

Name: _____

Date: _____

Joyful Mysteries of the Nativity

Do you have a little sibling or a little cousin or even just a baby in your family? Do you remember what it was like leading up to the birth of that baby? The story of Mary and Joseph preparing for the birth of Baby Jesus is similar to the story of how you prepared for the little ones in your life.

Think about how exciting it is to welcome a new baby into the world. The family, especially the mother, has been preparing for nine long months to hold their precious little baby and everyone is so excited to get to see his or her little face. It is an important event for the parents, the child, and the rest of the family, too. For Mary, getting to hold Baby Jesus after His birth was all of this and more, because seeing His face also meant seeing what she could have only imagined nine months earlier when she said “yes” to God and agreed to carry Jesus. She did not fully understand what she was saying “yes” to, but she trusted and loved God enough to do whatever He asked of her. Holding her child months later, and feeling that joy that comes with welcoming a new baby, caused Mary to see why God asked her to be Jesus’ mother. Holding her son for the first time helped everything make sense. In the mystery of the Nativity, we are asked to think about what God has called us to do or is calling us to do and what blessings He has given us throughout our life. What are the blessings you’ve received that you didn’t see coming? When have you experienced joy and realized that God was leading you all along?