

St Joseph's Crib Exhibition and Competition

For the past couple of years we have had a crib competition where people bring cribs (nativity sets) into church, homemade, bought, simple or ornate. We will be carrying on the tradition this year and **warmly invite all the community to take part. The making of a crib by the whole family can be a magical and reflective time of preparation for the upcoming Christmas.** As you work, you can have great fun and talk with children or reflect alone about the traditions associated with Christmas.

It is an opportunity to focus on the true meaning of Christmas with family and friends and to create something that will show something of the faith of the Church which we all share.

Inspiration and suggestions can be found on the Internet, just enter: 'Christmas Crib' in a search engine!



A little bit about the tradition of cribs

Christmas crib exists thanks to Saint Francis.

On 24th of December 1223, St Francis organized the world's first living Christmas crib in Greccio. It showed the interior of the

Bethlehem stable on a natural scale, along with people and live animals.

In this way, Francis wanted to introduce the mystery of Christmas to the simple people. The cave was filled with hay. The friars laid a figurine of Jesus on it, carved from wood, and introduced a live ox and a donkey next to it. Greccio's inhabitants dressed as members of the Holy Family.

Details of the competition

The Cribs can be made by anyone (individual or group) in any technique and in any size. Of course, the need to transport and display should be taken into account! The crib should be delivered to the Church during opening times up to noon on Saturday 19th December. Please bring your crib with the completed form overleaf.

The Cribs can be collected Christmas Eve onwards, for you to display them in your own home until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which marks the end of Christmastide and which is Sunday 10th January. However, in many countries cribs are displayed in homes and churches until the feast of the Presentation (Candlemas), on 2nd February, and you may wish to follow that tradition!

Thanks and we look forward to seeing your work!

St Joseph's Crib Competition 2020

Entry Form

Parish use only

Title of the Crib _____

Names and surname of the creators (including age if under 18)*

Please tell us any relevant details of the crib if applicable (e.g. how much is home-made, materials, origin)*

Contact details (in the case of a person under 18, contact details of a parent or legal guardian)

Contact person _____

Email _____ Phone no. _____

Agreement

I agree to the storage and processing of my personal data, which will only be used for the purposes of conducting the Crib Competition

Signature _____ Date _____

* please use the reverse of this form if you need more space