Theme: Family Reception Year Topic: Ourselves

God says, You are precious to me. I love you.



I know you.
I know your name.
I call you by your name.
You are my child.
(based on Isaiah 43:1-2)

I trust you God
Just like a baby safe and snug
Being carried in a mum's arms.
So I can rest in your love
So gently held. So lovingly held.
So good to be in your care.
I will rest in your love for me.
(based on Psalm 131)



Theme: Family Year One Topic: Families.

Thanksgiving (based on Psalm 28:6-8)
Blessed be God.
God hears me when I pray for strength.
God is strong for me.
God takes care of me.
How good God is to me!
God helps me and I feel strong again.
Thank you God. Thank you God



Don't Worry!

One day two brothers came to Jesus to ask him to sort out a problem about sharing out some money. Jesus explained to them that there were more important things in life than being rich. It is more important to be loving and kind. Jesus said. 'Don't worry about food or about clothes. Life is more important than those things.' Jesus pointed to some birds and explained, 'Look at the birds they don't store things up. God feeds them, and you are worth more than birds. Look at the wild flowers, they are not rich, but even a king does not look as beautiful as a flower, God makes them beautiful. He cares much more about you. So don't be worried, trust God. (Based on Luke 12:27-30)

I am glad and I thank God who helps me.
I know God is always there to show me what to do.

I feel happy and full of joy For I feel safe with you my God

You will never leave me by myself, on my own. (Based on Psalm 16:7-9)



I feel safe, so very safe, when I think of you my God. Snuggled up in bed even when it's dark outside I feel safe.

Your love for me is strong

You care for me like a mother bird cares for her baby chicks.

I know you are always there for me.

You always listen to me.

You comfort me when I am sad

You help me to be strong when things are very hard.

(Based on Psalm 63:6-9)

Theme: Families
Year Two
Topic: Beginnings.

The world is a treasure

God said, "Let there be light," and there was the sun.

God said, "Let there be water," and there were the seas.

God said, "Let the seas be filled with living creatures

and the skies be filled with flying creatures." And they were.

God said, "Let the earth be filled with animals," and so it was.

God saw that it was good.

So then God created men and women who would love and care for the world.

God looked at all creation and it was very good. (based on Genesis 1:3,9,20,24-26)

We praise you God

Each day the sun rises high in the sky to give us light and warmth.

Words are not needed to tell us how wonderful you are: The silent message reaches everyone, everywhere We are full of joy as each new day begins. (Based on Psalm 19: 1-5) Great and wonderful Creator God I thank you and I praise you For creating wonderful me.

(R.) You love me and you know me. Whilst I was in my mother's womb

(R.) You loved me and you knew me. You watched me growing and moving.

(R.) You loved me and you knew me. You were there at my very beginning.

(R.) You loved me and you knew me. You are there at the beginning of each new day. You are there at every new beginning I make.

Your thoughts and dreams for me are as many as the stars in heaven and grains of sand on the seashore. I think You are just WONDERFUL! Great and wonderful creator God I thank you and I praise you. (Based on Psalm 139)



When we look at the sky you have made,
We wonder how big it all is;
The moon and the stars shining there.
How far away can they be?

And we feel so small standing here on the ground; And the sky is so vast, so high up above. But you make us great, Make us all just like you.

> You give us your world. Let us give it your love. (based on Psalm 8)



God loved us and chose us before the world was made to be holy.

Because he loved us, God decided to make us his own children.



Based on Ephesians 1:4-5 (Come & See)

Theme: Belonging Year One Topic: Belonging.

Let the children come to me. Mark 10:13-16

Some people brought children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples scolded them. When Jesus noticed this, he was angry and said to his disciples,

"Let the children come to me and do not stop them."
He took the children in his arms and placed his hands on each of them and blessed them.

Theme: Loving Reception Year Topic: Birthday.

Luke's story of the birth of Jesus

The Roman Emperor, Caesar Augustus, wanted to know how many people lived in his empire. Everyone had to go back to the place where families came from to sign their name in a big register. Joseph and Mary had to go to Bethlehem. While they were in Bethlehem Mary's baby was born. She had a little boy. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes. She put him in a manger, because that was the safest place for him to be. There was no room in the house for Mary and Joseph and their baby, so they stayed in the place where the animals were kept.

(based on Luke 2:1-7)

The Shepherds

On the night Jesus was born, there were some shepherds in a field nearby looking after their sheep. Suddenly there was light everywhere and a messenger from God appeared. The shepherds were terrified, but he messenger said,

"Don't be afraid! God has sent me to bring you news of great joy. This is a special night for everyone on earth. Tonight a baby called Jesus has been born in Bethlehem. You will find him wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."

Then the shepherds could hear the sound of many voices praising God.

"Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth."

The shepherds to each other,

"Let us go to Bethlehem to see this wonderful thing."

So they hurried away and found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in the manger. They told everyone what had happened and everyone was amazed. Mary remembered all of this and though about it often. The shepherds went back praising and thanking God, for all they had seen and heard. (based on Luke 2:8-20)

Matthew's story of the Wise Men

Jesus was born in Bethlehem, a town in Judea, in the time of King Herod. Some wise men came from the East to Jerusalem asking,

"Where is the baby who will be King of the Jews? We have seen his star in the sky and have come to worship him."

King Herod was very confused when he heard this question, and so was everyone else in

Jerusalem.

He called the priests and teachers to him and asked them what they knew about it. They said,

"A long time ago a prophet said, "A baby will be born in Bethlehem. He will be a great leader. He will look after God's people."

King Herod said to the wise men, "Go to Bethlehem and find the baby. Then come back and tell me where he is. I will also go and worship him."

So they went on their way. The star which they had seen led them until it stopped over the place where the baby was. They were filled with joy. They went into the house and found the baby with his mother Mary.

They knelt down and worshipped him. They opened their treasures and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. God told them in a dream not to go back to King Herod, so they went back to their own country by a different way. (based on Matthew 2:1-12)



Theme: Loving Year One Topic: Waiting.

The Annunciation

God sent at messenger, named Gabriel, to a young woman called Mary. She lived in Nazareth and was going to be married to Joseph. Gabriel said.

"Rejoice, Mary. God has blessed you and God is very close to you." Mary did not understand these words. She was worried and wondered what it all meant.

Then Gabriel said, "Don't be afraid, Mary. You have pleased God very much. Listen! You are going to have a baby. His name will be Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of God. Your cousin Elizabeth is also having a baby. People thought she was too old to but she is already six months pregnant. God can do anything."

Then Mary said, "I want to please God. I am happy to do whatever God wants." And Gabriel left her.

(based on Luke 1:26-31,38)





Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth

Elizabeth and Zecheriah lived in a town in the hill country of Judah. Soon after Gabriel's visit, Mary got ready and hurried as quickly as she could to Elizabeth's house. She went into the house and called to Elizabeth. As soon as Elizabeth heard Mary calling, her heart filled with joy and she said, "God has blessed you. God is very close to you. Your baby will be a very special child. As soon as I heard your voice my baby jumped within me with gladness. How happy you are because you know God's message will come true!" (Luke 1:39-45)

Luke's story of the birth of Jesus

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(based on Luke 2:8-20)

Theme: Loving
Year Two
Topic: Preparations.

Someone is coming
Once long ago,
people felt as though they were living in the dark.
Then something happened.
It was as though a great light
brightened up their lives and brought them joy.

A child has been born to us.

A son given to us.

And these are the names he has been given:

Strong Friend,

Powerful God,

Ever-loving Father,

Bringer of Peace.

(Based on Isaiah 9:2,6)

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(based on Luke 2:1-7)

Mary's Song

Mary was so happy, she sang a song of praise to God.

"God is so good. My heart is full of joy.

I give thanks and praise to God,

for God has blessed me very specially.

I am poor and unimportant,

Yet God has done such great things for me.

Holy is God's name.

God is so strong.

God's love lasts for ever.

God looks after everyone.

God is with the poor and the hungry.

God is always very close.

God never forgives anyone."

(based on Luke 1:46-55)

