

WELCOME TO THE PRAYER ROOM



Daily Faith Lesson Outline

OPENING PRAYER AND BIBLE VERSE

5 minutes

THEME INTRO AND TEACHING

10 minutes

FAITH ACTIVITIES

10 minutes

Supplies

- Small table and white table cloth
- Bible, crucifix, candles, images, statues, etc.
- Bible Verse Posters (*download*)
- Cool Kingdom Party VBS Saint Posters and Saint Cards (*available at www.catchat.ca*)
- VBS Music CD (*for daily audio drama*)



Daily To Do List

- Set out one or two new prayer items on the prayer table.
- Print out the Bible Verse Poster.
- Put up the saint poster.
- Download the Bible Verse Video.
- (*Opt.*) Cue the audio drama track for each group.
- Give the group leaders the saint cards to distribute at the end of the day.

Decoration Ideas

When the kids walk into the faith station, you want them to recognize that they are entering a prayerful space. Set the mood by playing soft instrumental music in the background. Cover any windows or areas that might be distracting. Drape the walls with white or blue paper, string lights and hang clouds from the ceiling.

Somewhere inside every faith station (*room*) is a prayer table. Position the table as the focal point of the room and cover it with a white table cloth. Make sure it's low enough so that the young kids can see what's on the table. Place a crucifix, rosary, and candle on the prayer table, along with any pictures of Mary or the angels and saints. Change it up a bit each day to reflect what the lesson will be about.

Print images of Mary and Jesus to post around the room. You can also ask kids to bring a picture or statue of Mary from home to feature on the prayer table during the week.



Day 1

Theme: Mary said “Yes” to God and became the Mother of Jesus. Mary is also our mother.

Virtue: Obedience (*doing God’s will; following his commandments*)

Opening Prayer:

Light a candle. Ask the kids to tell you what they see on the prayer table and talk about some of the items.

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Mary, please pray for us as we learn more about you today. Teach us to obey God’s word and follow His ways as you did. Help us to say Yes to God, even when it is difficult.

St. Dominic Savio, our VBS saint of the day, pray for us. Amen.

Bible Verse of the Day:

Show the Bible Verse poster and watch the Bible Verse Video.

“Let it be done to me according to your word.” Luke 1:38

Theme Intro: Mary’s Place of Honor *(3 minutes)*

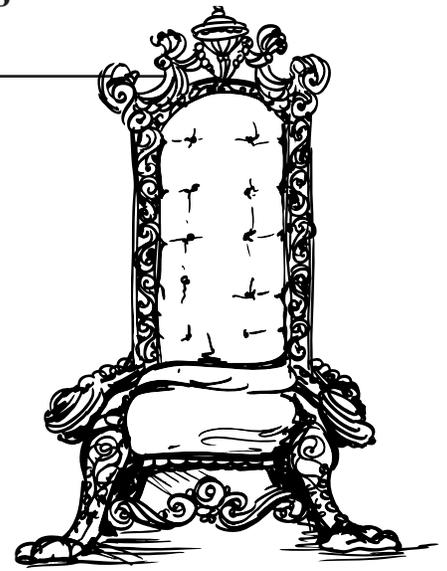
You’ll need:

- Royal chair (*decorate with white sheet, blue and gold ribbon, etc.*)
- YES Poster (*download and tape to the chair*)

Can you see this beautiful throne?

This is Mary’s chair. She is our special guest of honor this week.

She was given a place of honor in God’s Kingdom as the Queen of Heaven and Earth, because she gave her YES to God.



What was Mary’s YES all about?

Mary said yes to becoming the Mother of Jesus. She was a young girl and she was probably a little bit scared, but she said yes to what God was asking her to do. She was obedient to His will and trusted that He would take care of her no matter what.

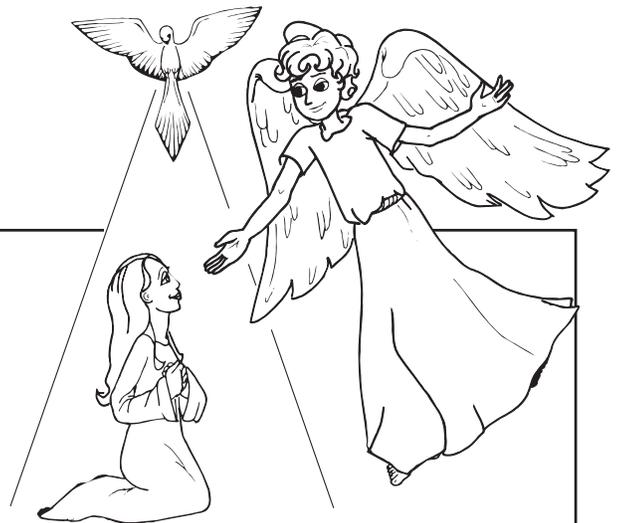
God had a very special plan for Mary’s life. He called Mary to be the mother of His Son and to be our mother, too. Whenever we see her throne this week, we can remember that she is our spiritual MOM and that she deserves a place of honor in our hearts as well.

We are going to hear the Bible story about the day that Mary gave her big “Yes” to God.

Teaching: Mary's Big Yes *(7 minutes)*

You'll need:

- White robe (for Gabriel)
- Blue veil or dress (for Mary)



Invite kids to act the parts of Mary and the Archangel Gabriel. The girl playing Mary can sit at the front and pretend to be sewing or cooking.

In the city of Nazareth, there lived a young woman named Mary. Mary loved God with all her heart, and she was engaged to a carpenter named Joseph.

Child playing Angel Gabriel comes in.

One day the angel Gabriel came to Mary and said, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you."

The Archangel Gabriel repeats.

Mary was startled, but the angel told her, "Don't be afraid Mary, for you have found favor with God.

Repeat. You are going to have a baby, and you will name Him Jesus. *Repeat.*

The child to be born will be holy, the Son of God." *Repeat.*

This was big news! God was asking Mary to be the mother of the Son of God.

What did Mary say? *She said YES!*

She was obedient to the will of God and said to the angel Gabriel, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done unto me according to your word." *Girl repeats.*

In other words, she said, "YES"! That took a lot of courage and trust, but she knew that God's plan was the best plan, and so she was obedient to what God was asking of her.

The day that the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and announced that she was going to have a baby is called the Annunciation. The word annunciation means announcement.

What was the name of the angel that spoke to Mary? Archangel Gabriel.

What did Mary say after the angel Gabriel told that she was going to be the mother of Jesus?

Point to the Bible Verse poster. Mary was obedient and said: "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done unto me according to your word." (*Luke 1:38*) Mary said YES... a great big YES to God. She loved God and wanted to do His will, even if she was a little bit scared.

How can we say YES to God?

Ex. Help out around the house without arguing or complaining, pray, trust in God, obey my parents, follow the 10 Commandments, go to Mass, listen to God, etc.

Faith Activities

Choose two of the following activities.

The Hail Mary (7 minutes)



You'll need:

- The Hail Mary Posters ([download](#))

Display the posters as you give the teaching.

We are going to explore the parts of The Hail Mary so we can understand the power and meaning of this great prayer. The Hail Mary is a traditional prayer that Catholics often pray.

We ask Mary to lead us closer to her Son Jesus, and she helps us to say Yes to God just like she did.

We pray the Hail Mary a lot when we are praying the rosary. Each decade focuses on a different part of Jesus and Mary's life. *Print off "How to Pray the Rosary" to give to the kids. ([Download](#))*

Who knows what the rosary is? *Show of hands. Pass around a rosary to the children.*

The rosary is a prayer to our Mother Mary that has been prayed for centuries. We pray an Our Father on the larger beads, and a Hail Mary on each of the smaller beads. The Hail Mary prayer developed over hundreds of years and it was given official approval in 1568.

Why should we pray the rosary? *To show our love and honor for Mary, to help our faith grow stronger, to help us grow closer to Mary and Jesus, to focus more on the lives of Jesus and Mary, etc.*



HAIL MARY *Show the poster and point to the image of Mary.*

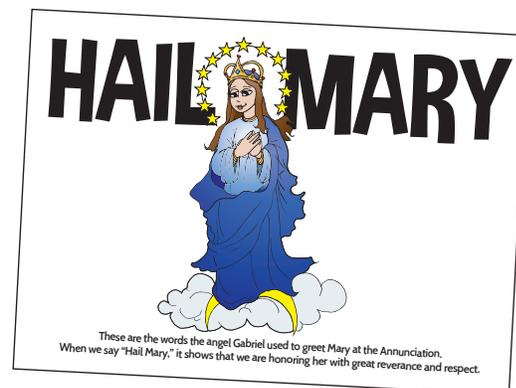
These are the words the angel Gabriel used to greet Mary at the Annunciation. When we say "Hail Mary," it shows that we are honoring her with great reverence and respect.

FULL OF GRACE *Show image.*

Mary became filled with the Holy Spirit at the time of the Annunciation. She is filled with God's grace, which is why we say "full of grace."

THE LORD IS WITH YOU *Show the image.*

God was always in Mary's heart. She loved Him so much and trusted Him completely.



BLESSED ARE YOU AMONG WOMEN

Show the image of Mary and Elizabeth.

These are the words that were spoken by Mary's cousin, Elizabeth. Mary is the most blessed among all women because she was found worthy to be the mother of Jesus.

AND BLESSED IS THE FRUIT OF YOUR WOMB, JESUS.

Show image of Mary and Baby Jesus.

We give praise and glory to God, because Mary gave birth to Jesus, the Savior of the World.

HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD *Show image.*

Mary was chosen to be the Mother of God because she was humble, pure and loved God with her whole heart.

PRAY FOR US SINNERS *Show the image.*

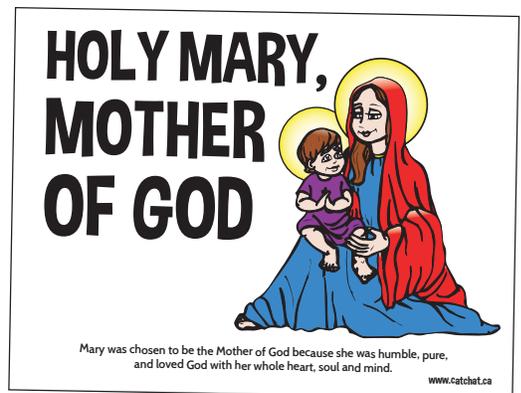
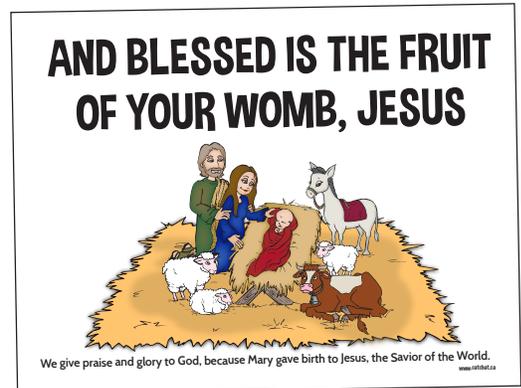
We ask Mary to pray for us because we need help to become holy. We are sinners because we do not always do what is right. When we ask for help, Mary goes to her Son Jesus on our behalf.

NOW AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH. *Show image.*

No one knows when they will die but we can trust that if we ask, Mary will pray for us at that exact moment. By her prayers, she can help us to go to Jesus when we die.

AMEN *Show image of a check mark.*

We believe that everything we prayed in The Hail Mary is true.



“The Rosary has accompanied me in moments of joy and in moments of difficulty... in it I have always found comfort.”

st. John Paul II

Audio Drama *(5 minutes)*

We are going to listen to a story about Mary. It might sound familiar because it tells us about Mary's special visitor, and how Mary said Yes to God's plan for her life.

Play Track 15 from the VBS Music CD



- Papa: Well, one day, an angel named Gabriel was sent by God to speak to Mary.
- Hannah: A real angel? Wow! What did the angel say?
- Angel Gabriel: Hail, Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee.
- Josh: Hey! We say that in the Hail Mary prayer whenever we pray the rosary!
- Song: Hail Mary full of Grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst 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.
- Hannah: Whoohoo, what a special prayer!
- Josh: Special? It must be more than special, we pray it a whole lot of times when we pray the rosary!
- Papa: If we pray these prayers, with all our hearts, it will really help us enter into the life of Jesus and our Blessed Mother.
- Hannah: Okay Papa, please go on with the story.
- Papa: Oh, yes, of course, where was I? Right, well, after the angel spoke, Mary was quite ... surprised. She even asked herself what this greeting could mean, and then the angel said to her...
- Angel Gabriel: Mary, do not be afraid! You have found favor with God. You are going to conceive in your womb a little boy, and you shall name Him Jesus, and this child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, your cousin Elizabeth, has also conceived a son in her old age.
- Papa: Mary questioned how all this could happen, but the Angel assured her:
- Angel Gabriel: The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the Power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow.
- Josh: I have a friend who's pet dog is called Shadow. This dog was a big Black Lab and they would always be together ...no matter what.
- Papa: It's sorta the same idea with Mary. What the angel was saying is that, The Holy Spirit would be with Mary and work through her... in whatever she did or wherever she went.
- Hannah: Then what?
- Papa: Well, Mary said something quite amazing. She said:
- Mary: I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done unto me according to your word!
- Hannah: Hmm... sounds amazing, but I don't get it?
- Papa: Mary is saying ...yes! A great big yes to God! She's saying that she'll do whatever God asks of her. By her obedience, God was able to choose Mary to bring us the Savior of the world.
- Hannah: Mary's yes to God was really quite important, wasn't it?
- Papa: Oh, Hannah, was it ever. Mary's yes revealed to us her amazing faith, her trust, and her total openness to doing God's will...

STOP CD HERE

What was the first thing the Angel Gabriel said to Mary? *Hail, full of Grace, the Lord is with you.*

Where have you heard those words before? *In the Hail Mary Prayer.*

Who wants to lead us in a Hail Mary? *Pray the prayer together.*

Rosary of Roses (5 minutes)

The word rosary comes from the same root as “rose.” Each Hail Mary we pray is like giving a beautiful rose to Mary. Mary is our Heavenly Mother and she wants to pray for us and bring our prayers to Jesus.

You’ll need:

- Rosary Rose Beads *(download and pre-cut)*
- Colored markers
- Tape

Tell the kids:

1. Each of you will get to color a bead for the Rosary of Roses. We will put them up in the faith room to make one large rosary.
2. Color the rose and think of someone you would like to pray for. Write that person’s name on the bead.
3. We will post up the beads and say a prayer for all the people written on our rosary beads.
Depending on how many kids are in your VBS, you may have to make more than one rosary.



St. Dominic Savio is our VBS Saint of the Day (3 minutes)

Read the saint story at the back of the book and ask the following questions:

How many brothers and sisters did Dominic have? 9

Who were Dominic’s best friends? *Jesus and Mary.*

How old was Dominic when he died?

Dominic was only 14 years old. He died on March 9th, 1857.

At the closing assembly each day, be sure that each child receives a saint card as a special VBS take home item. Encourage the children to read the story on the back of their saint card with a parent.



Closing Prayer:

Jesus, thank you for giving us Mary as our Mother. Help us to follow her example of obedience. Amen.

“The rosary is a long chain that links heaven and earth.”

st. Therese of Lisieux