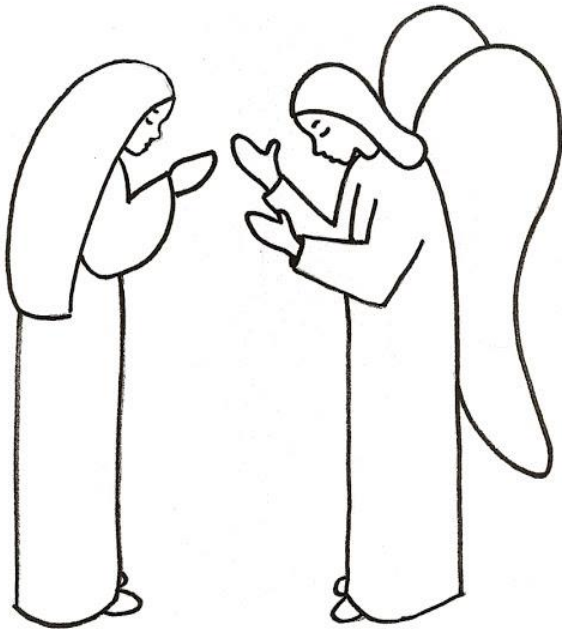
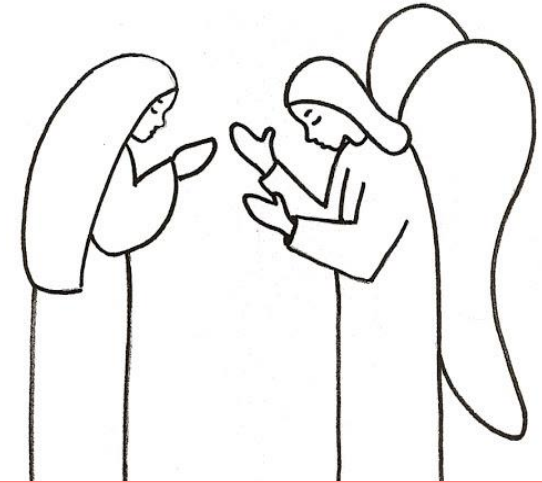


The Invitation

In the Christmas story, Mary was visited by Angel Gabriel and was invited to be Jesus mother. Mary had an important choice to make. This choice would change her life and the lives of all of us. I wonder what thoughts Mary would have had?



Sometimes we are invited or asked to do something very important which we really have to think about. Christians believe that God helps us when we have decisions to make.

If you want to, write down an important choice that you need to make on the picture of the angel and place it in the box. You could try praying about it or speak to a teacher or friend.

Refugees



Jesus's start in life was tough. He was born in a cattle shed and his bed was an animal feeding trough (manger). He had to leave his country because of a cruel king. He finally settled as a child in Nazareth.

There are many children today who are leaving dangerous countries and situations. If you want to look at the map and write a prayer or thought for someone who is a refugee.

The Gifts

The wise men followed a star and travelled many miles to give Jesus gifts.

- Gold because Jesus is a King.
 - Frankincense because he came to forgive us.
 - Myrrh because he came to die for us so we could be friends with God.
- These gifts were incredibly special.

If you want to make or cut out a star. On one side write the best gift you have ever had. Then think about a gift that you would have given to Jesus if you were a visitor that first Christmas.



The visit



Imagine: you are minding your own business when suddenly, thousands of angels appear, singing about a new king that has been born!

WOW.

Shepherds were outcasts, looked down on and not valued, but they were Jesus first visitors.

Another **WOW.**

Christians believe that everyone is loved by God and that we are all unique. If you want to, dip your finger in some paint and make a thumb or fingerprint on the Christmas tree cut out. Then if you want to, draw round your hands and think about things which make you unique. If you want to, thank God for making you so valuable.