

The Joyful Mysteries

The Annunciation	The Visitation	The Birth of Christ	The Presentation	Finding the child Jesus
Luke 1:26-38	Luke 1:39-49	Luke 2:6-12	Luke 2:22-35	Luke 2:41-51
<p>With Mary's great 'yes', God's incredible plan rolled into action and the gates of Heaven were thrown open for all. Mary handed herself over to the will of God. She trusted completely in His plan and allowed herself to be a key part of it. Mary ought to be a role model for us all - so as we contemplate this mystery let us pray that like Mary we might trust completely in God safe in the knowledge that he will guide and protect us.</p>	<p>After discovering the joy of her pregnancy, Mary journeyed to see her sister Elizabeth. Even before Jesus was born Mary was taking Him to others. The presence of Mary - with Jesus inside her - brought Elizabeth immense joy and her own child leapt with excitement at who Mary was carrying. As we reflect on this mystery let us consider how we bring Jesus to others and reflect on what Jesus brings to our lives and the lives of those we encounter.</p>	<p>Jesus is born! God became man and what a glorious thing that is to proclaim. The Shepherds were the first to visit Jesus showing us that Jesus came to serve all, even those on the margins of society. As we pray this decade of the rosary let us never forget how glorious it is that God became man to serve us and to show us how to live our lives.</p>	<p>Mary and Joseph took Jesus to the temple to complete the rituals associated with newborns in the Jewish tradition. Mary and Joseph show us again the importance of accepting God's plans into our lives, of knowing what we ought to do and doing it. Mary hears the words of Simeon and knows this means Jesus must suffer, yet, she silently accepts this knowing that God's will is more important than hers. During this decade let us pray that we might never put anything above God.</p>	<p>Jesus was "lost" - Mary and Joseph were worried and searched until they found him again. This mystery reminds us of the times we have been far from Jesus. The times we have done things wrong and turned our backs on God. That relationship is not broken beyond repair and we can fix it. If we search for God we will find him - he is already waiting for us. Let us pray that we might always know Jesus and his great love for us.</p>