

2024 Living Nativity Script

Station 4: Guide notes

Dress for being outside and walking all night.

Guests will be arriving at the church and they will drive down the back lane over to the farm. They have a little audio thing to listen to as they drive. Then they will park in the lot and walk up to the Roman booth at the front edge of the parking lot, who will then send the guests to us. **We will be outside in front of the market.**

As the guests get to us, Tori will put them into groups. They may have to wait for a few minutes for a group to assemble. When there are about 30 gathered, Tori will let us know it's time to go.

Here are the places you go with the talking points you need.

1. Introduce yourself with a Jewish/Biblical name.

Tell people you are taking them to the Inn in Bethlehem tonight and they can register with the Romans first thing tomorrow morning.

Tell people that we have to go by King Herod's palace but we want to sneak by without being seen. He's crazy and if he decides he wants to stop us and question us, we have to go in there. Just try to be quiet and not make a scene!

2. King Herod's Palace

After Herod's palace, talk about what you saw. (Amazing that there were kings from Babylon right here in our little Jerusalem! They think there is a new baby king! Micah is from our scriptures, but he lived 700 years ago! etc.)

3. Shepherds

Pet the sheep, look at their props, stay a minute

Look at the huge star over Bethlehem that just appeared recently – ask people if they have noticed it.

Try to get everyone gathered up in one big group (maybe take a “water break” or something) before you walk by the angels. Otherwise the people in the back will miss it completely.

4. Angels Sing

After the angels sing, lead them down the path towards the horse barn.

You could talk about the robbers in the hills along the roads.

You could watch for Roman soldiers who can be very mean.

Tell them you can take a shortcut through the horse stables, but they are Roman horses so don't pet them.

Reassure them that the inn is just beyond the horse stable and they will be safe and snug in a cozy bed very soon.

Tell them you are friends with the innkeeper – you will get them checked in for the night and they can register first thing in the morning.

5. Walk through the horse barn

Try to keep people moving

6. The Inn

Encourage a kid in the group to ring the bell and the innkeeper will take it from there. Afterward, you can express amazement that there is no room in the inn. But take them on to the Roman registration booth so they can register tonight and shop at the market and hopefully find a dry place to sleep somewhere in there.

7. Roman Centurion

He will talk to you and your group and keep things going for you.

Your group will sign in with the Romans.

8. The Market

At this point you thank them and tell them goodnight.

NOTE: The groups alternate between “long” (being a more drawn-out questioning at the Inn and a longer signing process at the Roman Centurion station) and “short” (where they keep things moving at a slightly faster pace). Tori should be able to let you know which group you are leading, and you will communicate that to the Innkeeper and the Roman Centurion.