

Tot Time Nativity 2010

Set up: stage with brown sheet, back-drop, toy animals, manger

Narrator Once upon a time, actually 2000 years ago, there was a young couple called Joseph and Mary.

(Enter Joseph and Mary) Look, here they come now. Hi Mary, Hi Joseph!

Joseph Hi everybody! But please, can you tell me – where are we? We've been walking for ages and we've got lost.

Narrator Well, this is Tot Time. Where are you going?

Joseph We're going to Bethlehem. That's where my father came from, so I have to go back there and Mary here has to come with me, even though it's pretty hard going for her.

Narrator Yes, yes, I can see that. Congratulations. When are you expecting to have your baby?

Mary Soon *(She grimaces!)* Really, really soon.

Narrator What? A baby coming? Soon? Well you can't have a baby here at Tot Time, you'd better hurry up and get to Bethlehem. It's not far, just around the corner. Keep going!

Joseph Come on, my dear, can you keep walking OK? Not too far now.

(Walk around the hall)

Narrator *(to the kids)* Right, everyone. Now I need you to pretend ... can you pretend that you are living in Bethlehem, and that you don't have any room for Mary and Joseph to stay. So when they come and ask 'Can we stay at your house?' we all need to shake our heads and say 'Sorry, there's not room.' Can you do that?

(to Mary and Joseph) Well done, you've made it. Welcome to Bethlehem. But, look, it's getting late. It'll be dark soon. Do you have somewhere to stay the night?

Joseph No, we don't. But there's lots of lovely houses here. Surely someone will give us a nice comfy bed to sleep in tonight.

(go around asking ...) Hi there. Can we stay the night at your house?

Children: No, sorry, no room

(ask at least 5 times. Then walk towards the stable)

Mary Oh, no, this is terrible. The whole town is full up! We won't have anywhere to sleep. And, Joseph, OW, Joseph, I really need somewhere to lie down, and it had better be soon! I think this baby is coming.

Joseph *(panics, runs around!)* Help! The baby is coming! Please, anyone, please, we don't care where but we really really need SOMEWHERE warm and dry.

Narrator Well, I know it's not much, but you could stay in this cow shed. It is warm and dry.

Joseph A cow shed!?!? Oh well, I suppose it is better than nothing.

Narrator Come on then, come inside. The animals will make room for you.

(to the children) So Mary and Joseph stayed the night in the cow shed, and that night, sure enough, Mary's baby was born. Not in a nice clean hospital. Not at home with her mum and sisters looking after her. No, in a cow shed. And she wrapped her tiny baby in a blanket and laid him down in the manger, in the feeding trough, to sleep.

And the animals all looked on. The cows mooed, the sheep baaed quietly to help the baby sleep. Because they knew that this was a very special baby. This was Jesus, the king of kings, the son of God.