## The Road to Bethlehem

By Alex

This is going to be a very special story because it is a story about our baby Jesus, his mother Mary Our Lady, and his father Joseph the carpenter. It is also special because it is about Christ's birthday and people coming together.

The story begins in Tanzania in a really poor school in this very poor country. The school children have a brilliant idea about how they want to raise money for the school for buying food, writing books, pencils, pens, paper, reading books and having good education.

It started when one of the school children called John said, 'Lets tell people that we are going to put on a play about the Christmas story called The Road to Bethlehem and we will be the actors.' John told them, 'Our friends are going to help us and act the characters like Mary, Joseph, Jesus, the three kings and shepherds and the wise men. We will have an angel Gabriel who will be the narrator.' John also said to them, 'We will need animals too, like cows, sheep, donkeys, horses, camels to be in our play.'

A girl in the class said, 'We should use real animals and can get them from our local farmers because I'm sure they want to help us.' Someone else called Robert asked about who is going to stitch and make the costumes and they all shouted, 'Well we can do that'.

Now they all worked really hard to make the costumes and the parents gave them any spare cloth they had and joined in. Then they got on with preparing the stage and the rehearsing began.

First Angel Gabriel who came down from heaven was the narrator and exclaimed, 'Mary you are going to have a baby and his name shall be Jesus.' Then Angel Gabriel goes to Joseph and tells him, 'You need to go to Bethlehem and help take Mary to that place.' So they both set off and they actually rode on a real donkey in the play.

Now they were on their way to Bethlehem because that is where Christ our saviour was born in a stable. The journey was very long and difficult for them and they were scared because they thought that Mary's baby might be born on the way.

All the children in the school were so excited because their parents and families were watching them performing their own play on stage.

Well at last baby Jesus is born and the wise men and kings gather all around and then the people in the audience start clapping really, really loud.

Then this is a quote from all the children, 'Thank you very much for donating your money and we are very happy because we can now have a really good education'.

