



ROC Northern Ireland Follow the Star Nativity Trail Information Form

Thank you for your interest in the Follow the Star Nativity Trail taking place in communities across Northern Ireland in the lead up to Christmas. Please read this information sheet before completing the Interest Form.

Why a Nativity Trail?

Well firstly, it's Christmas and there's an incredible story to be told!

ROC first launched the Follow the Star Nativity Trail in 2022 with five churches in Lower North Belfast joining together to tell the Christmas story. Churches of different denominations along York Road and Shore Road displayed pictures telling the different parts of the nativity.

What is a Nativity Trail?

Very simply, a nativity trail tells the Christmas story in different sections using pictures and text from the bible. Churches, community centres, businesses and schools can get involved in this festive community initiative. Each venue will be allocated a different part of the story (stars, angels, donkeys, sheep, presents and stable). Pictures are decorated and then displayed, along with the Christmas story text and QR code, for passers-by to see.

Our step by step guide to running your Follow the Star Nativity Trail...

1. **Get other churches, community groups, businesses and/or schools on board.** A maximum of six stops needed for the trail. Appoint a main Point of Contact who will liaise with the ROC Team and participating groups.
2. **Let the ROC Team know you're taking part** by completing the interest form.
3. The **ROC Team will send the Point of Contact a resource pack** with instructions, colouring pictures for each stop along with wording and QR code.
4. **Point of Contact to distribute resources** to Nativity Trail partners. These should be sent at least 3 weeks in advance of the trail start date to ensure the trail is ready on time!
5. Some tips for each Nativity Trail location
 1. **Encourage children & young people to get involved** by decorating pictures – a great activity for uniformed organisations, Sunday Schools and Kids Clubs.
 2. Make sure **all sheets are laminated**, especially if they'll be displayed outdoors.
 3. Don't forget to **print your section of the story**, along with the instructions & QR code, and laminate these pages as well.
 4. **Display either on doors/windows or outside your building** on railings/fencing. Make sure they are secure and can be clearly seen at all times of day. So if the shutters on windows are down most of time, consider another place to display!
6. **Publicise your nativity trail** on socials and in church announcement sheets. Encourage folks to walk the trail in the lead up to Christmas Day. You may consider launching the trail with a collective Nativity Trail/prayer walk on the first day. Also link the Nativity Trail with other Christmas activities taking place in your community.
7. **Let us know how you get on**, take photos and tag us in your socials. We love to hear your stories, so please complete the feedback form and let us know how it went!

Thank you for your interest in the Follow the Star Nativity Trail. If you've any questions, queries or want to chat with our team about the project, please get in touch via the contact details below.

Contact Details

Keeva Watson - Northern Ireland Development Manager

E: northernireland@roc.uk.com

P: 02890 351020



ROC Follow the Star Nativity Trail- Interest Form

Complete details in form below and return to Keeva at northernireland@roc.uk.com

Primary Contact Person			
Name of Organisation/Church:			
Point of Contact:		Contact Phone:	
Contact Email:			
Are you part of a ROC Action Group?	YES / NO	If yes, what ROC Action Group?	
Area for Nativity Trail		Have you organised with other groups about being part of this trail?	YES / NO
How many locations will be included?		List these locations: (if you do not have six locations, we can merge)	
What dates are you running your Nativity Trail?			

First Location			
Name of Organisation/Church:			
Point of Contact:		Contact Phone:	
Contact Email:			
Part of Nativity Story:	Star		
Second Location			
Name of Organisation/Church:			
Point of Contact:		Contact Phone:	
Contact Email:			
Part of Nativity Story:	Angel		
Third Location			
Name of Organisation/Church:			
Point of Contact:		Contact Phone:	
Contact Email:			
Part of Nativity Story:	Donkey		
Fourth Location			
Name of Organisation/Church:			
Point of Contact:		Contact Phone:	
Contact Email:			
Part of Nativity Story:	Sheep		

Fifth Location

Name of Organisation/Church:			
Point of Contact:		Contact Phone:	
Contact Email:			
Part of Nativity Story:	Presents		

Sixth Location

Name of Organisation/Church:			
Point of Contact:		Contact Phone:	
Contact Email:			
Part of Nativity Story:	Stable		