

# Mary – “Yes” Girl

Luke 2:26-56

Only six months after the angel had caused such a shock to Zechariah in the Temple, a young cousin on his wife’s side of the family, who lived in a small insignificant town in the north, also encountered “Gabriel who stands in the presence of God”. She was “troubled”! Yeah not surprising – you would be too I think!

Gabriel told her that she will be pregnant with a baby who will be called Jesus, that means ‘saves from sins’; will be the Son of the Most High = God’s son; he’ll be on David’s throne forever = the Messiah!! Wow!! He was coming at last – through her!

Mmmm!? But how – she wasn’t married? When she asked this question it wasn’t the unbelief that Zechariah expressed, it was genuine puzzlement. No problem, the angel said, God could make it happen. “Nothing is impossible with God”

Wow!! This was big! She thought of all it would mean. What would her parents say? Everyone would be talking about her, maybe even throw her out of the village! Joseph! He’d be so disappointed, devastated – he’d break up with her to be sure. What would become of her?

But almighty God had chosen **her** for this amazing, unique, extremely special job and he was obviously at work doing something really special – even old Elizabeth was pregnant! She wanted to be part of this thing that God was doing, whatever it cost her – YES! She was in – she would do it! Whatever God wanted – BRING IT ON!

Here are three videos that tell the story of Gabriel and Mary

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i2gBtPU0zVM>

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Q1E06v5oBo>

## 1. Our nineteenth decoration for the Jesse Tree

Our decoration for today is a model of the angel Gabriel.

Often when we make Christmas angels we make them looking quite fluffy and cute. In the Bible the normal reaction of people when they meet an angel is not “Aww!” or “Lovely!” – no they are in absolute shock – they go “Aaargh!!” They are terrified!

So when you make your angel try to make him look a bit more like Gabriel and a bit less like Tinkerbell! He is Gabriel – he stands in the presence of God! (Although we obviously don’t know what he looks like!)

On the other page are various angels that you can have a go at making, by copying or adapting the pictures, or be inventive and come up with your own. Some of these can be found on <https://craftyjournal.com/kids-angel-crafts-to-make/>

In the Catholic tradition a symbol for Mary is a lily. If you want to make an origami lily look here <https://www.origami-fun.com/origami-lily.html>



## 2. Preparation

When a baby is expected there are lots of preparations to be done. Write down as many things as you can think of that people in Britain do now to prepare for a baby. Mary too would have needed to prepare, how would her preparations have differed do you think?

This time of the year families – especially mums! – are preparing for Christmas.

Do you need to prepare anything? Have you bought and wrapped any presents you need to? Written any cards? Have you been asked by your parents to tidy your room and sort out anything you don't want anymore? Can you help in the preparations that your family are doing?

## 3. Saying “Yes!” to God

Watch this video (Warning! - it's a bit gory in places!) and listen to the song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Z-ZfAlrgJs>

Mary didn't know what was going to happen to Jesus. She didn't know, at that time, that Messiah was going to have to suffer and die.

Saying yes to God does not mean that everything's going to be fine, that the road is going to be easy, that we're never going to be hurt or disappointed or devastated.

BUT saying yes to God is always going to be right, it will be exciting following where he leads, daring, as we trust him.

Saying yes to God is how we are meant to live. It's the greatest adventure of all!

*The next part of our Jesse Tree will be on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December*



Card



Wool

Wood



Card

Paperclip



Card



Paper plate