# Blessing Boxes

Join the wise men this Epiphany, bringing gifts and finding God's blessing.
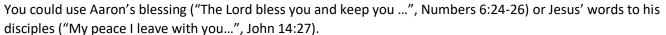
This origami gift box has a blessing in the base (and not just the sweets). Follow the pictures to make this for yourself to think about God's gift of peace to you, or give it as a gift to someone who needs to hear words of blessing – it even folds flat for posting (include a photo so that they know how to pop it back up).
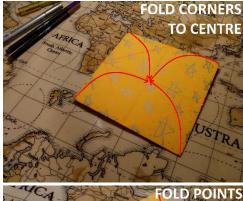
## You will need:

- paper – white or coloured, or origami paper
- gold / silver / coloured pens
- sweets

## What to do:

1. Start by making your paper into a square and decorate it on one side only. Make sure that your decorations go right up to the edge – a solid border looks good.

2. Fold the square along both diagonals to find the centre, then place the paper decorated side down and fold the four corners to the centre.

3. Turn it over and fold the corners to the centre again. (pic)

4. Fold the four points in the centre back out to the sides, forming four feet for the box.

5. Turn it over and fold the four points in the centre back out to the corners. This makes four triangular flaps. (pic)

6. Fold these flaps back and forth, zig-zagging towards the centre and towards the corner. The flaps will become decorative strips, showing both sides of the coloured border. (pic)

7. The plain square in the middle will form the base and insides of the box. Write a blessing in this plain square. Leave the corners blank if you want the blessing to appear only on the base.
You could use Aaron's blessing ("The Lord bless you and keep you …", Numbers 6:24-26) or Jesus' words to his disciples ("My peace I leave with you…", John 14:27).

8. To form the box, push a finger into each corner and lift up the decorative strip. Pinch the corners vertically, folding the decorative strip in half, to form the uprights of the box. (pic)

9. Now fill your box with sweets or treats and give someone the gift of God's peace (and sugar!)



FOLD CORNERS TO CENTRE



FOLD POINTS TO CORNERS



KEEP ZIG-ZAGGING BACK AND FORTH

# Blessing Boxes


DECORATE ONE SIDE INCLUDING BORDER


FOLD CORNERS TO CENTRE


TURN OVER


FOLD CORNERS TO CENTRE


FOLD POINTS TO EDGE


TURN OVER


FOLD POINTS TO CORNERS


FOLD POINT *NEARLY* TO CENTRE


FOLD BACK *NEARLY* TO CORNER


KEEP ZIG-ZAGGING BACK AND FORTH


REPEAT FOR ALL CORNERS MAKING ZIG-ZAG STRIPES




PUSH FINGER INTO CORNER & LIFT ZIG-ZAG STRIPE

PINCH SIDES TOGETHER TO MAKE CORNER OF BOX