

St John the Evangelist Church, Bierley.

## The Posada.



The tradition of the Posadas was brought to Mexico from Spain in the 1500's by Catholic Missionaries. The Posadas commemorate Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a place for the Christ Child to be born.

### How it works.

On **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December** we have a short setting off service at 4pm in the church called "Posada and Piñata" (yes we will be doing the Piñata). The travelling crib then goes around Bierley. If you sign up, someone will bring the crib to you, usually late afternoon. Mary and Joseph then stay with you, and the next day you take it to the next person on the list. Each Sunday the crib returns to the Church for the lighting of the advent candles, and goes to the next family on the list. The Crib finally returns to Church at the **Christingle service** (Christmas eve, 5pm), and is completed on Christmas day at the Crib service (9am).

The travelling crib includes Mary, Joseph and the donkey. Some books and other items you might like to use, including colouring in sheets you can keep. You may wish to take photos, but please see the notes below.

### Important bits.

By signing up you are agreeing that we will share your contact details with the people that will bring you the travelling crib and the people you will take the crib to. There is no other way this can work. There is an option where you can choose that we will keep your details until December 2019 to let you know of events similar to this. We use your details for no other reason and do not share them.



We would love you to take photos and share them on our social media pages, so please do not include other people's children without their permission and please take the usual safeguarding precautions when doing so, including identification of children etc.



By signing up you agree to receive contact from a family and the crib from them, at a convenient time to both of you, but usually after school each day. You will also contact the next person and take it to them. Depending on demand you may end up with the crib for more than one night, so please fill in the form carefully.

This project will need the support of adults in the home, and we are particularly concerned that no child should attempt to do this on their own, as it involves travelling to others' homes, probably in the late afternoon or early evening when it is dark.

In order to draw up a route for the travelling crib, we would ask you to return your reply slip by **25th November**.



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## Posada 2018

Name of Adult (this will be shared with two other hosts).

Address.

Telephone number (this will be shared with two other hosts).

Email address (for getting information about other events, but please see consent below).

Please tick if you would like to receive information about other children's and family church activities until the end of 2019. Eg Messy church, special services, youth club and children's activities. Your information will not be shared with any third party and will be destroyed in December 2019 unless you have updated it.

Please tick to show you agree to your name and phone number being shared with other host families. If you do not tick we cannot include you in the Posada.

Please circle any dates you cannot host the crib. Remember you need to be available on two days in a row, to receive the crib on day 1 and take it to another person on day 2.

Remember the crib needs to be taken to church on the Sunday (10am-11am) and collected from church if you are having it on a Sunday. If you are unable to do this, please make sure you circle Sundays.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24					



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**What's on at St Johns for Children and young people this Christmas.**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> December.  
Youth group. Aged 10-16, 6:30-8pm.

**Posada and Piñata service.**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 4pm.

See separate sheet for details and how to sign up.



**Christingle service.**

Annual service of carols and stories with the lighting of Christingles.

Christmas eve, 5pm.

**Crib Service.**

Short crib service with your favourite carols, and the crib story. Children are encouraged to bring a gift with them that they have received.

Challenge the vicar, whatever gift you bring Father Paul will find a way to get it into the Nativity story.

9am -9:30am Christmas day (but you will have been up for hours already!).

**Messy Epiphany.**

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January 4pm. Stories, games, craft and food. Finish off the Christmas story with the visit of the Wise Men. You can just turn up, but numbers help, please see [www.bierleychurch.com](http://www.bierleychurch.com) for a sign up link.

Don't forget the Carol service...

# Posada

(the travelling crib)

If you would like Mary, Joseph and the Donkey to visit your home, or you know of a family that would like them to, Please take some information.

Forms need to be back by the 25<sup>th</sup> November.

