

4th Sunday in Advent

Bonding time: the Nativity in Townsville.

Jan Hynes, 2007.

Oil on canvas. 80 x 100 cm

Matthew 2: 1-13

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem village, J...

Reflection: (look carefully at the image by working in from all four edges)

A shell is an ancient symbol of pilgrimage and journey. What other symbols of or preparations for a journey are in the painting?

Their journey will be sudden and unexpected.

Dislocation and dispossession are thrust on many people in our world. Do you know what that feels like? Who comes to your mind as struggling to cope with this?

Ritual:

Each time you light your 4th candle this week be thankful for your 'home' places. Pray for those dislocated by war, famine, disaster, poverty, loss of work, or other circumstance. Is there anyone you can 'welcome home' this Christmas?

Advent in Art is a project of World Vision New Zealand and Australia for the spiritual nurture of their staff.