

Mary, Mother of God



In Advance

Gather supplies, display the Saint Poster, and stock your presentation area. Study pages 10–11 of the *Finding God Together* guide for general directions on facilitating the Saint Station, which should last 30 minutes. Use the following directions to introduce your saint.

Welcome

Welcome participants and introduce yourself. Invite participants to introduce themselves.

Direct the group's attention to the poster and introduce Mary, the Mother of God. Invite children to share what they see on the poster.

Ask: *What are some ways you celebrate the New Year? (having a party, making New Year's resolutions)*

Say: *January 1 is the first day of the New Year. We honor Mary's motherhood of Jesus on this day. Mary is the Mother of our Savior. Mary is our Mother too. We ask Mary to pray for us. We ask her to help us follow Jesus. January 1 is also when we pray for world peace.*

Carry Out the Activity



Read aloud the following information:

Say: *Mary has many titles. Ask:* *What are some titles we have for Mary? (Mother Most Chaste, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Church, Immaculate Conception, Mother of Perpetual Help, Our Lady of Lourdes)*

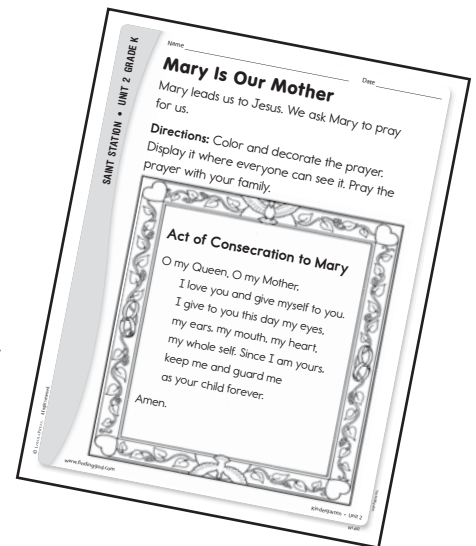
Say: *Mary's most important title is Mother of God. Mary showed great faith by saying yes to God. She became the mother of Jesus. Mary teaches us to say yes to God.*

Say: *We say yes to God in many ways every day. We say yes to God with our eyes when we see beautiful things in God's creation. We say yes to God with our ears when we listen to the Bible.*

Ask: *How might you say yes to God with your mouth? (by saying nice things to others)*
How might you say yes to God with your heart? (by loving God and others)

Materials

- Pages 10–11 of the *Finding God Together: An Intergenerational Events Guide: Saint Stations*
- Poster of Mary, Mother of God
- Copies of the Blackline Master (go to www.loyolapress.com/IGFE)
- Art supplies



Directions for Saint Station Leader

Arrange the participants into small groups. Distribute the Blackline Master and other supplies. Invite participants to decorate the Blackline Master and pray the prayer at home.

Say: *One way we can tell Mary we love her is by asking her to pray for us. We can ask Mary to help us say yes to God.*

Wrap-Up

Bring the activity to an end and prepare the participants for prayer.

Say: *Mary is always praying to Jesus for us. She helps us become closer to Jesus. Mary will always be there for us.*

Invite participants to fold their hands and bow their heads. Pray the Sign of the Cross together. Pause for a moment and then pray aloud the Hail Mary.



*Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among 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.*

