



Readings for the Christmas Holiday Season - # 3

After being visited by the angel Mary went for a three month visit with her older relative named Elizabeth, the wife of Zechariah. Elizabeth and Zechariah were soon to become the parents of John the Baptist. (That story is also included in Luke's Gospel.) Luke recounts for us the details of Mary's visit with Elizabeth. The reading is from Luke, chapter 1, verses 39-45. (NIV)

Mary Visits Elizabeth

³⁹ At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰ where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!" ⁴³ But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"