

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Years ABC - RCLB Lectionary

Lectionary: 689 Read the Gospel: <u>Luke 1:26-38</u>

Gospel Summary

In today's Gospel reading, the angel Gabriel is sent by God to tell Mary that she has been chosen to give birth to his Son. Mary is overwhelmed by this news and does not fully understand it, but she says yes to God's plan. The choice of Mary underscores God's impartiality, for Mary was not from a wealthy or well-known family. God looked past her social status and saw in her great faith, holiness, and grace.

Reflection for Parents

Lack of time, tiredness, uncertainty, or even fear can often lead us to quickly say no to the requests of our children, coworkers, family members, and church. Today's Gospel reading invites us to consider when during this Advent season we might say yes to invitations to be present, take part, serve, and love. Spend a few moments in quiet prayer, asking God to help you say yes to his will and to his plan for your life.

Bringing the Good News Into Your Family

Place a statue, image, or holy card of Mary on the family prayer table. Sing a favorite Marian hymn in her honor. Read today's Gospel. Ask family members what they think would have happened if Mary had said no to God's plan for her life. Then talk about what happens when we say no to God's plans for our lives. Say a prayer to Mary, asking that your family will have faith to say yes to God. Conclude by praying together the Hail, Mary.

Discussion Starters

- 1. A time I know the Lord was with me was . . .
- 2. It is hard for me to say yes to God when . . .
- 3. One way I can say yes to God this Advent season is . . .