



explores

THE NATIVITY SCENE

CAN YOU NAME ALL THE PEOPLE YOU SEE?
HINT: READ LUKE 2:1-20 & MATTHEW 2:1-12!

IT'S DIFFICULT FOR MOST PEOPLE TO GET TO BETHLEHEM TO SEE THE BIRTHPLACE OF JESUS, SO THE MANGER SCENE IS A WAY TO BRING BETHLEHEM TO US. ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI WAS SO MOVED BY HIS VISIT, THAT HE WANTED A WAY FOR EVERYONE TO LIVE IN THE MOMENT OF JESUS' BIRTH. WE ARE PUT RIGHT INTO THE ACTION WITH A HOME NATIVITY SET!



GRECCIO, ITALY



ON CHRISTMAS EVE IN 1223, ST. FRANCIS PREACHED IN A STABLE WITH A MANGER & WILD ANIMALS WHERE A TEMPORARY ALTAR HAD BEEN SET UP. THIS WAS TO MAKE THE IMPORTANT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE EUCHARIST AND CHRIST'S BECOMING FLESH AND BLOOD FOR US IN WHAT IS CALLED THE INCARNATION. THE TRADITION SPREAD & IS NOW SEEN IN LIVE NATIVITY PLAYS AND MANGERS SET UP IN CHURCHES AND HOMES TODAY.



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