

DAYS 1 & 2 – LUKE 1:1-25

1. What interesting facts did you learn from the lecture concerning the Gospel of Luke?
2. According to verse 2, how was the deposit of faith transmitted? (See Catechism of the Catholic Church [CCC] 76)
3. Why was it important to give the background and beliefs of Zechariah and Elizabeth?
4. Why were Zechariah and Elizabeth considered righteous in the eyes of God?
5. What was Zechariah's reaction to the divine appearance?
6.
 - a. What was the announcement of the angel?
 - b. What role will John play in God's plan?
 - c. Why might John drink neither wine nor strong drink? (See Nm 6:1-21)
7.
 - a. What was Zechariah's response to the prophecy, and what does this indicate about his faith?
 - b. What was the consequence of Zechariah's response?
8.
 - a. Elizabeth was unable to bear children. Name some Old Testament women who were unable to conceive without special favor from the Lord.
 - b. What do you learn from Elizabeth's reaction to answered prayer?

DAYS 3 & 4 – LUKE 1:26-38

9. Why was it important for Luke to establish Mary as a virgin before the birth of Christ? (See Is 7:14)
10. What does the Catholic Church teach about Mary's virginity? (See Song 4:12; Ez 44:2; CCC 498-500)
11. Is it possible today to receive miracles and/or angelic messages? Could you share an experience? **(Personal)**
12. What was Mary's state of mind after the angel's greeting?
13. According to Jewish law, what would happen to women discovered to be pregnant out of wedlock? (See Lv 20:10)
14.
 - a. What prophetic words did the angel speak about Christ?
 - b. From verses 31-35, list the verse referring to the Holy Trinity.

15. a. What did God promise David in 1 Chronicles 17:7-14?
- b. Who fulfilled these promises?
16. How was Mary to conceive the child?
17. What does the phrase “nothing is impossible with God” mean to you?
18. a. What was Mary’s reply to the angel?
- b. Share a time in your life when you have said yes to God in the midst of confusion and distress. **(Personal)**
19. Why do you think Mary was open to the angel’s message?
20. The actual Greek words used in Luke 1:28, “Hail favored one” are “Chairoo” (Hail or literally “Rejoice”) and kekaritomene (“you who are fully transfigured by grace”). What doctrine of the Catholic Church does this phrase support? (See CCC 491, 722)
21. a. Both Zechariah and Mary questioned the angel Gabriel. Why was Zechariah rendered speechless and Mary was not? (See CCC 506)
- b. Think of a difficult situation in your life in which you put your trust in God. What were the results? **(Personal)**

DAY 5 – LUKE 1:39-45

22. How did Elizabeth know that Mary was to be the mother of the Lord?
23. The angel Gabriel prophesied about John “He will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from his mother’s womb”. Give the verse in which this prophecy was fulfilled.
24. It’s been said “Death through Eve, life through Mary”. What does this mean to you?
25. Meditate on the prayer “Hail Mary”. What parallel do you find in Luke?
26. a. What three things did the ark of the Old Covenant contain? (See Heb 9:3-4) Draw a parallel to what was contained in Mary’s womb.
- b. Read 2 Samuel 6:1-19. Can you find any similarities to these verses in Luke 1?
- c. Read Revelation 11:19-12:6. When John saw “the ark of the covenant” in 11:19, how does he describe it in 12:1-6? (The original Ark of the Covenant had been missing for hundreds of years). Who is the woman?
- d. Based on the previous three questions, what can be said of Mary?