

# LIVING FAITH

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year C)



## THE GOSPEL TODAY

Luke 1: 39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

## TAKING THE GOSPEL HOME

The Church tells us that Mary is the model for all Christians. In today's Gospel, Mary goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth. Elizabeth is much older than Mary. Both women are pregnant. Many people assume that Mary went to help Elizabeth. But it's also possible that Mary went to learn from her older cousin, and draw from her wisdom.

So... when we say that Mary is a model for us today, one thing that we can take from this Gospel is how important it is for younger and older people in our families, in our parishes and in our communities to be in relationship with one another, learning from one another, growing together, and helping each other.

The story of the Visitation, as this story is called, tells us a lot about how we are called to live together as Christians. People of every age have dignity. Old and young have something valuable to offer to one another and to the world at large.

## PONDER AND DISCUSS

- Have you ever gone visiting, and learned something new?
- Can you give an example of a situation that you know of where young people learned from older people?
- Can you give an example of a situation that you know of where old people learned from younger people?

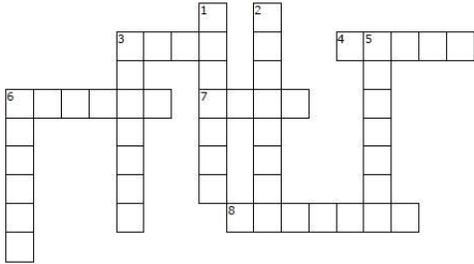
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# Family Activities

## Crossword Puzzle



### ACROSS

3. The spiritual part of humans which lives forever
4. To be filled excessive self-esteem
6. To feel the need or desire for food
7. Having great wealth
8. Having good things given to you, especially from God

### DOWN

1. To give honor, praise, and adoration to
2. To show mercy or compassion to another
3. One who yields or surrenders to the will or authority of another
5. To express great joy or happiness
6. Not proud or boastful

soul	rejoice	blessed	hungry	servant
glorify	humble	proud	rich	merciful



Mary Visits Elizabeth

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## Mary's Song

Luke 1:39-56

## Word Search Puzzle

J Q F E A R B W R P H B N O E  
 R Y W W G X O J I R U H E R J  
 Y K C T W L U Y C O S O Z T H  
 I Y G H W B O L H U Y L T M U  
 Y M E S R E U R M D X Y H U N  
 B D E E W O J Z I E D Q R B G  
 L S O R S K Y Q D F V F O E R  
 E S T V C U N F E B I J N S Y  
 S P W A R Y D E E D S E E D K  
 S I F N M I G H T Y T C S E S  
 E R C T H I N G S T I N L R E  
 D I F V Q P E V A O P B E M F  
 Z T H M W G H E J N M L A C Y  
 G O G Y I R R E F U U N H Q S  
 N H C F R G R F H R J M T S C

blessed	great	mercy	rejoices	soul
deeds	holy	mighty	rich	spirit
fear	humble	name	rulers	things
glorifies	hungry	proud	servant	thrones

Archdiocese of St. John's

*As we move through the fourth week of Advent, jot down some ideas in the Heart symbol about how our family can prepare for Christ's coming by our actions this week!*

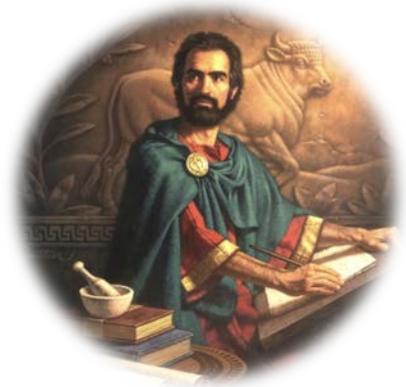


# THE CHURCH TEACHES

## YEAR C

### THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

### THE GOSPEL OF HEALING



Luke was a physician, and so he had a special interest in the healing ministry of Jesus. In Jesus' day, as now, the work of healing and health was essential. Jesus heals people in thirteen episodes in the Gospel of Luke.

Jesus' healings are more than medical miracles, however, By healing people, by bringing an end to suffering people, Jesus shows that he is bringing about the Reign of God, in which there will be no sickness and no suffering.

The healing stories in the Gospel of Luke are:

- Luke 4:31-37 (The man with an unclean spirit);
- Luke 4:38-44 (Simon's mother-in-law);
- Luke 5:12-16 (A leper);
- Luke 5:17-26 (A paralytic);
- Luke 7:1-10 (A centurion's servant);
- Luke 7:11-17 (The raising of the Son of the widow of Nain);
- Luke 7:21 (Many are cured);
- Luke 8:26-39 (The Gerasene demoniac);
- Luke 8:40-56 (The daughter of Jairus, the woman with a hemorrhage);
- Luke 9:37-45 (A boy with a demon);
- Luke 13:10-17 (A crippled woman);
- Luke 17:11-19 (Ten Lepers); and
- Luke 18:35-43 (A blind man)



### PONDER AND DISCUSS

- In your own life, what areas need healing?
- How does your family need healing?
- For whose healing do you pray as Christmas draws closer?
- How does our world need to be healed?

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## LOVE



*Have a holy  
Christmas*

Our God is so great that He became a small child in order to make us great too. He wanted to be tied with swaddling clothes to liberate us from the chains of death. He descended to earth so that we may ascend to heaven. This is Our God made man!

*St Alphonsus Liguori*

### PONDER AND DISCUSS

- What is "love"?
- How do you know that somebody loves you?
- How do you show that you love somebody else?
- Who in our community needs love at this time of year?
- Where in our world do people need love?



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