

BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Prepare a table with a white cloth, an image or statue of Mary, and a candle. Light the candle, gather, and sing together a Marian song. Pray together the Sign of the Cross.

The Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated every year on May 31. Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Proclaim Luke 1:39-56.

REFLECTION

Mary's response to her cousin's greeting is the *Magnificat*, a canticle or song that praises God.

This canticle praises God not only in the life of Mary but also in the lives of humble people who serve the Lord. This canticle reminds us of God's work in Salvation History and in our lives. It is an invitation to discover God's presence. It is a call to let the Spirit of the Lord guide our decisions and to send us out into the world to evangelize, just as Mary did, with joy and gratefulness for God's work in her life.

Let us pause for a moment of reflection on God's work in our lives and in the world.

(Pause.)

INTENTIONS

With confidence in God's love for us, let us present our intentions, offering thanksgiving to God for the ways in which he is at work in our lives and in the world.

(Offer your personal intentions.)



The Visitation of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
through the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
to her cousin Elizabeth
you have given us the *Magnificat* to praise you.
Help us, by her intercession,
always to praise your work in our lives and in the world.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Pray together the Sign of the Cross.

