



# Messy Sheep

## Encouraging faith

(Chelmsford, Rochester & St Albans)

Mothers' Union members in the dioceses of Chelmsford, Rochester & St Albans have knitted *Messy Sheep* as part of the Nativity story. The sheep are used in a practical and fun way to get families to think about the Christmas story in a new light and to get them more involved in church and the community.



The sheep are placed in shops and buildings in the town centre at Christmas, and there is a Nativity Trail for families and children to spot the sheep and complete a trail leaflet.

A knitted Nativity also travels around the town or parish, and a sheep is left at each house after the overnight stop. The diocese of Chelmsford now owns four nativities with 200 sheep making quite a flock!



For general guidelines about setting up and developing initiatives, go to the members' section of the Mothers' Union website [www.mothersunion.org](http://www.mothersunion.org)