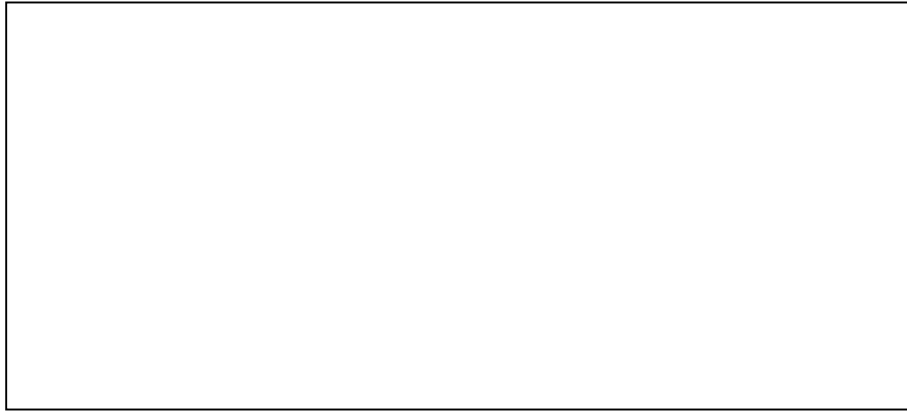


WORD SCRAMBLE

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Draw a picture of Joseph, Mary, & Jesus fleeing to Egypt



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LESSONS FOR LAMBS

ST. JOSEPH, GUARDIAN OF JESUS (MARCH 19)

The color for St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus, is white.



What to listen for during the service?

Joseph was from the lineage (family line) of David. This was important because the Messiah would come from the line of David, so this fulfilled God's promise of a Messiah. Listen during the service for things that proclaim God's promises. What has He promised to us?

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

(The Gospel Reading is from the part of the Bible that is about Jesus and his ministry.)

13 Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." 14 And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

19 But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." 21 And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. 23 And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Questions to talk about with your parents:

- 1) What did the angel tell Joseph in verse 13?
- 2) Who was searching for Jesus in order to kill him?
Why did he want to kill Jesus?
- 3) Where did Joseph take Mary and Jesus?
- 4) What did the angel tell Joseph in verse 19-20?
Where did Joseph go then?
- 5) Who became ruler after Herod died?
- 6) Where did Joseph, Mary, and Jesus live at the end of the reading?

People of the Bible: Joseph

In the Gospel reading today, we hear about Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. But who is Joseph? Joseph is called the Guardian of Jesus because he served Jesus in a fatherly role during Jesus' life on earth. Joseph was Jewish, and was from

Bethlehem but later settled in Nazareth. Jesus was born in Bethlehem because Joseph and Mary had returned there for a census (counting of the population of the people), but Jesus was considered a Nazarene. Joseph worked as a carpenter, and was given the important role of raising Jesus when Jesus was a child. Joseph was from the family line of David, which was important because the Messiah was going to come from the family ("lineage") of David. When Jesus was born into this family to Joseph and Mary, this promise of a Messiah was fulfilled.

HYMN – "By All Your Saints in Warfare"

(st. 2 [LSB 517, st. 14] © 2006 Gregory J. Wismar. Used by permission.)

- 1 By all Your saints in warfare,
For all Your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus,
Forevermore be blest!
For You have won the battle
That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory
Reflected from Your throne.
- 2 We sing our thanks for Joseph,
The guardian of our Lord,
Who faithfully taught Jesus
Through craft and deed and word.
Grant wisdom, Lord, and patience
To parents ev'rywhere
Who guide and teach the children
Entrusted to their care.
- 3 Then let us praise the Father
And worship God the Son
And sing to God the Spirit,
Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne,
Ascribing pow'r and glory
And praise to God alone.