Adopt a New Family Tradition

For Advent

In 4 Easy Steps

1. Find a basket, which will substitute for a Manger.

2. On a piece of paper write the names of all family members, roll each one up and place in a bowl. Have each person pick a name from the bowl. From now until Christmas, that person will be the one "who is under your care" and you will do "little favors" for them, at least one "surprise" per day. This creates a wonderful atmosphere of joyful suspense and loving kindness, because it is done without being "found out". In this way, the family is living in the same "spirit" as Jesus.

3. For every "little favor" a person does they can put a straw in the Manger. Each week, we see the bed of straw grow.

4. Chose a "baby" (which can be a baby doll or a statue of Baby Jesus).

5. On Christmas Eve, place Baby Jesus in the Manger. He will sleep on a bed of love - your gift to Jesus for Christmas.

 "**Love one another**; as I have **loved** you". ... John 15:12

One Variation: You can choose a new name from the bowl each week if you like to mix things up.