



THE STAR IN THE EAST



When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, there appeared a miraculous star in the sky. The wise men from the East saw this star and they came to Jerusalem in search of Jesus.

They approached Herod, the King of Judea, and asked him: **“Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage”** (Matthew 2:1-2).

King Herod became disturbed on hearing this. He called the priests and asked them where the Messiah will be born. The priests replied that the Messiah was to be born in **“Bethlehem of Judea”**.

Herod said to the wise men, Go and search for the child in Bethlehem, When you find Him, come and inform me so that I may also go and pay homage to them,

The wise men continued their journey.
The miraculous star that appeared in
the East went before them.
The star stopped when
it reached the place where Jesus
was lying. They entered the house
and saw child Jesus along with
Mary and Joseph and worshipped Him.



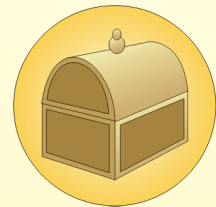
The wise men brought presents
to offer to Jesus. Do you know
what those gifts were?



Gold



Myrrh



Incense

The wise men presented the gifts and adored the infant Jesus.

According to the instruction of the angels, the wise men returned
without going back to Herod. King Herod knew he had been tricked
by the wise men. Then he got angry and ordered to kill all the male
babies in Bethlehem who were below two years of age.

An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him of
Herod's decision to kill child Jesus. Joseph woke up from
sleep and took Mary and child Jesus and fled to Egypt.
Thus Jesus was saved from Herod's hands.

The church celebrates the **Feast of the Innocents** on
28th December, in order to remember the
children who were killed by Herod.



When Herod died the angel again appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel asked him to come back to the land of Israel along with Mary and child. He did so.

They went to Nazareth and stayed there. Thus Jesus was called "Nazarene".

Jesus, the Nazarene,
the king of the Jews.

Let us sing



The wise may bring their learning,
The rich may bring their gold;
And some may bring their greatness,
And glories new and old;
We too would bring our treasures
To offer to the King.
We have no wealth nor wisdom;
What shall we children bring?

We'll bring the little duties,
We have to do each day,
We'll try our best to please him
At home, at school, at play.
And these shall be the treasures
We offer to the King,
And these are gifts that even
The poorest child can bring.

**Pick up the letters from the word
bag and complete the words**

M_rrh

Ince_se

Go_d

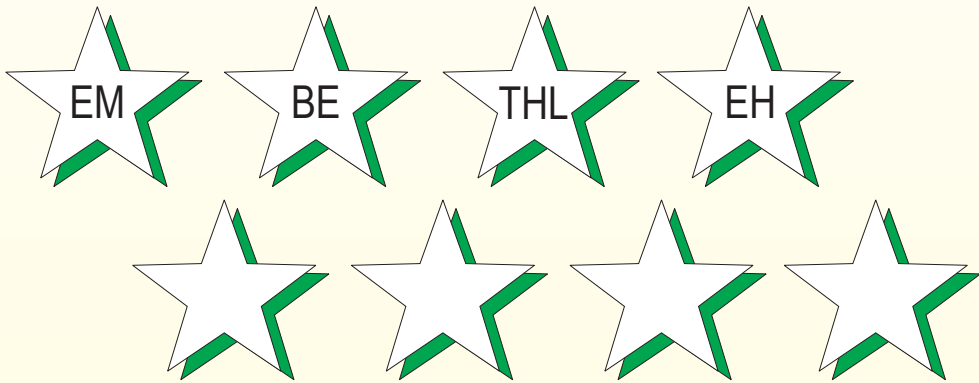


Let us pray

O God, who led the humble shepherds and the wise men to the presence of the child Jesus, we praise you.



If you arrange the star properly, you will reach a particular place. Can you find it out?



Let us imitate

Just like the wise men, who reached Bethlehem to see Jesus, taking up so much sacrifice, let us also go to church and adore Jesus.

Find out the answers

1. Whom did the wise men seek
2. What were the gifts that the wise men offered to child Jesus?
3. Why do we call Jesus as Nazarene?