14 aloud again. This time use the flip picture to illustrate how the angel appeared to the shepherds and how a host of angels gave glory to God. Repeat the story as many times as the child's interest allows. Say: *Angels tell us God's news. God sent an angel to tell the shepherds that Jesus was born.*

4

##### Closing Prayer

Pray the Sign of the Cross with the child, followed by: *Dear God, thank you for giving us the good news of Jesus' birth. Thank you for bringing us joy and salvation through Jesus' birth.* Conclude by praying the Sign of the Cross.

