

Reading together.

St Francis celebrates the birth of Christ in 1223.

He was minded to celebrate the memory of the
Birth of the Child Jesus.

He made ready a manger, and bade hay, together
with an ox and an ass, be brought unto the spot.

The Brethren were called together, the folk
assembled, with many bright lights, and with
tuneful and sonorous praises.

The man of God, filled with tender love, stood
before the manger, bathed in tears, and
overflowing with joy.