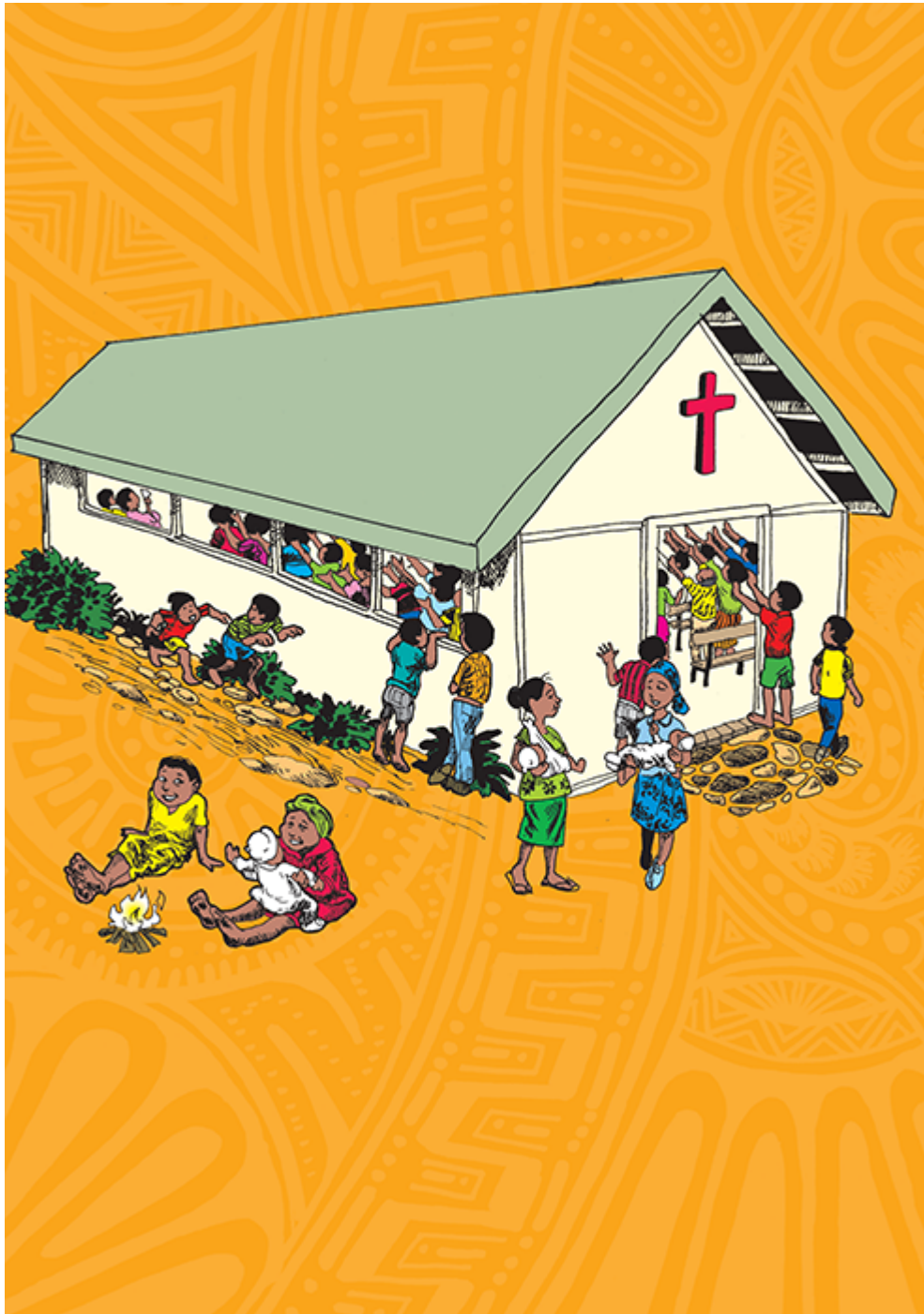


Christmas in PNG

Read how Christmas is celebrated in different parts of Papua New Guinea.



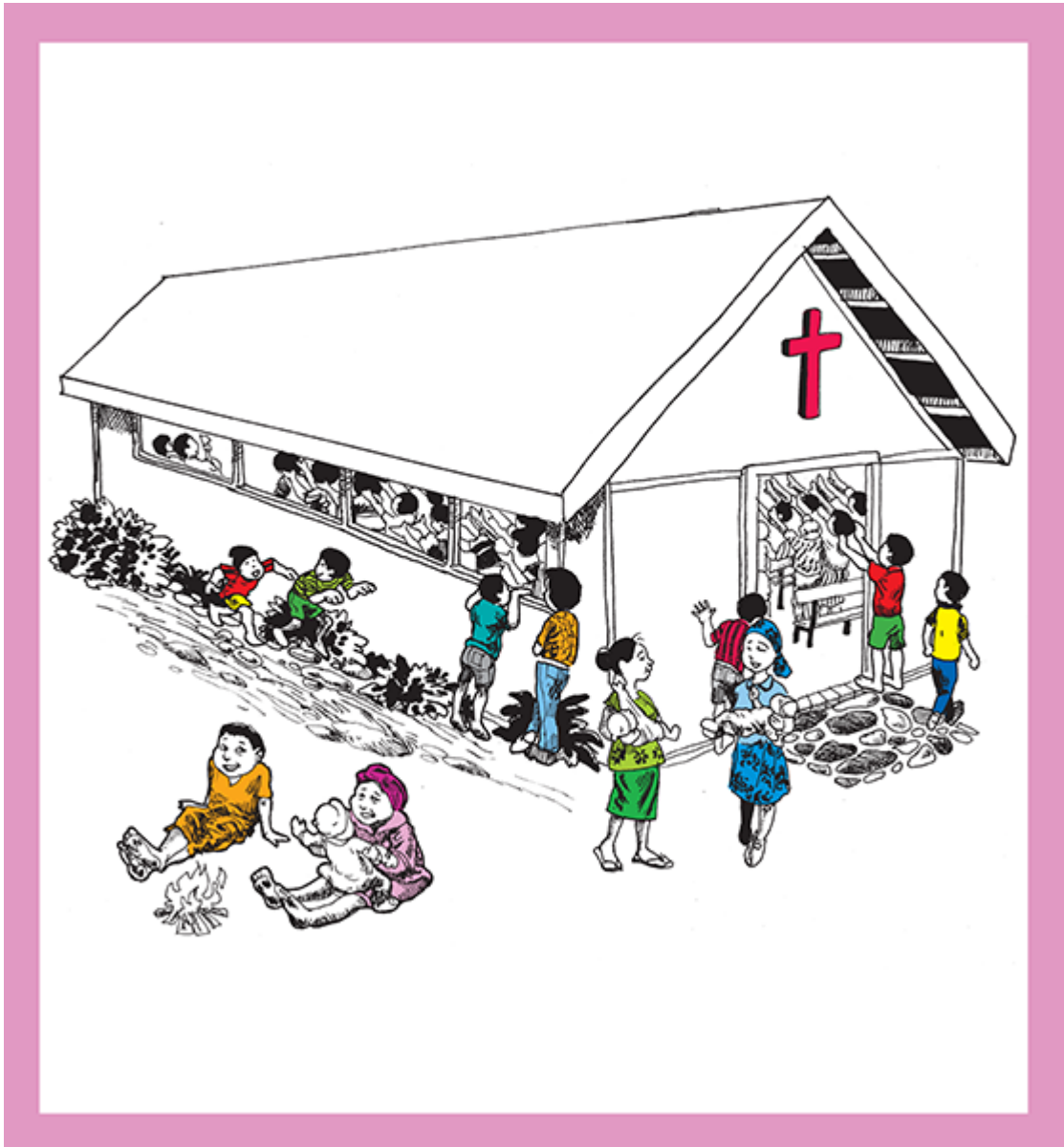
Christmas in PNG
Tandi Jackson



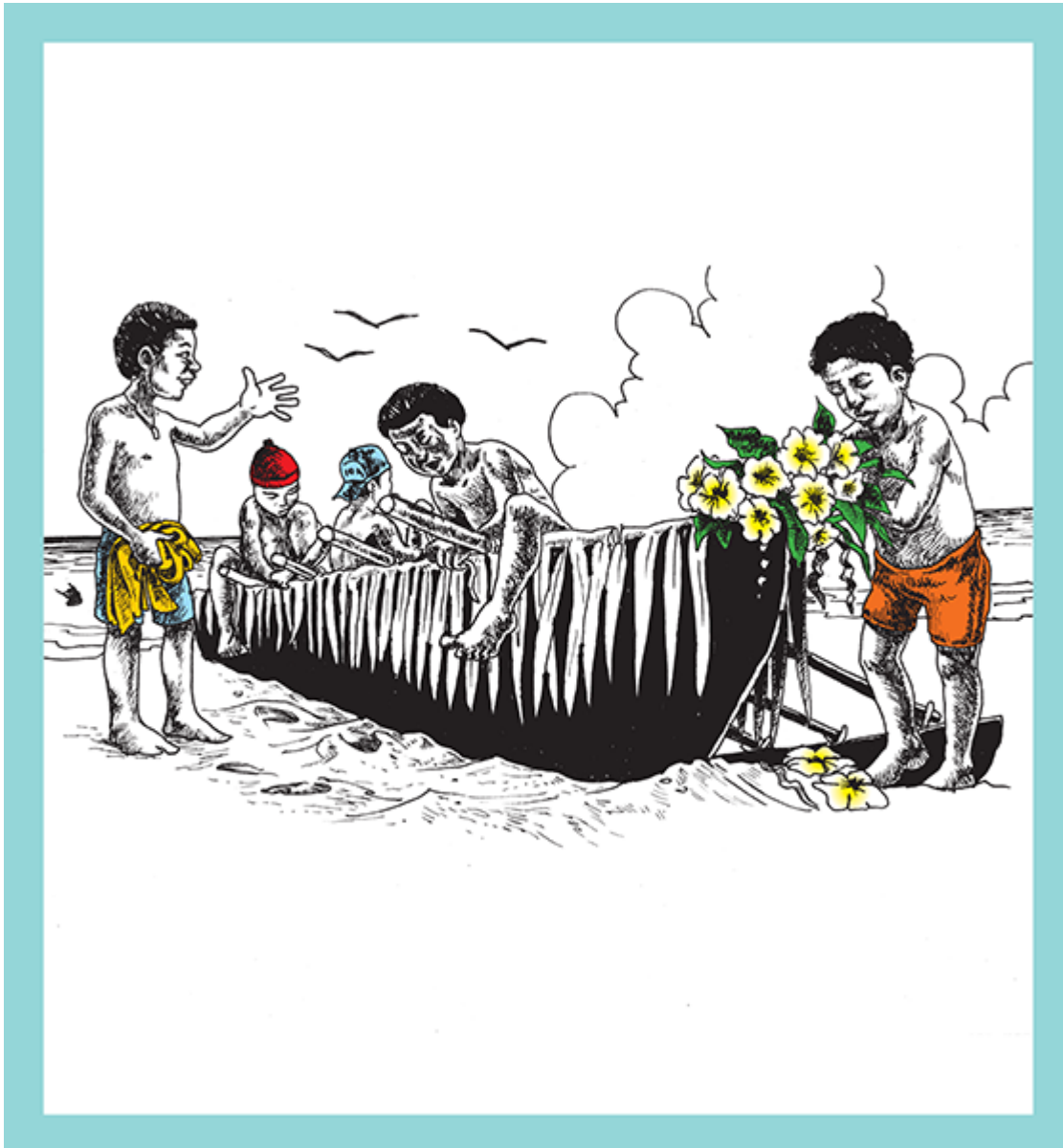
Christmas in Papua New Guinea Christmas is a time for family and church. We decorate our homes and church with plants and flowers.



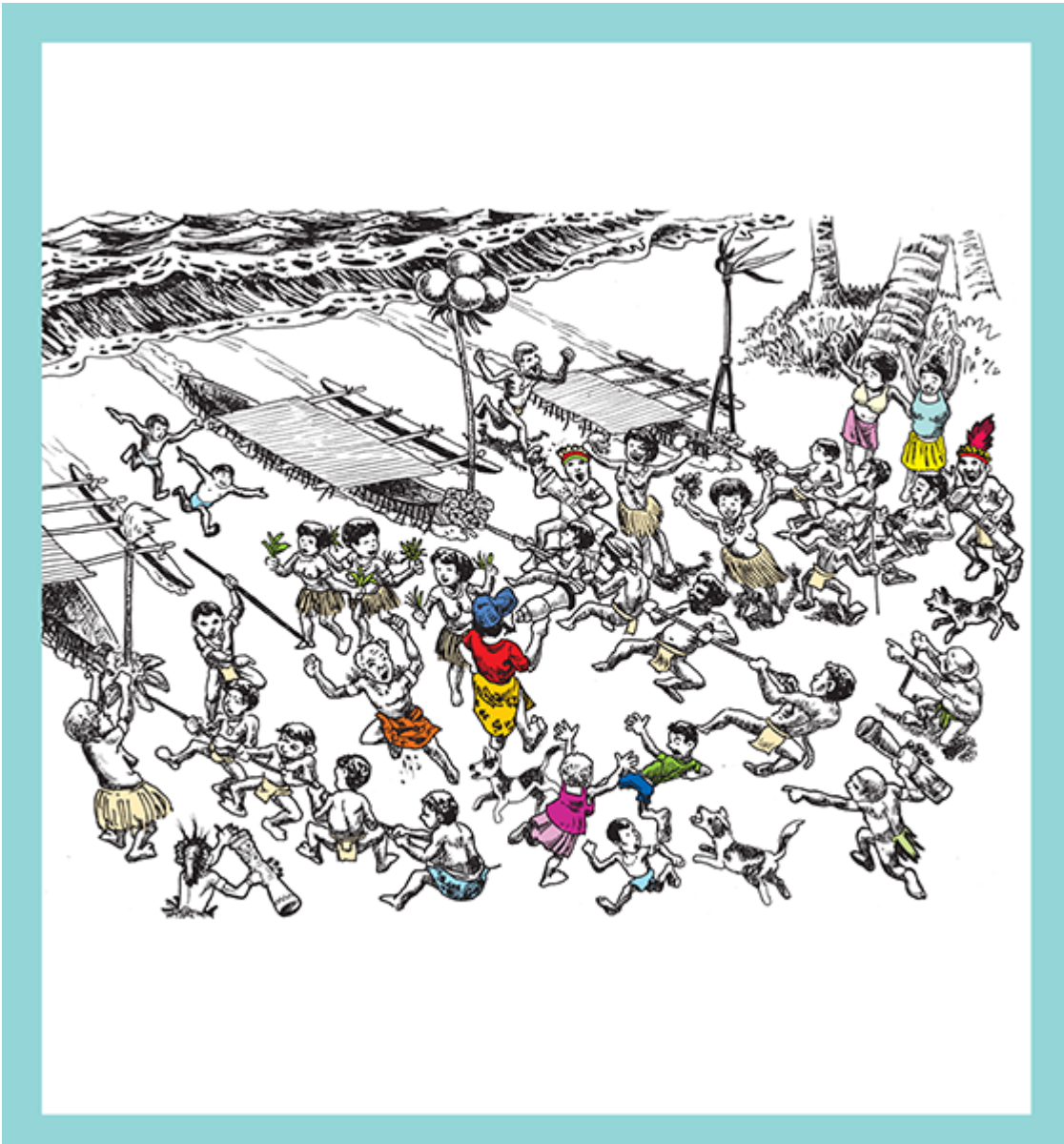
Families go home to their village. Children are excited to see their bubus. Families share gifts. There is lots of food.



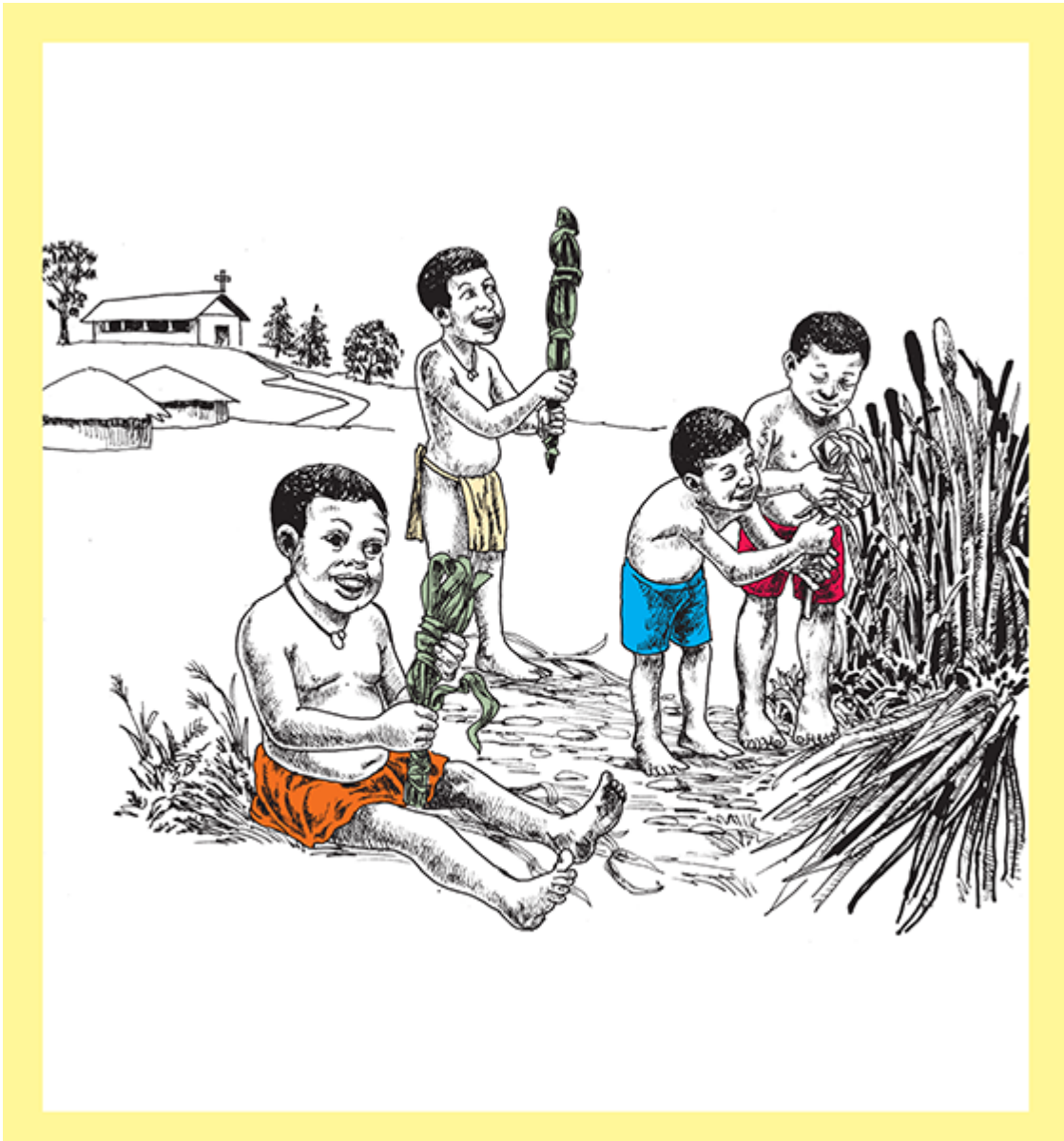
We go to church to celebrate the birth of Jesus. We sing and pray.



Christmas in Busong Village, Morobe Busong Village is a small village on the coast. The only way to get there is by boat. At Christmas time the boys decorate canoes. The boys also make bonfires on top of the hill. When the bonfires are lit, people from other villages can see them.



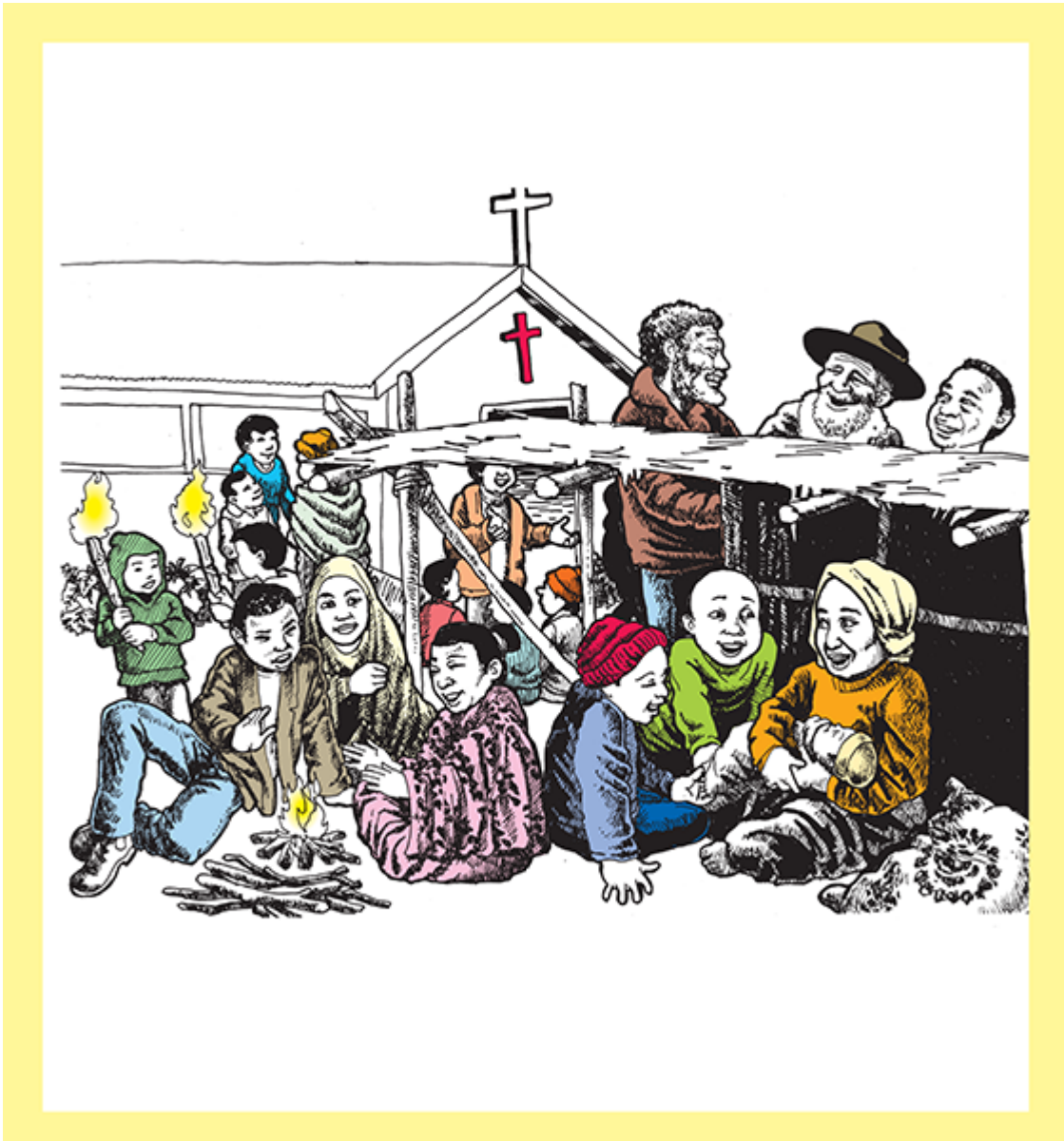
On Christmas Day, the canoes are pulled into the village. The people dance and sing to celebrate Christmas.



Christmas at Mariant, Enga Province
Mariant Church is in the Highlands.
At Christmas time the children gather dried pit-pit. They tie the bundles of pit-pit with vines. They use them as torches.



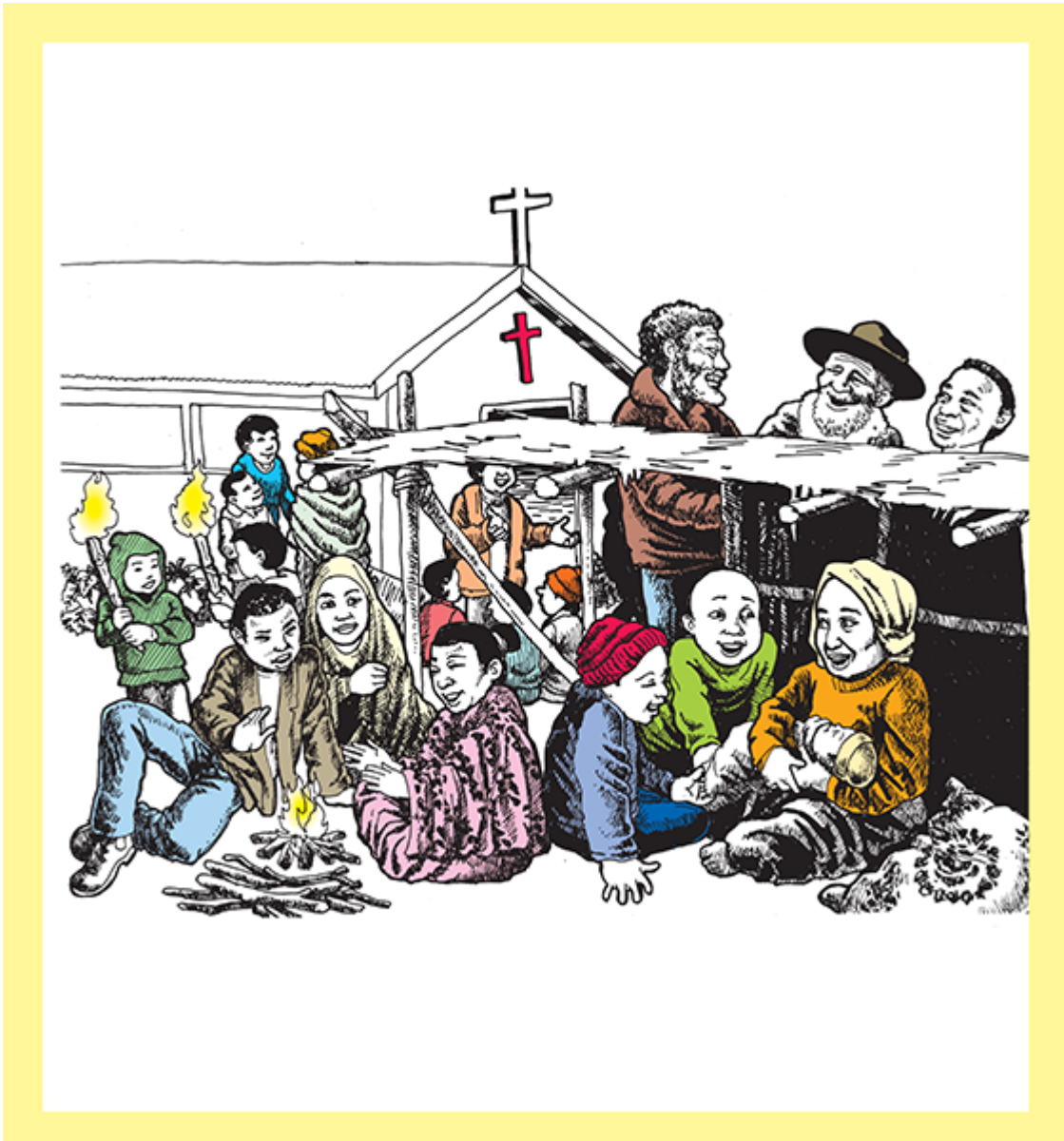
The church is on top of a hill. On the night before Christmas, villagers walk on bush tracks to the church. They carry pit-pit torches.



People are excited. They talk and laugh. The children go to sleep in small huts. Then the bell rings and it is time for midnight mass.



It is cold outside but inside the church it is warm. The church is full of people. They light candles. The candles look like stars. There is a manger. Mary and Joseph watch the shepherds worship baby Jesus. Everyone sings and gives thanks.



Comprehension Questions 1. What do families do at Christmas? 2. Why are children excited? 3. Why do people go to church? 4. Where is Busong Village? 5. What do the boys in Busong Village do at Christmas? 6. Where is Mariant Church? 7. What do the children make using pit-pit and vines? 8. Why do they need the torches? 9. What does everyone do inside the church? 10 .What does your family do at Christmas? Activity Draw a picture of your family at Christmas.



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