

LOOKING AHEAD

2010

OUR ONE DAY MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE  
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MUSEUM  
IN NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2010

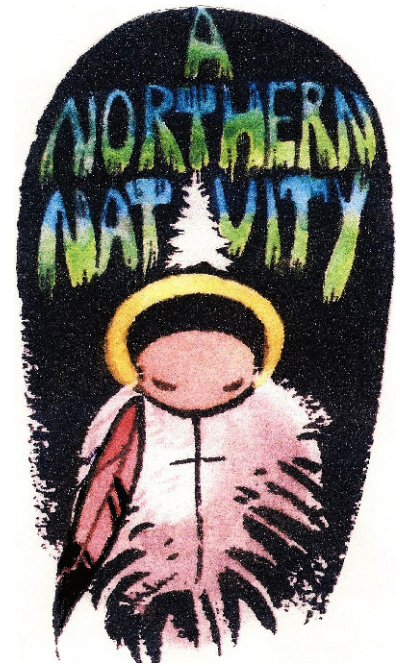
FOR CURRENT INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SOCIETY  
AND ALL OUR EVENTS , GO TO:

[www.friendsofthecreche.org](http://www.friendsofthecreche.org)

2011

TORONTO, CANADA

NOVEMBER 10-12, 2011



#### THE CRECHE TRADITION

Christians for centuries have come to the stable. From the third century forward, the birth of Jesus has been celebrated in Bethlehem. Carvings on sarcophagi and paintings on the walls of the catacombs in Rome have depicted nativity scenes. Boards said to be from the manger appeared in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome in the seventh century. Morality plays assisted the faithful in understanding the mystery of the Savior's birth in medieval times and St. Francis of Assisi is credited with embellishing the devotion by adding live animals. Each people and culture have added a new dimension. The nativity tradition soon spread across Europe and to the New World where Spanish missionaries brought the art of carving santos with them. Today Christians can find many Nativity scenes made from all types of materials at the local art fair or imported from the farthest reaches of the earth. The one unifying theme no matter where the nativity scene was made or by whom is that the Christ Child is at the center as God is always present in our midst.