**THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

**December 8th**

* The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation. In normal times, we should make every effort to attend Mass on this day.
* On this day, we celebrate our belief that Mary, the Mother of God, was free from sin from the very beginning of her life.
* Her father was St. Joachim and her mother was St. Anne. This means they are Jesus’ grandparents.
* God chose her to be Mother of his Son.
* We can pray to her as our Mother too.
* When the Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she was going to be the Mother of God, she immediately rushed across the countryside to tell her cousin, Elizabeth, the good news.
* Elizabeth and Zachariah were also expecting their own baby, John the Baptist.
* **Titles for Mary**

Many titles have been bestowed on Mary. These include Queen of Heaven, Mother of God, Health of the Sick, Queen of Peace, Queen of the Rosary, Our Lady of Knock, Mary, most pure, Queen of Ireland, Mother of Mercy, Help of Christians.

**Prayer:**

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us, who have recourse to you.

**Exercise:**

Can you make **a word search** to include the above titles for Our Blessed Mother. Add in one or two of your own and ask your class colleague to solve it.