

## Unit 5: MANY BLESSINGS OF OUR LORD

### Lesson 5.1 Gifts that Bear Gifts: St. Mary, the Mother of God

#### Teacher Preparation and Materials Needed:

**Scripture References:** Luke 1: 28-36

**Craft Activity:** Annunciation hand puppets: Template, two toilet rolls per child, colored pencils, crayons, markers, tape, and scissors.

**Video Lesson:** [HeartFelt Bible: The Annunciation to Mary](#) (duration 3:27)

**Song:** [Every Good and Perfect Gift](#) (duration 2:35)

#### MORAL CHARACTER FOCUS:

Trust and Patience.

#### Words of the week:

Աւետում – Avedoom – Annunciation

Ժամանակ – jhamanag – time

վարագոյր – varakooyr – veil/curtain

#### Memory Verse:

To everything there is a season, a time  
for every purpose under heaven.

-Ecclesiastes 3:1

# Lesson

## Open with prayer:

Իմաստութիւն Յօր՝ Յիսուս, տո՛ւր ինձ իմաստութիւն, զբարիս խորհել եւ խօսել եւ գործել առաջի Քո՝ յամենայն ժամ. ի չար խորհրդոց, ի բանից եւ ի գործոց փրկեա՛ զիս. եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն:

Eemasdootyoon Hor Heesoos, door eents eemasdootyoon uzparees khorel yev khosel yev kordz arachi ko hamenayn jham. Ee char khorhrtos, paneets yev kordzots prgya zees yev voghormya ko araradzots eents pazmameghees. Amen.

**Wisdom of the Father, O Jesus, grant to me the wisdom to think, speak, and do that which is good in Your sight. Save me from all evil and distracting thoughts, words, and deeds. Have mercy upon your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.**

*\*Wisdom Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

## Lesson Body:

You might have heard the phrase everything has a time and place. You might hear this sometimes from your parents or teachers. This is also true for God. He Grants us blessings, opportunities, and challenges when it is the right time and place for it. We can see this when He blessed us with His Only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. God waited until it was the right time for Jesus Christ to come to earth and He chose the right person to be the mother of Jesus. We can also see this in all of God’s creation. Trees produce fruit when it is the right season, and we harvest the fruit when it is ready and ripe.

A young virgin named Mary was chosen to carry and give birth to Jesus Christ, the Messiah and Son of God. The gift of Jesus’ birth didn’t just start with the good news that God delivered to Mary through Archangel Gabriel. It started long before Mary was born.

There was a married couple Joachim and Anna. They had no children and for a long time had been praying for a baby. In her prayers, Anna promised if God grants her a baby, she would dedicate the child to the temple in Jerusalem. God answered her prayers, when it was the right time, and she gave birth to a baby girl. Joachim and Anna were overjoyed, and they named their baby girl Mary. When Mary was 3 years old, her mom took her to the temple to live and serve God. There Mary learned to love God and trust Him.

**Q:** *Imagine yourself living at the church when you are three or five years old. How would that make you feel?*

Mary had to live in the temple away from home and her parents until she was 12 years old. It was one of the rules of the temple; girls could not live there after they turned 12. There she would live and serve with other girls who were dedicated to the temple too. It is believed that Mary was one of the virgins who were trusted to make the curtains of the temple – the very curtain that would be torn at Christ’s crucifixion many years later (Matthew 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45).

When time came, Mary left the temple and was engaged to a man named Joseph. Mary was a kind, humble, and obedient servant of God, so God chose her to be the mother of His Son Jesus. When it was the right time, God sent to her the Archangel Gabriel to give her a message. Mary had been chosen to bear and give birth to Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Messiah. With this good news Gabriel shared with Mary that God had chosen her for the greatest responsibility there was. This news came as a shock to Mary. She was afraid, yet she said, ‘I am the servant of the Lord, whatever God wants me to do, I will do it.’

In this story, we see how God answered Anna and Joachim’s prayer at the right time by gifting them Mary, who later became the vessel for God’s greatest Gift, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who in turn gave His life for our salvation. Everything that happened was a crucial part of God’s powerful plan.

Sometimes we might be anxious and impatient for something that we want or need, yet through patience and trust in God everything becomes possible.

St. Paul teaches us by saying, “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” (Philippians 4:6)

Mary, the Mother of God did this, by not being anxious, but by being grateful for the gift God blessed her with, that she would share with the world. She would share that she had been chosen by God for such a great responsibility and, in doing so, she was filled with the peace of God.

**Words of the Week:**

**Աւետում - Avedoom - Annunciation**  
**ժամանակ - jhamanag - time**  
**վարագոյր - varakooyr - veil/curtain**

**Memory Verse:**

**To everything there is a season, a time  
for every purpose under heaven.**

**- Ecclesiastes 3:1**

Video Lesson: [HeartFelt Bible: The Annunciation to Mary](#) (duration 3:27)

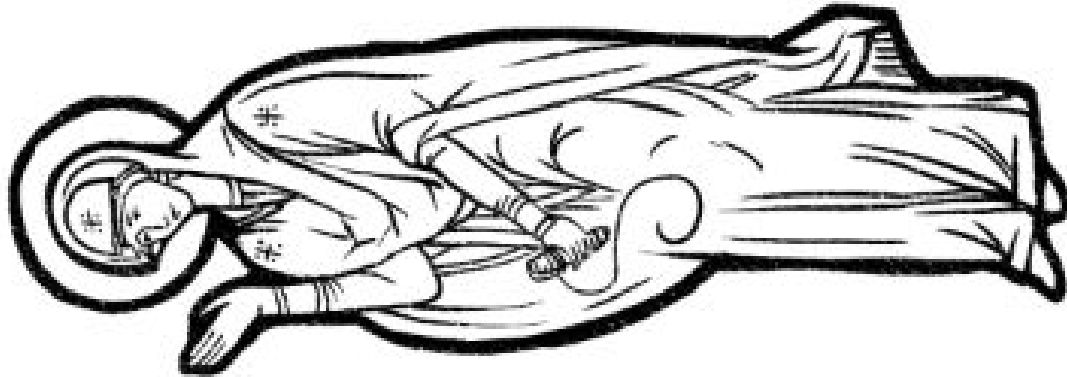
Song: [Every Good and Perfect Gift](#) (duration 2:35)



Image from shnorhali.com

**Craft activity: Annunciation hand puppets :**

1. Pre-cut the templates of Mary and the angel for each child.
2. Have students color the templates .
3. If needed, assist the children in taping the images of Mary and the angel to two toilet paper rolls.





# Review

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## Memory Verse Review:

*To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1)*

## Words of the Week Review:

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## Lesson Review:

### Questions:

1. Who were Mary's parents? (Saints Joachim and Anna)
2. What was the name of the angel that came to Mary? (Archangel Gabriel)
3. What did Mary do when she was young? (She served in the temple in Jerusalem and helped sew the curtain of the temple)
4. What do we learn for Mary's answer to the Gabriel? (Following God's will is important and humbling)
5. What else do we learn from Mary's story? (God answers prayers and grants gifts at the appropriate times)

## Life Application

### ***What are we going to do with what we have learned today?***

We should always love God with all our heart and trust that everything that happens to us is for a good reason and according to His plan. When we pray and ask God for certain things, sometimes we might not get what we want immediately. Sometimes it is because we ask for things that are not good for us or because it is not the right time. We should trust in God and trust in His perfect plan for us because He knows what is best for us, more than we can ask or even comprehend.

*\* Departing Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

### **Close with prayer:**

**Պահապան ամենայնի Քրիստոս, աջ Քո հովանի լիցի ի վերայ իմ, ի տուէ եւ ի գիշերի, ի նստիլ ի տան, ի գնալ ի ճանապարհ, ի ննջել եւ ի յառնել, զի մի երբեք սասանեցայց եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն**

**Bahaban amenayn Kreesdos, ach Ko hovanee leetsee ee vera eem; ee dveh yev ee keesheree, ee nsdeel ee dan, ee knal ee janabarh, ee nunchel yev ee harnel, zee mee yerpek sasanetsayts yev vog-hormya Ko araradzots yev eents pazmamyghees. Amen.**

**O Christ, guardian of all, let Your right hand guard and shelter me, by day and by night, at home and abroad, in sleeping and in waking, that I may never stumble. Have mercy upon Your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.**

## *At Home*

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**Please memorize by next week:**

**Memory Verse:**

*To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1)*

**Words of the week:**

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