



Monday 4th April

Afternoon Activity

RE

Mary in the Scriptures and Marian Apparitions Lesson

Reflections on Mary

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sb0xFhdvzY>

Mary did you know

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifCWN5pJGIE>

Show slide 1 and share your ideas with an adult/sibling 'What do we know about Mary'
Share story of her early life – see below.

Long, long ago, there lived a woman named Anne. She was a good and holy woman who loved God and loved her husband, Joachim. But Anne had one great sadness: she did not have a child. One day, she was alone, walking in her garden crying, for she so longed for a baby. Then, right before her, an angel appeared! "Anne, your prayers will be answered," the angel said. "You will soon have a daughter, and she will be especially blessed by God. Now, go to the city gate to meet Joachim there."

While Anne was happily hurrying to the gate, Joachim was in the hills praying. Suddenly, an angel appeared before him, too. "Joachim, God knows your sadness at not having a child," the angel told him. "Your prayers have been answered. You will have a daughter. Hurry to the city gates now, where Anne is waiting for you!" How excited they were when they met and found that the other had seen an angel, too! And how joyful they were when the angels' message came true and a baby girl was born to them. They named her Mary.

Now, time had passed, and Mary was old enough to get married. In those days, parents or a priest chose the person a girl was to marry. Among the men was a good person named Joseph, who was a carpenter.

Because Mary is Jesus' mother, she is the Mother of God. And because she loves all of God's children, she is a mother to us all.

May is the month when we traditionally honour Mary, the Mother of God. From Scripture, we learn that she was a strong woman and a loving mother.

Continue through PP up to slide 15, showing where Mary appears in the scriptures. At slide 15 (or with each slide, whatever suits best) discuss the following questions:

- Which part of Mary's story did they like the best? Why?

- Which part of Mary's story did they think was the most important? Why?
- Which part of Mary's story was like something that they, too, have experienced? Give an example.
- Is there any part of Mary's story that they would like to leave out? Why?
- How would you describe Mary? Why would you describe her that way?
- Why do you think that she is so important to our Christian faith?

Lesson Activity:

Write your own special prayer to Mary and decorate it. If you want to you could do a Mary's Name acrostic poem – on the left hand side of a piece of paper write vertically the letters that spell Mary. Then brainstorm any adjectives, that could describe Mary, that start with each letter. Use this to write an acrostics poem using 'Mary'.

Learn the prayers associated with Mary – see the 'Honouring Mary prayers and liturgy booklet'.

Additional craft ideas activities for your family, if required:

Cardboard blossom tree – see attached instructions – 'Cardboard-Tube-Blossom-Tree-Craft-Instruction

Footprint Mary – see attached instructions

