

# FILL US, LORD, WITH YOUR LOVE

## VISUAL AIDS

- > Advent wreath, or four candles.
- > Christmas cards of Jesus and Mary.
- > The individual cut-out letters of J O Y, made into a mobile.
- > Either people shape cut-outs, or bell shape cut-outs.

## WELCOME AND PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

*Light the four Advent candles.  
Say/sing together:*

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
We are ready to do  
what God wants us to do.  
Alleluia!**

A reading from the Good News  
given to us by Luke.  
**Glory to you, Lord.**

God sent his messenger, the angel  
Gabriel, to a town in Galilee called  
Nazareth, where Mary lived. Mary  
was going to be married to Joseph.  
'Rejoice, Mary', the angel said, 'God  
has chosen you especially.'  
Mary did not understand what the  
angel could mean, and she was

## DISCUSSION

Who is the messenger we hear about  
in today's Gospel?  
To whom did he bring the message?

What was that message?  
- that Mary had been chosen by God  
to be the Mother of Jesus.

How did Mary feel?  
- afraid, frightened.

What did Mary reply to the angel?  
- 'I am ready to do ...'

How can we make the same reply as  
Mary between now and Christmas?  
Have the children give examples.

## SHARING

Encourage the children to talk about  
joyful times they have experienced.  
So far in Advent we have heard  
about different messengers and the  
messages they brought from God.  
Can the children remember who the  
messengers were?  
- Isaiah and John the Baptist.  
And what was the message?  
- to make ready the way of the Lord.

In today's Gospel we hear a story  
about another, and a rather special  
messenger.

frightened. The angel said,  
'Mary, do not be afraid. You are  
going to have a baby boy. You must  
call him Jesus. He will be great. He  
will be called the Son of the Most  
High.'  
Mary replied  
'I am ready to do what God wants  
me to do.'

**This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



## ACTIVITIES

> Divide the children up into  
groups of two, to practise miming  
the Gospel as Mary and the angel.  
Then have some of them mime it  
for the whole group.

**Either:**

> Give out the people shapes and  
have the children colour them to  
represent themselves. Then fasten  
these on a display board around a  
picture of Mary with the theme

text 'FILL US, LORD ...'

**Or:**

- > Give out the bell shapes, and  
explain the bells ring out to show  
our joy at Jesus' birth.
- > On the shapes have the children  
write or draw how they can make  
other people joyful.
- > Have the children make a  
Christmas card which they can  
give to bring the message of love  
and joy to a lonely person.