Hadfield and Padfield Churches Together

lvy M Infants, age 7

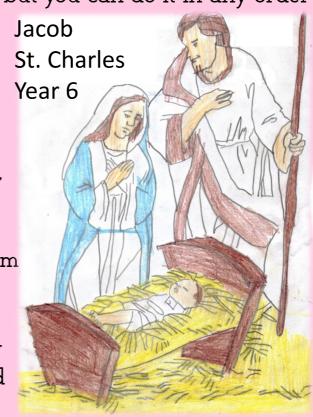
Advent and Nativity Trail, 2024: Gabriel's story

Here's what to do.

On each page of Gabriel's story in this booklet there is a question to answer. Each question relates to one of the posters that are displayed in shops and churches on the trail. The map in this booklet shows you which places to find the posters. When you find the poster that has the answer, write it down in this booklet. The blue dotted line suggests a route from St. Charles' to St. Andrew's churches (or the other way around), but you can do it in any order you like.

There will also be a display of children's art in Hadfield Methodist Church's window where the red dot is shown.

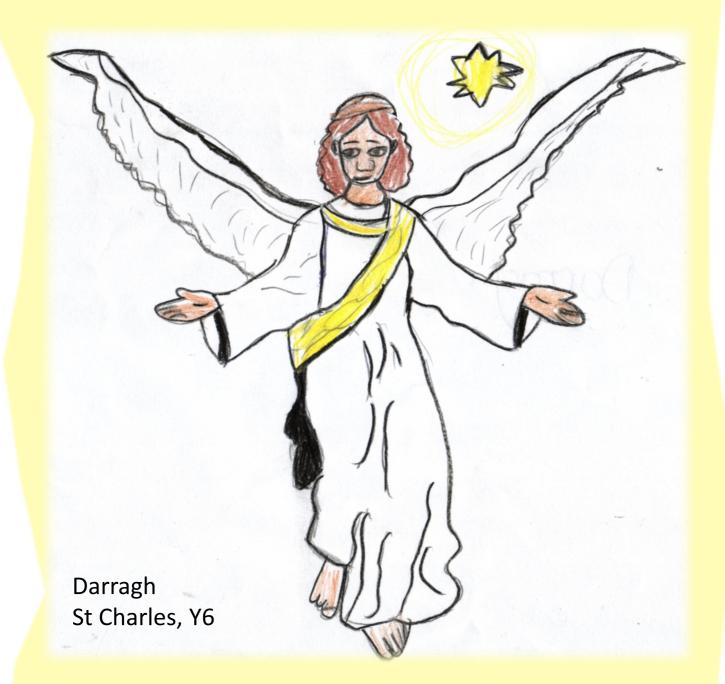
When you have filled up this booklet, you can take it to Carmel Christian Centre in the High Street on December 15th between 1:00-3:00pm or to Hadfield Methodist church on December 22nd between 11:45am-12:15pm. They will give you a goody bag with some nice things to eat and a Christmas story booklet.





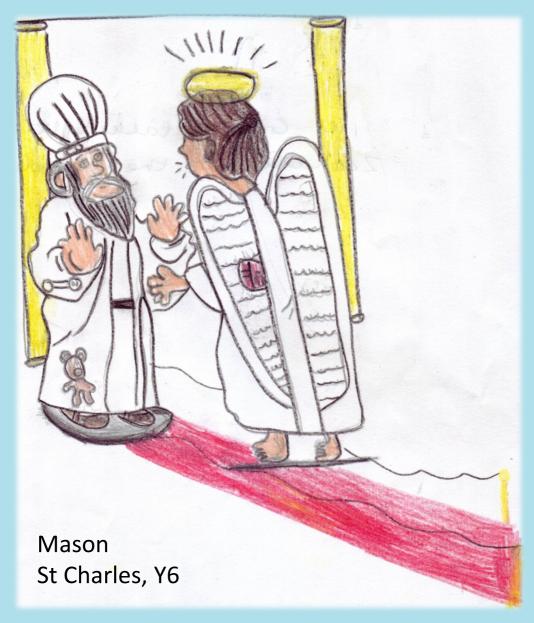
William - Infants, age 6

I am one of God's angels. My name is **Gabriel** and my job is to be a messenger for **God**. Can you guess what my name means? Find my poster in town and you'll see the answer. Here is another picture of me – aren't I handsome! Anyway, I have a wonderful story I want to tell you, so please read on and answer the questions too.



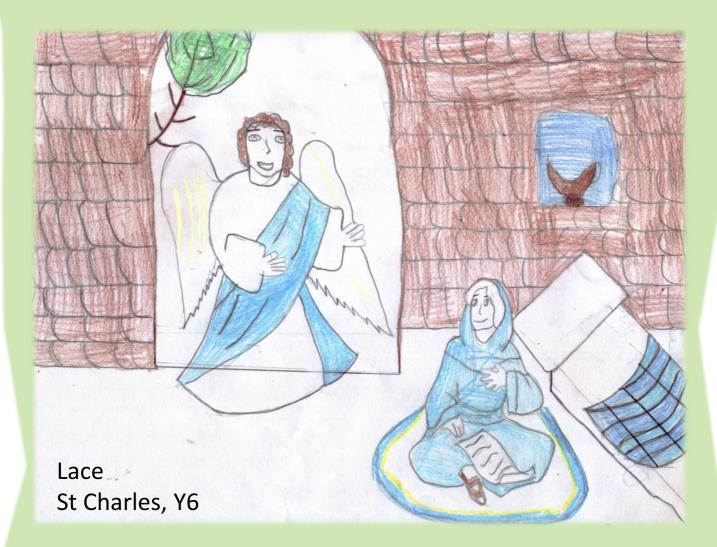
Write your answer here:

Around 2000 years ago God asked me to give very important messages to two people – one of them was a temple priest called Zechariah and the other a young woman called Mary who was engaged to be married. This is me talking to Zechariah. I told him he was going to have a special son, who would be named John, even though he and his wife were very old. You know he didn't quite believe me – and as a result of his lack of faith, do you know what happened? Well find the poster of me talking to Zechariah to find out. Meanwhile, here is a different picture of me with Zechariah.



Write your answer here:

The other person God asked me to talk to was a young woman who had recently been engaged to a carpenter called Joseph. Her name was Mary and I wasn't looking forward to seeing her because I thought she might not like the news that God had chosen her to be the mother of His son. Jesus – but it was completely different to Zechariah because she immediately accepted what God had chosen. Do you know what she said?



Find her poster and write the answer here: _

After that, **Mary** told **Joseph** all about it. Well he was not at all happy – how could she be expecting God's baby? So he decided to quietly cut off the wedding. So **God** asked me to appear to him in a dream and tell him that Mary was telling the truth.



What was the message about Jesus that God asked me to tell Joseph? Write your answer here So, everything seemed fine. Joseph accepted Mary and they got married, but then Mary went off to visit her cousin Elizabeth – this was Zechariah's wife, and she was pregnant too, as we already know. But the problem was that God wanted Jesus to be born in Bethlehem, so he got the emperor. Augustus, to tell everyone to return to their home town for a census count.

Emperor Augustus calls a Census Everyone roust return to their home town Charlie St Charles, Y6

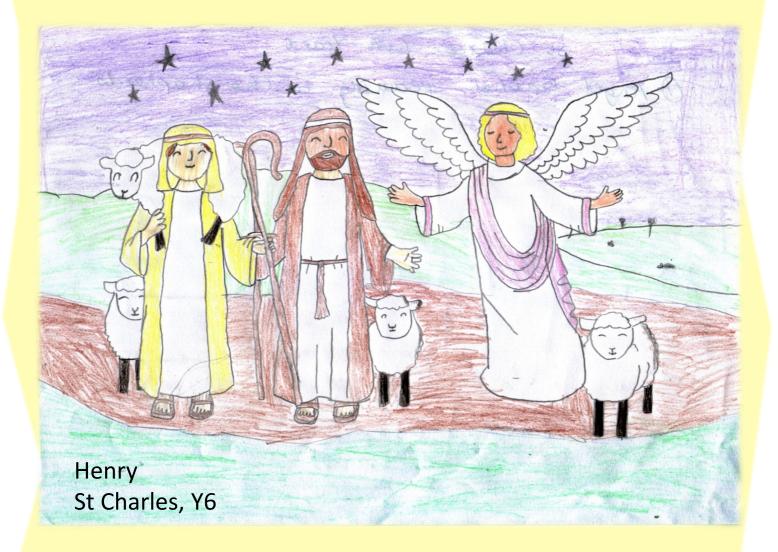
Where did the emperor live? Find the poster of his announcement and written your answer here:

Of course, Joseph and Mary had no choice but to go to his home town, which was Bethlehem. I had a real interest in them because I had been there at the beginning of the story, so I watched them on their way. I even made sure the donkey that Mary rode on was extra gentle (though that part isn't written down in the Bible it's my secret)



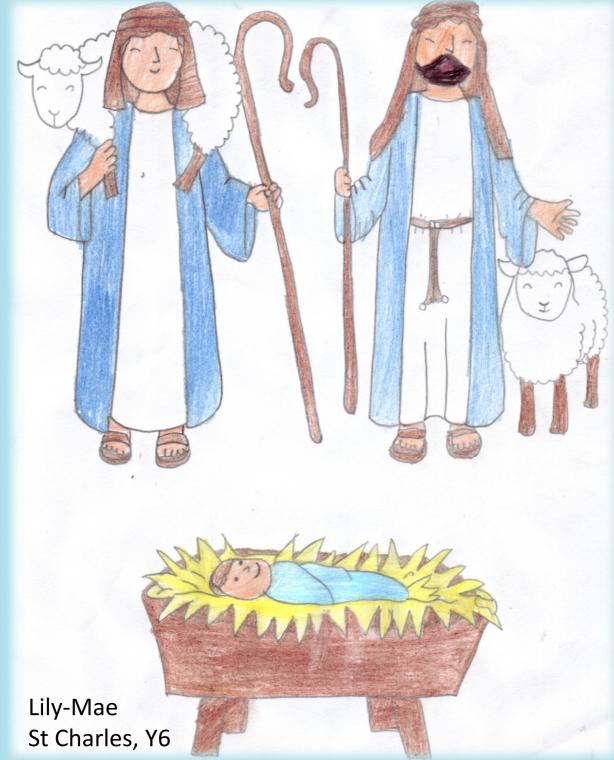
The donkey's name was **Todros** – but what does that mean? Find the poster and write your answer here:

When they got to Bethlehem they found a house to stay in, but there was no room in the guest room, so Mary and Jospeh had to stay downstairs next to where the animals were kept. So when Jesus was born, it seemed natural to use a manger to put him in. Well, God had some more errands for me – he sent me and my mates to see some shepherds and tell them about baby Jesus being born.



Find the poster of me talking to the shepherds, and write down the message I gave them:

The **shepherds** were so excited by the news we gave them – after their initial shock at seeing a sky full of angels! – that they rushed down into **Bethlehem** to visit **Jesus**.



How many shepherds went to visit baby Jesus? Find the poster and write your answer here: _____

The shepherds weren't the only visitors that Jesus had. God put a special star in the sky so that some Magi – who were holy men who lived a long way to the east – would see it and follow it to find Jesus, who they knew from prophecy would be king of the Jews. So they set off to find him...



Find their poster and write here what colour coats they are wearing:

The Magi followed that star but thinking a king would be born in a palace, they visited King Herod. Herod pretended to be interested and to want to help, so he found out from his priests that prophecies said the king would be born in Bethlehem, and he sent the Magi there.

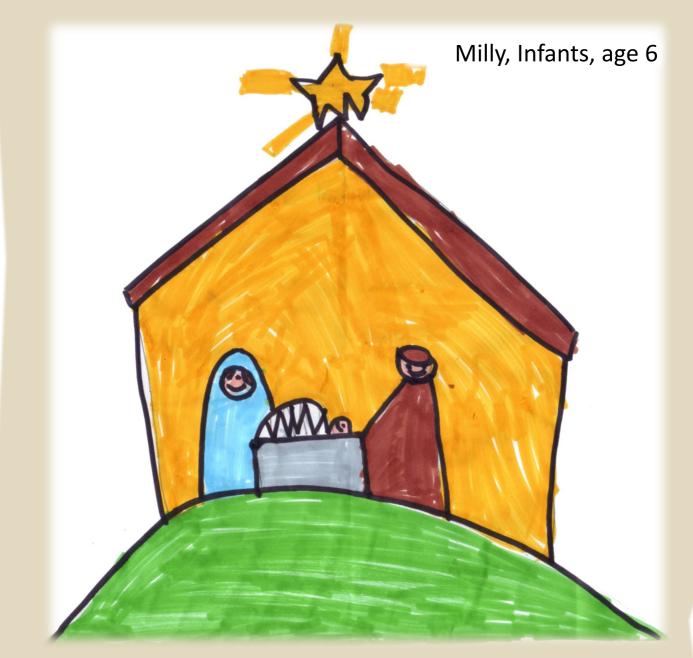


Find the post of the Magi visiting Herod to discover the prophecy – write it here:

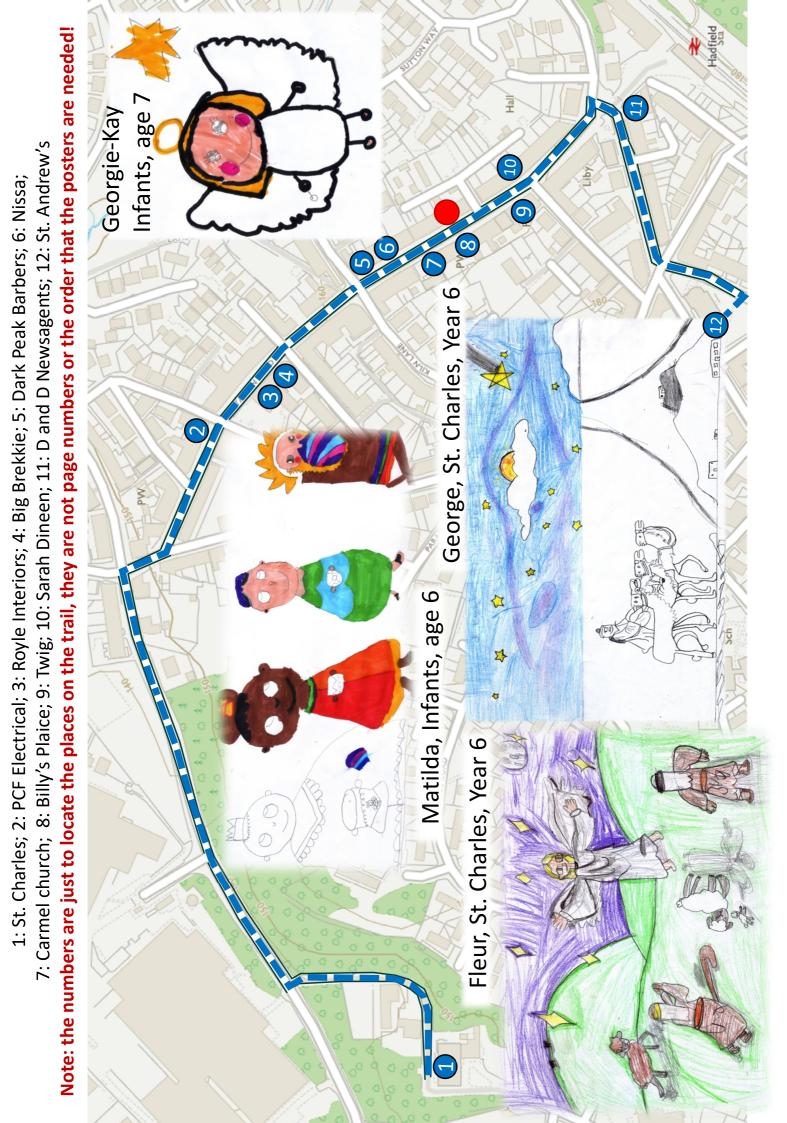
The Magi found Jesus, exactly as the prophecy had said, and gave him wonderful, costly gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Now Herod had asked them to report back to him, but his intentions were evil – he wanted to kill Jesus! Oh no! So God sent me to warn them – which I did, in a dream – and they returned to their homes without seeing Herod. Phew!



Myrrh and frankincense are sweet smelling oils, but where do they come from? Find the poster of the Magi visiting Jesus and write your answer here: So the danger was over. Or was it? Herod was furious and still wanted to kill Jesus, so God sent me on one last errand – to warn Joseph and tell him to take his family to Egypt, which I did in a dream. So baby Jesus was safe in his manger because God and his family would protect him – with some help from me. What a busy time that had been for me, but everything worked out well in the end.



Here is Jesus lying in his manger. Find the poster of Jesus and write down what a manger really is:



We would love to see you at some of our other events – you are welcome in any of our churches.

Carmel Church

- Saturday 7th December, 9:15am Kids Lego Breakfast
- Wednesday 18th December, 5:30pm Community Christmas Dinner
- 22nd December, 6:00pm Carol Service
- 23rd December, Free Santa @ Hadfield Hall to book a slot call 07709 515094
- Wednesday, 25th December 11:00am Christmas Day Family Service

Hadfield Methodist Church

- Advent study Thursday 9.30am from 28 November for four weeks
- Sunday 1 December Toy Service, 10:30am
- Sunday 8 December Action for Children Carol Service, 2:30pm
- Wednesday 11 December BBC's Nativity film with supper. starts 4:00pm.
- Wednesday, 25th December 10.30am Christmas Day Family Service
- Sunday, 29th December 10.30am Morning Service

Padfield Independent Chapel

- Christmas Quiz Night Friday, 6th December7pm Tickets £5 including supper and there will be a raffle.
- Christmas Tree Festival come in and see the trees with drinks and mince pies.
- Christmas Services at the chapel:
 - Sunday, 1st December 10.45am First Sunday in Advent - Morning Service with communion
 - Sunday, 8th December 10.45am -Morning Service
 - Sunday, 15th December 10.45am-Morning Service 2.30pm- Christingle Family Service

St. Charles Borromeo RC Church

- December 6th, 3:35pm Christmas Fayre at St. Charles school
- December 17th, 2:15pm Carol concert
- December 24th, 6:00pm Christmas Vigil Mass
- Wednesday, 25th December 11.00am Christmas Day Mass

St. Andrew's Church

- Sunday 15th Dec Carol Service at 6pm
- Tuesday 24th Dec Carols Round the Brazier in church yard at 6pm
- Wednesday 25th Dec Christmas Communion at 10am.
- Plus normal Sunday services at 10am
- Normal Wednesday Services at 10 am on 4th/11th/18th December

- Sunday, 22nd December 10.45am Lessons and Carols Service
- Wednesday, 25th December 10.45am Christmas Day Family Service
- Sunday, 29th December 10.45am Morning Service



Delilah, St Charles, Y6



Bradley,

St Charles, Y6