

March 25

The Annunciation of the Lord

The time arrived for Jesus to come and save mankind. God sent the Archangel Gabriel to the town of Nazareth where Mary lived. The glorious archangel entered Mary's little house and found her praying.

"Hail Mary, full of grace!" said the angel. "The Lord is with you, and you are blessed among women." Mary was surprised to hear the angel's words of praise.

"Do not be afraid, Mary," said Gabriel. Then he told her that she was to be the mother of Jesus, our Savior. Mary understood what a great honor God was giving her. Yet she said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord!" At that very moment, she became the Mother of God. And still she called herself his handmaid, his servant.

Mary knew, too, that as the mother of Jesus, she would have many sorrows. She knew she would have to suffer when her Son suffered. Yet with all her heart, she said, "Be it done to me according to your word."

The Hail Mary

There is a special prayer to Mary that recalls the words of the angel Gabriel. You can say it every day:

Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.

Amen.

Role-playing

Characters:

angel

Mary

From a children's Bible read the story of the Annunciation from the first chapter of Luke and let the children act out the parts as they are read.

Yes

Have you ever felt that God was asking you to do something for him? What did you say to him. Tell about it here.

Reflecting Mary's Obedience

Draw a picture showing how happy Mary must have been after the angel came to her.