

Dear Children's Church

It's Friday and yes you've made it to the end of homeschool week one!

Let's give thanks for that and start the day with a song!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=433rOj7777k>

All week we have been looking at great men and women in the bible. We looked at Noah and how he listened to God and trusted him. And he built a great Ark. Then we looked at Moses and how he also faithfully listened to God and lead his people towards the promised land away from slavery. On Wednesday we looked at Lydia and how joyful she was at sharing the good news and yesterday we studied Saul who became Paul and how his adventures led lots of people to believing in Jesus. These people were specially chosen by God to be on his team. A mighty team of ordinary people that did extraordinary things.

So who is it today? Well she happens to be my favourite woman in the whole of the bible. Any ideas? There are lots and lots of paintings of what people think she may have looked like. She has a starring role in every school nativity. In fact some of you may have played her? Have you guessed?

Yes It's Mary, the mother of Jesus. Here's a video to explain more

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

Look in your bible at Luke 1 v 26-38. Get someone to read it out loud. Or maybe you could take turns to read a verse each. (quick tip -a verse ends when the next number appears)

The bible says Mary was a meek and mild woman. These are words we don't necessarily use today. It kind of means gentle and quiet. You know in your group of friends there's always a quiet and gentle one in the background? That would have been Mary. But she loved God. She knew her scriptures and knew that in the Old Testament there was a reference to a woman.

Isaiah 7 v14 says

'Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel.'

Mary knew what an honour it was to carry Jesus and be his mum. She also knew God would take care of her and make everything right with Joseph. She sang a beautiful song called the Magnificat. There's a line in it that says

'My souls magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my saviour...

From now on all nations will call me blessed.'

Mary was clever. You know why? Because this line tells me she knew that Jesus was going to be known by everyone, forever. Not just in her town of Nazareth and in his lifetime but when she talked about all nations, guess what? She was talking about you and me, Stamford, England, the world!

She knew what Jesus was coming to do and she was so happy to be part of his story. That's love, real love. And that's why Mary is my favourite lady. She trusted in God, even though at the beginning she was a bit scared, she then rejoiced in her news saying how blessed she was to be part of this story and then she prayed for the big job she was about to do.

We can learn a lot from this. Sometimes we are asked to do things that feel too big. Or we may feel we aren't the right person for the job. Mary wasn't big or important. She was meek and humble, remember. But God knew her. Just like he knows us and what we are capable of.

Here's a prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for Mary and her love for you.
Thank you that you chose her to be Jesus
mum. Thank you for our mums and our
Dads and anyone that helps raise us.

Thank you for our church. Help us to
remember that even though we can't visit
our families or our church right now their
love for us is still strong.

Just like Mary's love for Jesus.

Help us to be brave like Mary at this time,

Amen

So here's your activity
for today. It's fabulous
Friday. The day to try
something new. Be
brave. You can do it!

Don't forget to post it
on the St George's
church facebook page
or email it to us so we
can see how marvellous
you are

Tomorrow is Saturday. No children's church. I'm going to plant some bulbs and wait for them to grow. By the time they flower I think life may turn back to normal and the coronavirus will be gone. Maybe you'd like to plant some seeds or bulbs too. And keep being brave!

Much Love

Liz x

The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary

C Y V A T A F C H T E B A Z I L E
 I G K O R I H E Z L D U W W O W Q
 G A R B H A I R A H C E Z S G R R
 U B X I P Y T B L E G N A K U D A
 H R J Q G J N C S R L L S O T E M
 L I W Y O O F M O F P U I O Y S O
 M E J S S T Y E C N W V I R S S N
 S L E L O T P H B F A N A A I E S
 V P D O L E R E S S P M Q Y F L X
 H D L Y L I U L W U T Y D O R B D
 R J J A S V P H Q J S B I H B O B
 Z V L T Q W A T M E I E G Y G Y S
 O Y M G T L L E A C I F J F J B S
 K A O L O C Q B T X B Y O J E X U
 S Q O S J H J K X N J N W E C K G
 J E W K P G M M O Q O I S R A E L
 R H T E R A Z A N S Q F M F E E L

ANGEL	BETHLEHEM	BLESSED	CHRISTMAS
ELIZABETH	GABRIEL	ISRAEL	JESUS
JOSEPH	MARY	NAZARETH	SAVIOUR
SON	SON OF GOD	ZECHARIAH	

Color in the picture



Jesus was born in a manger because there was no room in the inn for Mary and Joseph.



MagnifiKid!