**MARY THE MOTHER OF JESUS - NURSERY**

Mary was born in Nazareth. Her mother was named Anne and her dad, Joachim.

When Mary was a young girl, she met a man named Joseph who lived in Nazareth. They decided they would get married.

A very strange thing happened to Mary soon after she had decided to marry Joseph.  An angel appeared to her.  He said his name was Gabriel and he told her that she had been chosen by God to be the mother of the Saviour.  He asked her if she wanted to do that and Mary agreed.

Joseph was also visited by an angel telling him that Mary was having God's child and to name him Jesus. Joseph and Mary were married.

Joseph and Mary had to go to Bethlehem to be counted.  When they got there, the town was so full of people, there was no room for them to stay.  They were given a stable and that night, their baby was born. Joseph and Mary loved their new son and they did as the angel had asked of them. They named him Jesus.

Jesus grew up and Mary taught him to walk, talk and pray.  She loved him very much. One time when Jesus was twelve years old, he got lost in the temple.  Mary and Joseph were frantic searching for him.  After three days, they found him talking to the teachers in the temple

Jesus lived in Nazareth with his parents.  Joseph taught him to work in the carpenter’s shop and Mary cooked and cleaned for Jesus and Joseph.  Jesus grew into a man and he and Mary were close.  They were always talking and enjoying each other.

One time they went to a wedding and the wine was all gone. There was nothing to drink.  Mary asked Jesus to help, and he performed his first miracle.  He turned the water into wine.  He did it just because his mother asked for his help.

Can you imagine her sorrow over the death of her son on the cross?  Her heart was breaking.  While Jesus was on the cross, he said, "This is your mother."  Mary is our mother.

After Jesus went to heaven, Mary stayed with his apostles and prayed with them waiting for the Holy Spirit to come.  She was always helping them.  Jesus took her to heaven to be with him and he crowned her queen of heaven and earth.