

THIS *Advent*, JOIN US IN DELIVERING

## *Life, Peace, and Hope*

TO MOTHERS AND BABIES IN THE HOLY LAND.

**Bring the Nativity Story to life** in your parish this Advent and become a part of Holy Family Hospital's ministry taking place just **1,500 steps from the birthplace of Christ**.

### WHAT IS BABIES IN BETHLEHEM?

**Babies in Bethlehem** is a faith-in-action project that offers families in the United States an opportunity to grow in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the Holy Land. Your parish can provide life-transforming maternity and neonatal care to the mothers, babies, and families who need it most. Activities include:



Bring the Nativity Story  
to *life* in your parish!

#### **Bethlehem Boxes**

- ▶ Students and young people **collect donations** for Holy Family Hospital throughout Advent in their own Bethlehem Boxes, available for free from Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation.

#### **Student Reflections**

- ▶ Students promote **Babies in Bethlehem** in schools, Masses, and faith formation classes using sample reflections and a video provided in **the Advent Toolkit**.

#### **Parish Collections**

- ▶ Parishioners participate in parish-designated **Second Collections** and/or **Poor Box Collections** throughout the four weeks of Advent.

### WHY BABIES IN BETHLEHEM?

#### **Curriculum Enrichment**

- ▶ **The Advent Toolkit** includes comprehensive lesson materials and discussion guides designed to enhance curricula in religion, history, and current events.

#### **Community Building**

- ▶ **Babies in Bethlehem** fosters a greater understanding of the universality of the Catholic Church.
- ▶ Parishioners deepen in solidarity with mothers, babies, and families throughout the Holy Land.



## PROJECT TIMELINE

### Pre-Advent

#### PROMOTE BABIES IN BETHLEHEM

- ▶ Introduce parishioners and students to Holy Family Hospital's mission and the **Babies in Bethlehem** program.
- ▶ Contact Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation to order materials for student collections.

#### PARISH BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT

- ▶ Begin advertising **Babies in Bethlehem** campaign and opportunities for further involvement, including Second Collections/Poor Box collections throughout Advent.

## ADVENT

### Week 1

#### BETHLEHEM BOX DISTRIBUTION

- ▶ Bethlehem Boxes and informational materials are distributed in schools and faith formation/youth ministry programs.

### Week 2

#### ADVENT LESSON PLANS

- ▶ Teachers show the video about Holy Family Hospital and incorporate lesson plans and activities highlighting the significance of the Advent season.

### Week 3

#### SECOND COLLECTION/POOR BOX COLLECTION

- ▶ Student volunteers speak at Masses, reflecting on the program and encouraging parishioners to participate in Second Collection/Poor Box Collection. Students show the Holy Family Hospital testimonial video in their parish.

### Week 4

#### ADVENT REFLECTION

- ▶ Prayerfully prepare for the coming of Christ.

### Post-Advent

- ▶ Bethlehem Boxes are collected.
- ▶ Thank you letters are sent to participating schools from the Foundation.

## YOUR ADVENT TOOLKIT

### Babies in Bethlehem Support Materials

Find everything you need to launch **Babies in Bethlehem** in your parish at [birthplaceofhope.org](http://birthplaceofhope.org).

- ▶ Student reflection
- ▶ Bethlehem Boxes information sheet
- ▶ Babies in Bethlehem video
- ▶ Lesson plans and curriculum enrichment materials
- ▶ Advent activities for all grade levels
- ▶ Sample parish bulletin announcements

### Sending Collections

- ▶ All checks made payable to **Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation** and mailed to:

Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation  
Babies in Bethlehem  
2000 P Street, NW  
Suite 310  
Washington, DC 20036

#### Questions?

Please contact: Holy Family  
Hospital of Bethlehem  
Foundation at (202) 785-0801