2020 THEME: SENT WITH JOY TO HEAL BEC March Reflection Paper: God has found favour in you

Focus: God who sends us for mission **Event**: Annunciation

Introduction:

God is love and is just to each and every one of us. There are some who are great he is given great duty, like David a shepherd boy was made a king. For some who are less able they will be given lighter duty. Mary was chosen to be the mother of God while she was still a virgin girl. When the angel Gabriel said to her, 'Rejoice,' you who enjoy God's favor! Look! You are to conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus.' Mary was deeply disturbed but with trust in God and being obedient she answered 'let it happen to me as you have said.'

Opening Hymn: Behold A Virgin Bearing Him

- Behold a virgin bearing him Who comes to save us from our sin; The prophets cry: prepare his way! Make straight his path to Christmas Day.
- 2 Behold our Hope and Life and Light, The promise of the holy night; We lift our prayer and bend our knee To his great love and majesty.

Opening prayer (Invite one of the BEC members)

Dialogue

Our Lady of Guadalupe is one of the most famous apparitions in the world. According to lore, in 1531 the mother of God appeared to a peasant named Juan Diego on a hill near present-day Mexico City and asked that he build her a shrine. Twice Juan Diego reported her appearance to his local bishop, who did not believe him. The second time, the bishop asked for proof. On the morning of December 12, the vision appeared again to Juan Diego and directed him to gather flowers at the top of the hill. This was unusual because it was winter and flowers were not in season. Nonetheless, he followed her instructions and discovered an array of Castilian roses. The "lady" helped Juan Diego arrange them in his tilma, or cloak, and he went back to his bishop. When Juan Diego showed the bishop his cloak, the roses tumbled out and on the inside of the

cloak was an image of the Virgin Mary. Since then, this image has been known as Our Lady of Guadalupe.

"For many of us, growing up, God was an invisible, strict figure. He is remote, while Our Lady of Guadalupe is someone you can see, she is a palpable image – and she is the mother figure, forgiving and all-loving."

Discuss with the person next to you:

- 1. Why do you think our lady appear to JUAN DIEGO?
- 2. What miracle had taken place?

Discernment





Acts 2:1-4

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met together, 'when suddenly there came from heaven a sound as of a violent wind which filled the entire house which they were sitting; and there appeared to them tongues as of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak different languages as the Spirit gave them power to express themselves.

Reflection

- # Read the text aloud and LISTEN with openness.
- # READ it silently by yourself until a word or phrase touchs you or inspires you.
- # What is the Holy Spirit saying to you thought the words or phrase?
- # Do you feel the Holy has filled you and with joy you will go and heal those who need healing?
- # Share in small group your feeling of the power of the Holy Spirit.

Deed

Pray to Lord Jesus to fill you with Holy Spirit so that you are able to enjoy the Joy of Healing and to go and heal.

Closing prayer (Invite one of the BEC members)

Closing Hymn: GENTLE Women

Chorus: **Gentle woman, quiet light**

Morning star, so strong and bright Gentle Mother, peaceful dove Teach us wisdom, teach us love.

1 You were chosen by the Father
You were chosen for the Son
You were chosen from all women
And for woman shining one

2. Blessed are you, among women Blessed in turn all women too Blessed they with peaceful spirits Blessed they with gentle hearts.