

## **SACRED STORY**

# **MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS**

### **LESSON NOTES**

**FOCUS: MARY, THE MOTHER OF JESUS (LUKE 1:26–34, LUKE 2:1–20, MATTHEW 1:18–25, LUKE 2:21–52, LUKE 4:16–30, JOHN 2:1–12, MATTHEW 12:46–50, JOHN 19:25–27)**

- **SACRED STORY**
- **EXTENSION OF THE GREATEST PARABLE AND THE FACES OF EASTER, PART I**

### **THE MATERIAL**

- **LOCATION: NEW TESTAMENT SACRED STORY SHELF, SECOND SHELF, UNDER THE GREATEST PARABLE**
- **PIECES: ANGEL PLAQUE, WOODEN CHRIST CHILD IN A MANGER, CRUCIFIX, TOMB, WOODEN FIRE IMAGE, SILK FORGET-ME-NOTS**
- **UNDERLAY: STRIP OF BLUE FELT**

### **BACKGROUND**

God chose Mary to be the Mother of God when she was a young teenager. Joseph and Mary raised the baby and Mary was present during Jesus' life and death. Legends beginning about the second century tell us that her mother's name was Anne and her father's name was Joachim. Mary's story parallels the stories of divine intervention in the birth of Isaac to Sarah, and Samuel to Hannah (a Hebrew form of Anne).

### **NOTES ON THE MATERIAL**

This lesson is kept in a wooden tray, like other stories that are extensions of Core stories. The story icon is an image of Mary holding the infant Jesus. The underlay is a strip of blue felt. Each object in the story is approximately the same size (no more than 4 inches high and wide). The story calls for the following objects: an angel image, a wooden Christ child in a manger (like in the Holy Family), a scroll of Isaiah (like in the Synagogue and the Upper Room), a crucifix, an empty tomb, a red flame made of wood to represent the Holy Spirit and silk forget-me-nots. The control for the lesson is placed in the bottom of the tray for the children to use to check their work to be sure that the sequence of the story is right, because when you change the sequence, you change the story.

### **SPECIAL NOTES**

This story can be told any time during the church year, but is especially appropriate during the seasons of Advent or Lent.