


	<b>Mary Visits Elizabeth</b>	
<b>Presence of God</b>	Considering how God looks at me.	
<b>History Luke 1, 39 – 48</b>	<p>39 Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she could into the hill country to a town in Judah.</p> <p>40 She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth.</p> <p>41 Now it happened that as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>42 She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.</p> <p>43 Why should I be honored with a visit from the mother of my Lord? 44 Look, the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. 45 Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'</p> <p>46 And Mary said: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; 48 because he has looked upon the humiliation of his servant. Yes, from now onwards all generations will call me blessed.</p>	
<b>Petition</b>	<i>Lord, may I know you more clearly, love you more deeply and follow you more nearly!</i>	
<b>Contemplation</b>	<p><b>v 39 Mary, the servant of the Lord.</b></p> <p><i>Do you remember the question the angel made Virgin Mary? (If she wanted to be God's mom) And what did Mary answer? ("I am the servant of the Lord") [here we want to stress the Virgin's attitude of service].</i></p> <p><i>Does anybody remember the "gossip" the angel told Mary? Something about a relative of hers, who was old and could not have babies? The angel told her that Elizabeth was expecting a baby.</i></p> <p><i>Once the angel left, Mary thought about Elizabeth: being old and pregnant, would she be able to do the housework all alone? Virgin Mary was also pregnant with Jesus, who was growing slowly in her tummy, but she must have felt that God asked her to put herself at the service of her old pregnant relative, who most surely needed some help.</i></p> <p><i>Let's imagine the road Mary took to go to Elizabeth's town ... imagine Mary walking to that little town in the mountains where Elizabeth lived. It was most probably a long and tiring journey... imagine what Mary feels, what she thinks about... imagine what Jesus feels inside his mommy's womb.</i></p>	<p><b>Thank to the divine providence, Mary could share her secret "in God" with another woman of faith, Elizabeth, who was herself also living a miracle.</b></p> <p><b>They could really understand that God fulfilled his promise because they were living that promise in their own lives.</b></p> <p><b>The Virgin lived the mystery of Incarnation in solitude, so God drew her near Elizabeth who probably helped her to go through a situation that was very difficult to understand.</b></p>
	<p><b>vv 40 – 45 Of all the women you are the most blessed</b></p> <p><i>After her long journey, Mary arrived at Elizabeth's house, knocked on the door and waited. Elizabeth got out to welcome her. But when Elizabeth heard Mary's voice, what happened to her baby, John? The baby started leaping in her womb because he felt Jesus' presence; and at this point, Elizabeth understood that her relative Mary was also pregnant with the Savior, God's Son!!!!</i></p> <p><i>So how did Elizabeth greet Mary? What did she tell Mary? (Of all the women you are the most blessed and blessed is the fruit of your womb).</i></p> <p><i>Do you know the name of Elizabeth's son? John the Baptist.</i></p> <p><i>Let's imagine a big hug between Mary and Elizabeth... and between the two babies: John and Jesus. What did they feel?</i></p>	<p><b>Mary's hymn of praise to our Lord expresses what all mankind feels: its radical poverty and its incapacity to overcome its alienation as a consequence of sin.</b></p> <p><b>Mary's main service is to bring her son Jesus to all of us. She is the gate through which the Son of God comes to this world.</b></p>

**vv 46 – 48 Mary sings to God**  
*The Virgin was so happy for what God had done to Elizabeth (give her a child) and to herself (chose her to be God's mom) that she started singing to praise and to thank him for being so kind and merciful. Let's imagine Mary who feels so happy that she sings to God to thank him ... What does Mary feel?... What do you think Elizabeth did when she heard this wonderful hymn?*

**Mary's service**  
*Mary stayed with Elizabeth at her house for three months until John the Baptist was born. Elizabeth really enjoyed the Virgin's visit, and also the visit of Jesus, who was in Mary's tummy. Mary made Elizabeth company and did all the housework. Let's imagine what Mary did and how she felt.*

**Hail Mary, Sacred Mary,  
 Our Lady.  
 You are full of grace and has been  
 picked, among all, to become God's  
 Mother.**

**The Lord is with thee and you are his  
 Servant, called to fulfill a mission.  
 And blessed are thou, and blessed  
 thou will be called  
 for having been chosen by God.**

**And blessed is the fruit of you womb,  
 the Messiah of the People of God.**

**Hail Mary, Pablo Coloma**

**Colloquy** *Let's sit on the carpet, on the promised land, near Jesus, to hear him in the silence of our hearts. Let's imagine that we are inside the Virgin's joyful heart. Feel her kindness, her humbleness and tell her many times, and very slowly: "Of all women, you are the most blessed" .*

