

Posada

A community Advent count-down

Make room for the meaning of Christmas.



Mary and Joseph and the donkey are travelling through Trumpington this Advent. Can you give them a room for the night?



'Posada' is a South American Christmas tradition.

The word is Spanish for 'lodging' or accommodation'.

In Mexico and Guatemala, two young people dressed as Mary and Joseph travel from house to house in the last days of Advent, asking for a room for the night, telling people about the imminent arrival of Jesus. If the household lets them in, they all sing carols round a crib and celebrate by smashing open a piñata full of sweets.

After a fantastic posada last year Trumpington is joining in again with **knitted figures of Mary and Joseph**, and, of course, the knitted donkey. They will travel around Trumpington, staying at a different home every night and will finally take their place in the crib at St Mary and St Michael's church at the Christingle Service, 5pm, Christmas Eve, to celebrate the birth of Jesus.



Who can take part?

Anyone can sign up. You don't need to be part of church.

See the back for full details

www.Trumpington.Church/Donkey

ST. MARY & ST. MICHAEL
TRUMPINGTON

How to make the most of the experience

Mary, Joseph and the donkey will come with a pack of suggestions for how you might use Posada to engage with the Christmas story.

- You could prepare a place for them to sit, or make them a bed for the night!
- Read the story books included, too.
- Use the Posada prayer as you receive them and hand them on.
- You might like to include Mary and Joseph in your activities and meal-times.

Then... share

- Write or draw in Mary and Joseph's travel journal
- Post your photos on the St Mary and St Michael, Trumpington facebook page.



Why take part?

Open up!

Some people find that Posada helps them to make room for the Christmas story during Advent: hosting Mary and Joseph helps us remember their journey to Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus. Giving them a room for the night helps us to open up our own hearts and homes to Jesus and the hope he brings.

Build community!

Mary and Joseph's journey will hopefully criss-cross the whole community of Trumpington, connecting us all together.

Stand together

But the travelling figures of Mary and Joseph also remind us of the millions of people in the world who are refugees and homeless. Some people find that Posada helps them to stand in solidarity with people who have no stable home, and encourages them to pray and act.

New home?

Or perhaps you have recently moved into a new house. When you offer hospitality to Mary and Joseph you might like to use it as a chance to commit to make your new home a place of hospitality to friends and strangers.



Who can take part?

Anyone can sign up. You don't need to be part of church.

How does Posada work?

1. You sign up to host the figures on a day between 3rd December and 24th December.
2. On your chosen day, the previous hosts bring the figures to you. They will ring you to arrange a good time for you both.
3. On the next day, you take the figures to the next host, after you have rung them to arrange a time.

So, you need to be available on your day, and on the following day.

How do I sign up?

Send your name, contact number and address to the coordinator:

The Reverend Sarah Atkins
(curate at St Mary and St Michael's Trumpington)
sarahcurate@trumpingtonchurch.org.uk
07906 659655.
www.Trumpington.Church/Donkey

