

Holy Family/Manger Animal Leader Roles:

- 1) Help Mary and Joseph into their outfits. Mary wears blue. There are multiple sizes depending upon the size of the child. We draw names. Anyone who has not been Mary, Joseph, or the donkey in the past can put their name in the hat. Joseph wears a striped outfit and shepherd head gear if he wishes to. And, Joseph gets a shepherd staff.
- 2) Help the donkey with the donkey suit. It's a brown towel costume.
- 3) The Holy Family does NOT process in. The Stable animals DO. The animals follow the angels and process right up to the manger area while the congregation sings, "O Come, All Ye Faithful" send all of the cows, and birds etc. (The sheep should wait and be herded in next by the shepherds.) One adult should be stationed up near the manger to help organize the animals as they gather near the manger - leaving a hole for the Holy Family to arrive and the congregation to be able to view the manger scene.
- 4) As the first reader starts reading about Mary and Joseph, Luke 2:1-5, send Mary, Joseph and the Donkey SLOWLY on their way up to the manger. They should arrive up there before the end of "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Mary kneels behind the manger and Joseph stands next to her, behind the manger. The donkey kneels next to Joseph or wherever there is room. All three should face the congregation, so they are behind the manger.
- 5) They just stay there the rest of the time.
- 6) Please help with the sheep as needed. (Find out who this year's shepherd/sheep leader is.)
- 7) After worship, please help organize the costumes back into their bins and bags.

Thanks so much!!!!

Beth