

Young Apprentices

A RESOURCE FOR THE OCIA

INQUIRY SESSION: MARY



My Story

You have a mother. She may be the one who loved and took care of you from the time you were born in your family. She may be an adoptive mother. Or she may be another woman who has that very special place in your life—maybe a grandmother or an aunt. Mothers love us no matter what. They help bring out our best.



AND THINK

- *Who has been a mother to you?*
- *How has she helped you in your life?*



God's Story

In the New Testament of the Bible Mary is described as the mother of Jesus. When she was pregnant with Jesus, Mary traveled to see her cousin Elizabeth. When Elizabeth saw Mary she called her “the mother of my Lord.”

We believe in the Incarnation. This means that we believe that Jesus became human. He was born of the Virgin Mary, and he is like us in all things but sin. Jesus is also God, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. This is why Mary is also called the Mother of God.

KEY



POINTS

- *Mary is our Mother, too.*
- *Mary invites us to follow Jesus, her son.*
- *Mary shows us how to say yes to God's will for us.*



Our Response

All people and nations honor mothers. If you can, talk to the one who is mother to you and thank her. Or draw or write about the woman you would thank if you could.



STOP & SHARE

- *What do you know about our spiritual mother, Mary?*
- *Do you have a special picture or statue of Mary?*
- *If so, what does it look like?*

Sharing God's Word

With your family, read one or more of the Scriptures listed below. Talk about what each Scripture tells us about **Mary**.

Luke 1:26-38

(Announcement of the Birth of Jesus)

Luke 1:39-43

(Mary Visits Elizabeth)

Luke 2:1-20

(The Birth of Jesus)

The above readings are available at usccb.org/bible/readings.

Faith Words

Incarnation

The Incarnation is the mystery of God becoming man.

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Mother of God

One of the titles, or names, by which Mary is known. Because Mary is the mother of Jesus, who is truly God, Mary is truly the Mother of God.

Witness of Faith



Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774–1821)

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton was the first person born in the United States who was named a saint. Elizabeth and her husband, William, were the parents of five children. They showed God's love to each other and to their children. After William died, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton founded the Sisters of Charity, the first religious community of women in the United States. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the sisters devoted themselves to working in schools, orphanages, and hospitals. The Church celebrates the Feast of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton on January 4.