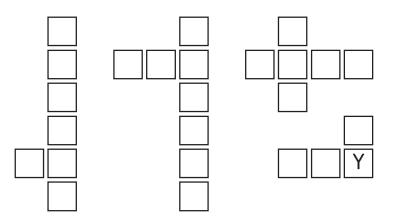


Fit the following words from today's Gospel into the empty squares below.

The infant in my womb leaped for joy.



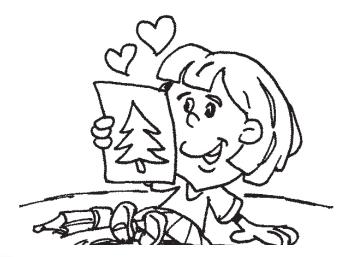


You belong to a larger family than just the people in your home. See how many of your relatives you can name before you visit them at Christmas. When you do see them, wish them "Merry Christmas!"









GOSPEL

Mary couldn't wait to visit her much older cousin, Elizabeth, up in the hills of Judea. Both of them were expecting babies. Each of them knew that the birth of her child was a special event that could only happen because they trusted God. Your own mother trusted that God would give you life in this world. Both Mary and Elizabeth watched their children grow up to do good things. You can grow up to do good things too, if you trust in God.



Dear Jesus, help me to trust you and to remember that you are the reason we celebrate Christmas. Amen.



Ask your mother who she visited while she was waiting for you to be born. Draw a picture of her visiting with a relative or friend.

