

December 22nd 2024 4th Sunday of Advent Year C Luke 1:39-45

^{1:39}In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

<p>➤ Read and re-read – out loud and slowly the Gospel.</p> <p>➤ Meditate - on reading as being spoken to you, an experience in your life.</p>	<p>➤ Pray - Thanksgiving – Repentance – Petition.</p> <p>➤ Action – Attitude (Call to change / to act /to do).</p>
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In this weeks gospel we read the story of Mary's pregnancy. We reflect on the visitation – the second joyful mystery of the rosary. Mary is the main focus of our attention as she awaits the birth of Jesus. She is a person of great faith and through this has brought great faith to others. Mary's blessedness is that she has faith, no great achievements or visible signs of God's favour – just faith.

How often do we appreciate our gift of faith and all the blessings it brings? Do we hide it or are we willing to bring it to others?

Prayer:

Thank You Lord for our faith and for the people who help us to strengthen it by their example and love.

Forgive us Lord for the times when the motives for our actions were selfish or a means of gaining approval or influence.

Help us all Lord to listen to your word and believe in the power of the Holy Spirit as Our Blessed Lady did.