



SOCIETY OF MISSIONARY CHILDREN



Advent Resource Book 2020

(In English and As Gaeilge)



SOCIETY OF
MISSIONARY
CHILDREN



CUMANN
Na bPÁISTÍ
MÍSEANTA



Advent is taken from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming” and is the beginning of our Church Year.

Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, which is Sunday 29th November this year, and ends on Christmas Eve (24th December). For most Christians, the season is one of anticipation and hope.

The most common themes used for the four weeks of Advent are **Hope**, **Peace**, **Joy** and **Love**. Traditionally the primary colour of Advent is purple or violet, which reflects the fasting and waiting that forms part of the build-up to Christmas. It is also the connection between the birth and death of Jesus (a Lenten connection). On the third Sunday of Advent the colour changes to pink or rose in anticipation of the end of fasting and the start of rejoicing for the birth of the Saviour (this Sunday is sometimes celebrated as Gaudete Sunday – from the Latin word for “rejoice”).

How to use this Advent Resource Book...

If you don't already have one, set up a Prayer Space in your home, classroom or parish centre. You can do this by covering a small table with a purple/violet cloth and getting the children to make an Advent Wreath with some foliage from evergreen trees and holly trees in the garden. You will also need one white candle, one pink candle, and three purple candles. If you can't find coloured candles, simply use coloured ribbons around white candles instead.

At the beginning of each week during Advent take some time to light the appropriate candle in your Advent Wreath and use the prayers in this resource book to bring the children together in prayer. Invite the children to discuss what each candle/ theme means, particularly what it means to each one of them personally.

The resource book also includes our Advent activity calendar for 2020 and our Christmas colouring competition!

Remember, everything is available online at www.wmi.ie to download and photocopy.





Week One

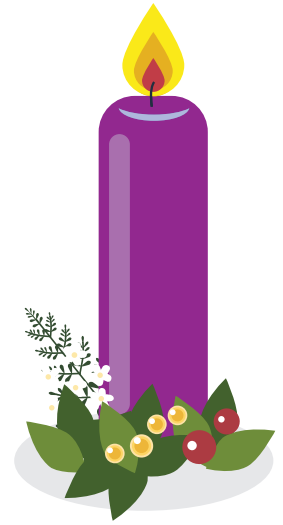
Light the First Purple Candle.
This candle represents **HOPE**

Leader: Father in heaven, we need the warmth of your love in our hearts and the light of your Word in our minds. Help us to grow in our faith so that we will be prepared and filled with HOPE when Jesus comes.

Reader: Jesus said, "Let your goodness shine out like a light in the darkness, so that through you, the love of our heavenly Father will touch the lives of others." (Matt 5:16-17)

Leader: Let us close our eyes and listen carefully to the words of this prayer:

*Dear God,
In our own little way help us to bring hope to children who are afraid, sad or alone.
We ask you to bring hope for tomorrow. Through us, shine your light of HOPE upon them.
Amen*



Week Two

Light the First and Second Purple Candle.
The second purple candle represents **PEACE**

Leader: Father in heaven, very soon the birth of your Son, Jesus, will light up the world. May his quiet coming bring us true inner peace.

Reader: To us a child is born, to us a son is given and he will be called the Prince of Peace. His kingdom will continue to grow; his kingdom will always be at peace. (Is 9:6-7)

Leader: Let us close our eyes and listen carefully to the words of this prayer:

*Dear God,
Help us to bring peace to those around us. Look after children who live in conflict at home, at school and in their country. Help us to throw your blanket of peace around their shoulders and comfort them with our friendship.
Amen*





Week Three

Light the First Two Purple Candles and the Rose Candle
The rose candle represents **JOY**

Leader: Father in heaven, we know that you love all your people. Your love brings the gift of joy to our hearts.

Reader: May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again, rejoice! Show a gentle attitude towards everyone. The Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need with a thankful heart. (Phil 4:1-6)

Leader: Let us close our eyes and listen carefully to the words of this prayer:

*Dear God,
We think of all the unhappy children in the world today. We ask you to bring a little joy to their hearts this Christmas. Thank you for the joy we feel as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.
Amen*



Week Four

Light the Three Purple Candles and the Rose Candle
The third purple candle represents **LOVE**

Leader: Father in heaven, bless our families and bring us a spirit of understanding and love. May our homes be places of peace and laughter and may your love shine from each of us.

Reader: Love is patient and kind; it is not jealous or proud. Love is not rude, selfish or irritable; love does not keep a record of wrongs. Love is not happy with lies but is happy with the truth. Love never gives up. Love is forever. (1 Cor 13:1-8)

Leader: Let us close our eyes and listen carefully to the words of this prayer:

*Dear God,
In everything we do and say, help us to show love to others. Today we ask your blessing on our circle of love and prayer. Keep us forever safe in the warmth of your love.
Amen*





Christmas Day

Light all the Coloured Candles and the White Candle

The white candle represents **JESUS CHRIST**

(Encourage the children to light a white candle at home)

Prayer: Baby Jesus, bless us today, your special day. We light this white candle to welcome you as our Saviour. As we carry you to our family crib, we think about what you have taught us. You taught us to share with others, you taught us to help one another, you taught us to be friends and you taught us to pray. When we look at the light of the candle we remember these important lessons.



Gospel Story:

Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem to register for the census ordered by Augustus. The time came for Mary to have her baby and he was born in a stable because there was no room at the inn. She wrapped him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger.

On a hillside near the town, some shepherds were watching over their sheep. Suddenly, an angel appeared and the sky was filled with God's glory. The shepherds were terrified, but the angel said, "Do not be afraid, for I have great news for you. Today a baby has been born in Bethlehem, he is Christ the Lord. You will find him lying in a manger." The sky was filled with the sound of angels singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all people on earth!"

The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem and soon found the stable. There in the manger lay a tiny baby. They told Mary and Joseph what they had seen and heard that night, and they shared their amazement. Mary listened carefully and cherished all these things in her heart. The shepherds went back to their sheep on the hillside, singing God's praises for everything had been as the angel had said. (Luke 2:1-20)



As the Pope's official children's charity for overseas mission, the Society of Missionary Children supports the physical, spiritual, and emotional wellbeing of children around the world. It encourages children to pray together for each other and for children living in poverty and fear. It also encourages children to share whatever they can, no matter how little, to help with the material needs of their brothers and sisters in need.



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Tagann Aidbhint ón bhfocal Laidine *adventus*, a chiallaíonn “teacht” agus is í tús Bhliain na hEaglaise í.

Tosaíonn Aidbhint ar an gceathrú Domhnach roimh Lá Nollag, Domhnach an 29 Samhain atá ann i mbliana, agus críochnaíonn sí ar Oíche Nollag (24 Nollaig). D’fhormhór na gCríostaithe, is séasúr é a mbaineann ionchas agus dóchas leis.

Is iad **Dóchas**, **Síocháin**, **Lúcháir** agus **Grá** na téamaí is coitianta a úsáidtear do na ceithre seachtaine in Aidbhint. Go traidisiúnta, is é corcra nó corcairghorm bundath Aidbhinte, a léiríonn an troscadh agus an feitheamh atá mar chuid d’ullmhúchán na Nollag. Is ceangal í freisin idir breith agus bás Íosa (ceangal Carghais). Ar an tríú Domhnach in Aidbhint, athraíonn an dath go bándearg nó go dath an róis agus muid ag súil le deireadh an troscaidh agus le tús an cheiliúrtha do bhreith Íosa (déantar ceiliúradh ar an Domhnach seo mar Dhomhnach an Ghairdis, a chiallaíonn “lúcháir,” uaireanta).

Socraigh Spás Urnaí i do bhaile, sheomra ranga nó in ionad an pharóiste. Is féidir leat é seo a dhéanamh ach bord beag a chlúdach le héadach corca/ corcairghorm agus na páistí a chur i mbun Fleasc Aidbhinte a dhéanamh, ar a bhfuil duilliúr ó chrainn shíorghlasa agus ó chrainn chuilinn sa ghairdín. Beidh coinneal bhán, coinneal bhándearg agus trí choinneal chorcra ag teastáil uait freisin. Mura féidir leat coinneal daite a fháil, cuir ribíní daite timpeall ar choinneal bána.

Ag tús gach seachtaine i rith Aidbhinte, glac am chun an choinneal chuí i do Fhleasc Aidbhinte a lasadh agus úsáid na paidreacha sa leabhar acmhainní seo chun na páistí a thabhairt le chéile agus iad ag guí. Iarr ar na páistí an bhrí atá le gach coinneal/téama a phlé, go háirithe an bhrí atá leo dóibh féin go pearsanta.

Tá ár bhféilire gníomhaíochta Aidbhinte do 2020 agus comórtas dathúcháin na Nollag sa leabhar acmhainní freisin!

Cuimhnigh go bhfuil gach rud ar fáil ar líne ag www.wmi.ie le híoslódáil agus le fótachóipeáil.





Seachtain a hAon

Lastar Coinneal Chorcra

Téama na céad seachtaine: **DÓCHAS**

Ceannaire: A Athair ar neamh, Tá croíúlacht do ghrá uainn inár gcroí agus tá solas do Bhriathair uainn inár n-intinní. Neartaigh ár gcreideamh ionas go mbeimid ullamh agus lán de dhóchas nuair a thiocfaidh Íosa.

Léitheoir: Dúirt Íosa: “an pobal a bhí ina suí sa dorchadas, chonaic siad solas mór, an mhuintir a chónaigh i dtír scáilmhear an bháis, d’éirigh solas chucu.” (Mhatha 5:16)

Ceannaire: Dúnaimís ár súile agus éistimís go cúramach leis na focail sa phaidir seo:

A Thiarna,

Cabhraigh linn, ar ár mbealach beag féin, dóchas a thabhairt do pháistí a bhfuil eagla nó brón orthu nó atá leo féin. Iarraimid ort dóchas a thabhairt dóibh don todhchaí. Trínne, lonraigh solas do dhóchais orthu.

Amen



Seachtain a Dó

Lastar Dhá Choinneal Chorcra

Téama na dara seachtaine: **SÍOCHÁIN**

Ceannaire: A Athair ar neamh, is gearr go lonróidh breith do Mhic, Íosa, an domhan. Go dtuga a theacht ciúin fíorshíocháin dúinn inár gcroí istigh.

Léitheoir: “Níl teorainn lena thiarnas ná críoch lena shíocháin ar chathaoir ríoga Dháiví agus ar a ríogacht, ag cur bun agus taca leo, sa cheart agus san fhíréantacht feasta go brách. – Díograis dhílis an Tiarna a chuirfidh sin i gcrích. Caitheann an Tiarna focal le Iacób agus titeann sé ar Iosrael.” (Íseáia 9:6-7)

Ceannaire: Dúnaimís ár súile agus éistimís go cúramach leis na focail sa phaidir seo:

A Thiarna,

Cabhraigh linn síocháin a thabhairt dóibh siúd atá timpeall orainn. Tabhair aire do pháistí atá ag fulaingt de bharr coimhlint sa bhaile, ar scoil nó ina dtír. Cabhraigh linn brat do shíochána a chur ina dtimpeall agus solás a thabhairt dóibh lenár gcairdeas.

Amen





Seachtain a Trí

Lastar Dha Choinneal Chorcra agus an Choinneal Bhándearg
Téama na triú seachtaine: **LÚCHÁIR**

Ceannaire: A Athair ar neamh, tá a fhios againn go bhfuil grá agat do do phobal ar fad. Cuireann do ghrá lúcháir orainn.

Léitheoir: “Bígí lúcháireach i gcónaí sa Tiarna. Deirim arís é: bíodh lúcháir oraibh. Bíodh bhur gceansacht le feiceáil ag an saol mór mar ní fada uainn an Tiarna. Ná bígí imníoch faoi rud ar bith ach cibé ní atá in easnamh oraibh cuirigí in iúl do Dhia é le hurnaí agus guí agus buíochas buan.” (Filipigh 4: 1-6)

Ceannaire: Dúnaimís ár súile agus éistimís go cúramach leis na focail sa phaidir seo:

A Thiarna,

Cuimhnimid ar na páistí ar fad ar domhan nach bhfuil aon lúcháir orthu inniu. Iarraimid ort lúcháir a chur ar a gcroí an Nollaig seo. Go raibh maith agat as an lúcháir atá orainn agus muid ag ceiliúradh bhreith Íosa.

Amen



Seachtain a Ceathair

Lastar Trí Choinneal Chorcra agus on Choinneal Bhándearg
Téama na ceathrú seachtaine: **GRÁ**

Ceannaire: A Athair ar neamh, beannaigh ár dteaghlach agus bronn orainn spiorad na tuisceana agus an ghrá. Go raibh ár dtithe lán de shíocháin agus gáire agus go raibh do ghrá ag lonnú ónár súile.

Léitheoir: “Bíonn an grá foighneach agus bíonn sé lách; ní bhíonn éad air; ní dhéanann sé maíomh ná mórtas; ní bhíonn sé mímhúinte ná leithleasach, míchéadfach ná agrach. Ní áil leis an éagóir ach is aoibhinn leis an mhaith. Bíonn sé lán d’fhadfhulaingt, lán de chreideamh, lán de dhóchas agus lán d’fhoighne. Rachaidh an fháidheoireacht ar ceal, rachaidh na teangacha dá dtost, agus rachaidh an t-eolas ar neamhní, ach ní rachaidh an grá i léig go deo.” (1 Coranthe 13)

Ceannaire: Dúnaimís ár súile agus éistimís go cúramach leis na focail sa phaidir seo:

A Thiarna,

Go dtugaimid grá do dhaoine eile i ngach rud a dhéanaimid agus a deirimid. Iarraimid ort inniu ár gcorcal grá agus guí a bheannú. Cumhdaigh muid go brách in aoibhneas do ghrá.
Amen





Lá Nollag

Lastar Trí Choinneal Chorcra, an Choinneal Bhándearg agus an Choinneal Bhán

Is Ionann an Coinneal Bhán: ÍOSA CRÍOST

(Spreag na páistí chun an coinneal seo ag solas sa bhaile)

Paidir: A Leanbh Íosa, beannaigh muid inniu, do lá speisialta. Lasaimid an choinneal bhán seo chun fáilte a chur romhat mar Shlánaitheoir againn. Agus tú á iompar againn go dtí mainséar ár dteaghlach, smaoinimid ar na rudaí a mhúin tú dúinn. Mhúin tú dúinn roinnt le daoine eile, cabhrú le chéile, bheith inár gcairde agus guí. Nuair a bhreathnaímid ar sholas na coinnele, cuimhnímid ar na ceachtanna tábhachtacha sin.



Scéal Soiscéil:

Tháinig Íosaf agus Muire go Beithil chun clárú don daonáireamh a d'ordaigh Céasar Agust. Agus tharla, le linn dóibh bheith ann, gur tháinig ionú Mhuire agus rugadh mac di i stábla mar nach raibh spás dóibh san ósta. Chlúdaigh sí in éadaí é agus shín sí i mainséar é.

Ar leiceann cnoic gar don bhaile, bhí súil á coinneáil ag roinnt aoirí ar a gcaoirigh. Go tobann, chonaic siad aingeal agus líon glóir Dé an spéir. Bhí eagla an domhain ar na haoirí, ach dúirt an t-aingeal, “Ná bíodh eagla oraibh, tá dea-scéala agam daoibh. Rugadh leanbh i mBeithil inniu, is é Críost an Tiarna é. Gheobhaidh sibh an leanbh agus é ina luí i mainséar.” Líon canadh na n-aingeal an spéir agus iad ag rá, “Glóir do Dhia in uachtar neimhe, agus síocháin ar talamh don mhuintir ar a bhfuil a ghnaoil!”

Rinne na haoirí deifir go dtí Beithil agus d'aimsigh siad an stábla. Bhí leanbh beag ina luí sa mhainséar. D'inis siad do Mhuire agus d'Íosaf cad a chuala siad agus a chonaic siad an oíche sin, agus roinn siad an t-ionadh a bhí orthu. D'éist Muire go cúramach leo agus rinne sí machnamh ar na rudaí seo ar fad ina croí. Chuaigh na haoirí ar ais chuig a gcaoirigh ar an gcnoc, ag glóiriú agus ag moladh Dé faoinar chuala siad agus a bhfaca siad, de réir mar a dúirt an t-aingeal leo. (Lúcás 2: 1-20)



Ós rud é gurb é Cumann na Leanaí Misinéireachta Eagraíocht oifigiúil charthanachta an Phápa do pháistí sa mhísean thar lear tacaímid le leas fisiceach, spioradálta, agus mothúcháin leanaí ar fud an domhain. Spreagann an Cumann páistí chun guí le chéile ar son a chéile agus ar son leanaí atá ag maireachtáil i mbochtaineacht agus faoi eagla. Spreagann sé leanaí chomh maith chun cibé rud is féidir leo a roinnt, is cuma cé chomh beag agus atá sé, chun cabhrú le riachtanais ábhartha a deartháireacha agus a ndeirfiúra. Ós rud é go bhfuil carachtar uilíoch ag ár dtionscadail breathnaítear i ndiaidh riachtanais gach leanbh, beag beann ar a gcúlra nó a gcreideamh, rud a léiríonn an nádúr uilechuimsitheach na hEaglaise Caitlicí.



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ADVENT ACTIVITY CALENDAR 2020

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
29th Nov	Light the 1st purple candle	30th Nov	Pray for loved ones who have died	1st Dec	<p>Help to put up the Christmas decorations</p>	2	<p>Make it your job to recycle at home</p>	3	<p>Ask if you can help out with the Christmas baking!</p>	4	<p>Can you hold a fundraiser for us? Mad Hair Day</p>	5	<p>Do a chore You HATE to help out at home!</p>
6th Dec	Light the 1st and 2nd purple candles	7	Ask an adult at home to read their favourite bible story to you	8	<p>Think before you speak!</p>	9	<p>Spend ten minutes watching one of God's miracles of nature</p>	10	<p>Instead of killing them, you could just put these little critters in the garden?</p>	11	<p>Sing Christmas Carols</p>	12	<p>Make sure there's a crib for baby Jesus in your home...you could make it!</p>
13th Dec	Light 1 pink and 2 purple candles	14	<p>What are you thankful for this year? Create a wall of thanks!</p>	15	<p>Pray for missionaries working away from home this Christmas</p>	16	<p>Say a prayer for peace in your</p>	17	<p>Say a prayer for peace in your</p>	18	<p>Sing Christmas Carols</p>	19	<p>Say Grace...</p>
20th Dec	Light 1 pink and 3 purple candles	21	<p>What are you thankful for this year? Create a wall of thanks!</p>	22	<p>Help with the cleaning before Christmas</p>	23	<p>Leave a note for someone in your family telling them how wonderful they are</p>	24	<p>Before you go to bed pray for all children in the world</p>	25	<p>Sing Christmas Carols</p>	25	<p>Say Grace...</p>

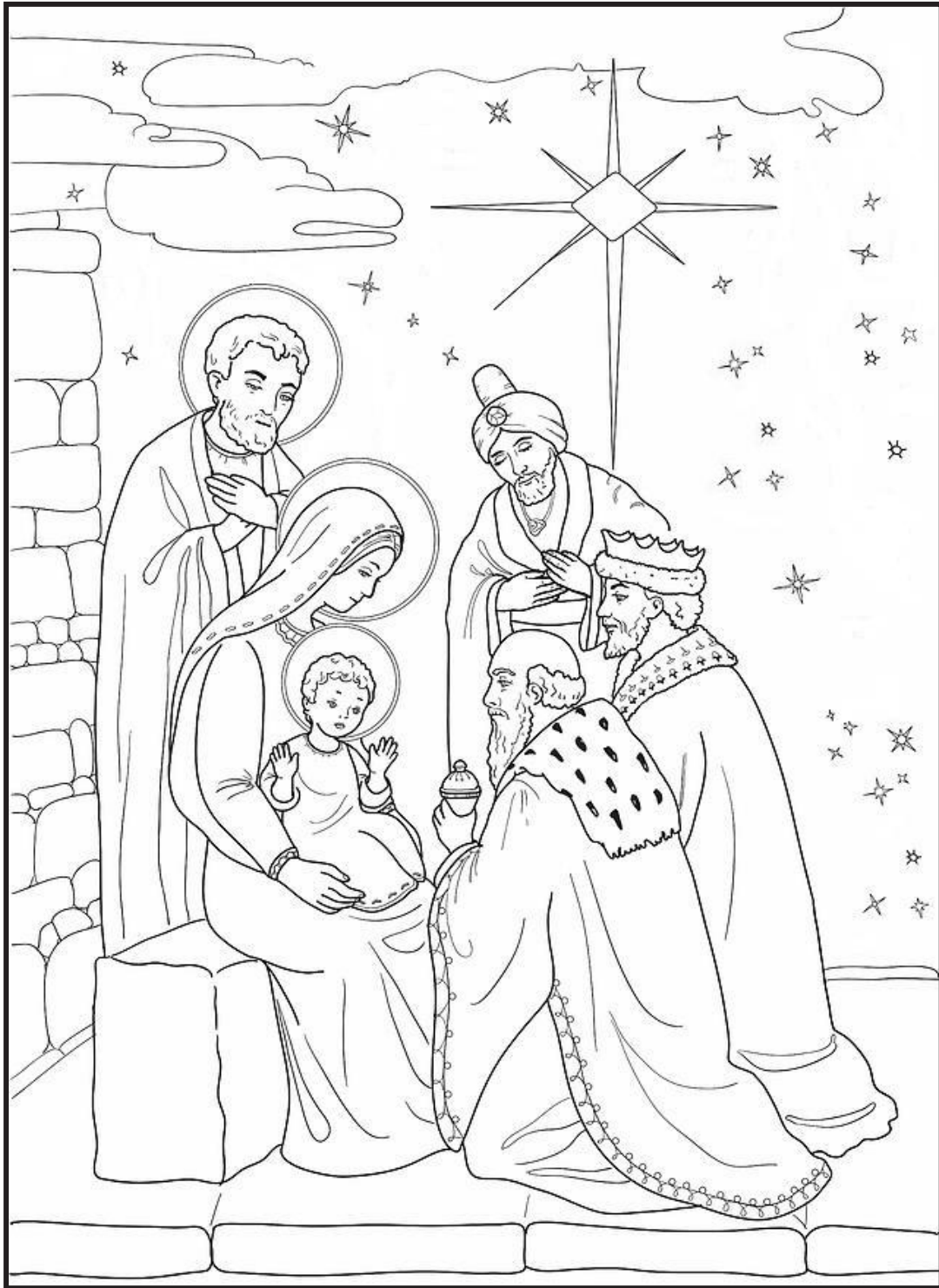
Grace Before Meals
 Bless us, O Lord,
 As we sit together.
 Bless the food we eat today.
 Bless the hands that made the food.
 Bless us O God.
 Amen

Welcome Baby Jesus



The Society of Missionary Children is the Pope's official children's charity for overseas mission. It encourages children to pray together and share whatever they can, no matter how little. Further information is available from 64 Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin 6. T: 01 497 2035 W: www.wmi.ie E: missionarychildren@wmi.ie

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR WORK!



Colour the Christmas scene above. Then fill in your name, school address, and age...simple!
Return your entry to the Society of Missionary Children, 64 Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin 6
by **CLOSING DATE: Wednesday, 23rd December 2020**
There are €20 Book Tokens to be won and other small prizes for runners-up!

My Name: _____

School Address: _____

Please Tell Us
Your Age



Teacher/Guardian
Please Tick for Assisted Learning

