

**SUNDAY TALKS
WITH MAMMA**

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Sunday Talks with Mamma by Mrs. Sale-Barker

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MRS. SALE-BARKER

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WITH MAMMA**

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BY

MRS. SALE-BARKER



WITH FIFTY-FIVE ILLUSTRATIONS.

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SUNDAY TALKS WITH MAMMA.

CHRISTMAS DAY.

COME, my children, this is Christmas afternoon; you must not spend the whole of to-day in playing. Come round me while we sit over the fire, and let us have a quiet talk for half an hour. Let the little ones come nearest, for it is principally to them I

want to talk. With Johnny on my knee; Lily on her little chair, almost in my pocket; and Cissy on the rug, we shall be quite cosy.

Darlings, you know that Christmas Day is the day in all the year when we should not only rejoice most, but feel most thankful to God; for it was on that day, eighteen hundred and eighty-three years ago, that our Saviour Jesus Christ was born into the world. He came as a little tiny baby like us all. Mary the mother of Christ, and Joseph her husband, were travelling, and had come to a town called Bethlehem. They were obliged to sleep in a stable, for there was no room in the inn; and in the night, when they were resting in the stable, God sent His Son to Mary to be her little baby. She knew that He was the Son of God, because an angel had been sent to her before by God to tell her of His coming.

Now on the night when our Saviour was born, some shepherds, who were tending their sheep in a field near, saw a great light in the sky; and an angel came down from heaven, saying,—"Fear not; for, behold, I bring you glad tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." The angel went on to tell them how they would find the infant Christ lying in a manger in Bethlehem. Then hundreds and thousands of angels filled the sky, praising God.

The shepherds ran to Bethlehem, where they found the infant Saviour, and Mary, and Joseph, to whom they related what the angel had said.

And there were some wise and rich men who also knew that our Saviour had come into the world, but they did not know where to find Him. So God, in order to guide them, put a beautiful star in the sky, which moved towards the place where Jesus Christ was. They followed the star, taking presents with them. On the other page you see a picture of the wise men worshipping the child, and making their offerings.

My children, this is all I shall tell you to-day, but little by little, and in as simple words as I can, I will relate to you the beautiful history of the New Testament. And now, darlings, try to learn this Christmas hymn.

Little children, this is Christmas,
Happy time of peace on earth :
This the day that Christ our Saviour
Came to us ; His day of birth.
Born within a cattle-shed,
With a manger for His bed.

He came down to earth from heaven,
He the God and Lord of all,
To His mother, holy Mary,
To be cradled in a stall :
Jesus Christ our Heavenly King,
Who salvation was to bring.

Like us all, a little baby
In His mother's arms He lay,
Loved her tenderly in childhood,
Ever ready to obey,—
Taught us, even as a child,
To be good, obedient, mild.





JOHN THE BAPTIST.

Now, little ones, let us settle ourselves for our Sunday talk. On Christmas Day I told you about the birth of our Saviour: to-day I will begin by telling you about John the Baptist.

It had been foretold by the prophet Isaiah that at the coming of our Saviour there would first appear a prophet whom he described as "a messenger," and as "the voice of one crying in