

# Appendix 1

## Gospel Reading

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Read the paraphrased Gospel below. The full text is underneath for reference, but KS2 classes might prefer to read this instead of the paraphrased version.

### Matthew 2: 1 - 12

#### Paraphrased Gospel

After Jesus had been born in Bethlehem, some wise men came from the east following a star which stopped over the place where Jesus was. The sight of the star made the wise men joyful and they went into the house where the baby Jesus was lying.

There, they saw Jesus with His mother Mary and they knelt down in front of Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

#### Full Text

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. "Where is the infant king of the Jews?" they asked. "We saw His star as it rose and have come to do Him homage."

When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. "At Bethlehem in Judaea," they told him, "for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. "Go and find out all about the child," he said, "and when you have found Him, let me know, so that I too may go and do Him homage."

Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of

the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with His mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did Him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.