

## What is Posadas

Las Posadas, the tradition, was brought to Mexico from Spain by Catholic Missionaries in the 1500s. The tradition reminds us of the journey that Mary and Joseph made looking for shelter in Bethlehem before baby Jesus was born. The festival is called Las Posadas, because the word "posada" means "inn" in Spanish, so Las Posadas means "the inns."

In the Nativity story, Mary and Joseph knock on the doors of all the inns in the town, searching for shelter, before finally finding somewhere to stay. In Mexico, every night of Las Posada, everyone goes door to door singing carols and reading passages from the Bible. At each house, they ask if there

is room at the inn. They are turned away until they arrive at the last house. When they arrive here, they're invited inside, where there is a piñata filled with toys and candy. The final night, December 24, is the most festive and concludes with Christmas Mass at midnight.



Families can sign up to take part in our local Posada by signing up to become hosts to Mary, Joseph, and the donkey for one night during Advent and share their journey with us. During this time, children have an opportunity to learn more about the Christmas story, and everyone can meet others from their community as the figures are passed from one house to the next.

## Posada 2022

