

Mission Together



Children helping children

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Who is this lady and why she is so special?

Can anybody tell us where and when Mary lived?



Karl Oenike
Berlin, 02

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Nazareth was a small and poor town.

Some people used to say nothing good could ever come from a town like Nazareth.

But God, our loving Father, always looks to find the best in everything and everyone. God saw goodness in Nazareth and in the people who lived there.



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The Lord be with you **R/ And with your spirit**

A reading from the Gospel of Saint Luke **R/ Glory to you Lord**

God sent the angel Gabriel to a young woman who lived in Nazareth. She was engaged to marry a man named Joseph from the family of David. Her name was Mary. The angel came to her and said, "Greetings! The Lord has blessed you and is with you."

But Mary was worried by what the angel said and wondered, "What does this mean?"

The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary, because God is pleased with you. Listen! You will become pregnant. You will give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus."

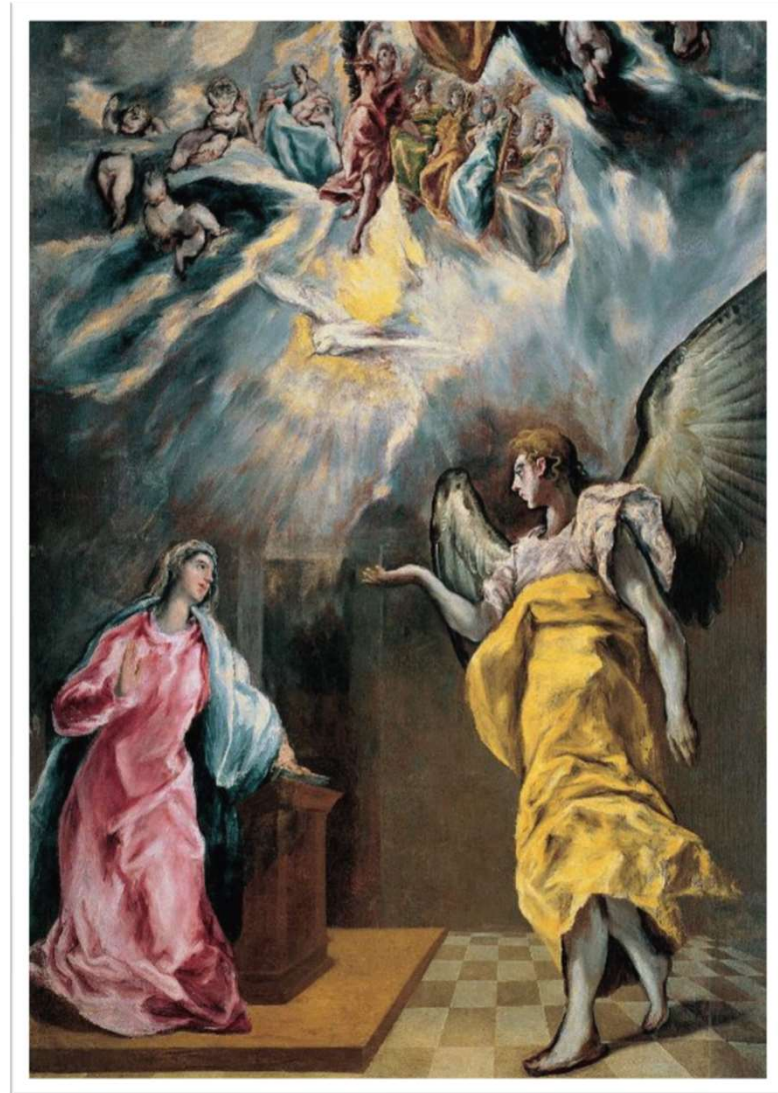
Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen? I am a virgin!"

The angel said to Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will cover you. The baby will be holy. He will be called the Son of God."

Mary said, "I am the servant girl of the Lord. Let this happen to me as you say!" Then the angel went away.

The Gospel of the Lord

R/ Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



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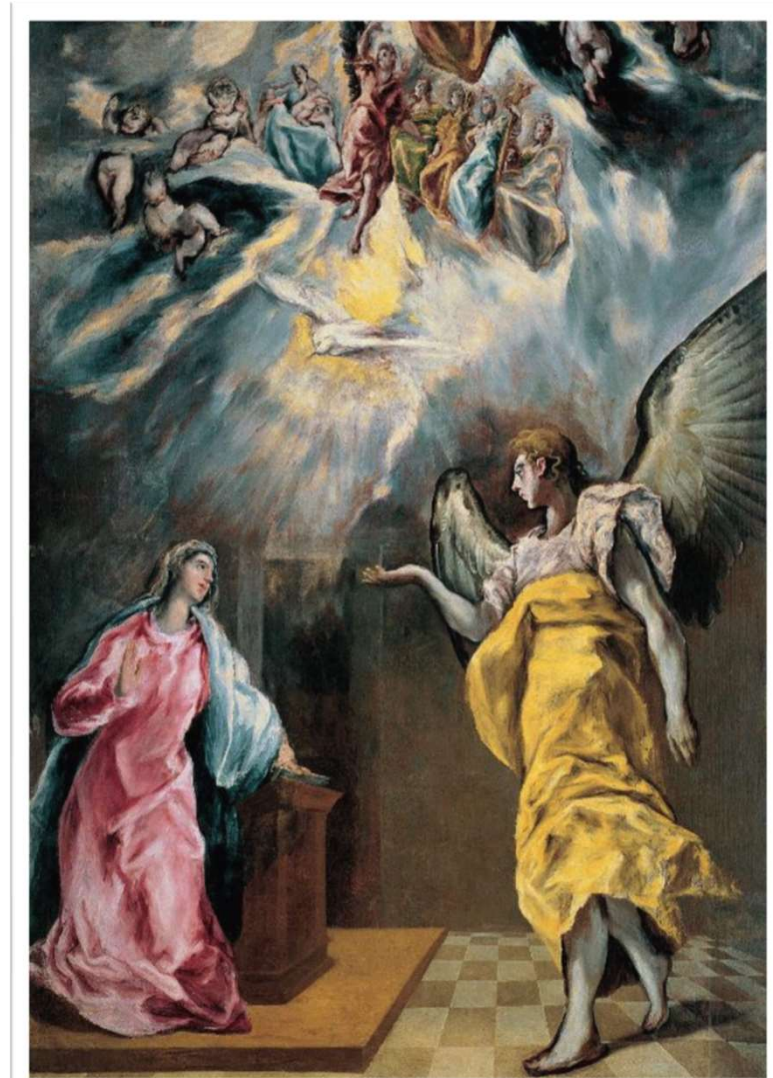
The reading tells us that Mary was very worried; it must have been quite unsettling for Mary to find an angel speaking to her, asking her to become the mother of God! But God knew that Mary had all the necessary virtues for this mission.

What is generosity?

Willing to share or give. Open-hearted, caring, and forgiving. Selflessly gives their time and attention, without expecting anything in return.

When Mary agreed to become the mother of Jesus, she showed her generosity by selflessly giving up her own future plans to follow God's plan instead.

In what ways can we be selfless and generous today?



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What is this showing us?

The painting illustrates Mary's visit to her older cousin Elizabeth, who at the time of Mary's visit was heavily pregnant with John the Baptist.

The Bible tells us that Mary stayed to help Elizabeth for three months.

This shows us another example of Mary's generosity.

Mary teaches us that the greatest offering we can make, far greater than gifts or money, is to give our time and our attention.

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Another Bible story that shows Mary's generosity is the wedding at Cana. This takes place much later in Mary's life when Jesus was a grown man.

Mary's actions at the wedding show her generous nature. When she witnessed the bride and groom in need of help, her first thought was to come to their assistance.

How do you think the wedding party felt when they ran out of wine?

In what ways can we be generous and hospitable?

In what ways can we express our gratitude to others?

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Our Lady's generosity; there are many ways we can show generosity to others, and how we can practise being generous each day.

Often, we will need help with this because all of us can be selfish and mean at times.

For help, we can turn to Mary.

We can ask Mary to pray with us and for us, that we might be generous with our time, our attention, and our possessions. Just as she was.



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Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy
womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour
of our death.
Amen



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