

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH!

Angels are messengers from God and as we prepare for Christmas we see how God used his angels to bring important messages to many of the people in the Christmas story.

- At the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and said:
'Do not be afraid, God is pleased that you will have a son; his name will be Jesus'. (Lk 1:30)
- An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, telling him not to be afraid and to take Mary as his wife, because she was going to have a baby boy and they must call him Jesus. (Mt 1:20-24)
- When the baby Jesus was born, the shepherds were on the hillside watching their sheep when an angel appeared to them and the whole sky lit up. The angel announced to them the birth of the baby Jesus by singing, "*Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace to people of good will*" (Lk 2:8-14). This is the first line of the Gloria that we pray at Mass.
- After the three kings left the baby Jesus, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to take Jesus and Mary to Egypt because King Herod was trying to kill the baby. Joseph did as God asked. (Mt 3:13)
- While the Holy Family were in Egypt Joseph had another dream and an angel told him that it was safe for him to bring Mary and Jesus back to Israel. (Mt 3: 19-20)

To Do:

In your Bible find all the references to angels that are highlighted in purple on this page.

Write the story of one of these encounters with angels in your own words.

Illustrate the story.