



The Legend of The Poinsettia



Patty's Plants

The legend of the poinsettia comes from Mexico. It's a story about two young children, a brother and sister. Pablo and Maria were very poor but they always looked forward to the Christmas festival in their village. Each year a large manger scene was set up in the church courtyard. In the days before Christmas there were many parades and parties. The children loved all the fun and games they played. But they were also sad because they had no money to buy gifts. They especially wanted to give a gift to the Baby Jesus in the church manger scene. All the other village people would bring wonderful gifts. The children had nothing to give. One Christmas Eve, Maria and Pablo went out to attend their church service and on their way they stopped to pick some weeds growing next to the road. They decided that this would be their gift. As they got closer to the church all the other children started laughing and teasing them about their gift. Maria and Pablo said nothing and kept right on walking to the church. When they began placing the weeds around the manger a miracle happened. The others were all standing in amazement. For, the green weeds had turned into the most beautiful bright red flowers they had ever seen. No one was laughing any more. The Poinsettia then called "Flor De Nochebuena" which means "The Flower of Christmas Eve". This, they say is why it is our traditional Christmas flower today.

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