

Chronology of Nativity Events with Scripture References

Gabriel announces John's birth	Luke 1:5-25
Gabriel visits Mary	Luke 1:26-38
...in the sixth month...	
Mary visits Elizabeth, John's mother	Luke 1:39-56
...the baby leaped in her womb...	
Birth of John the Baptist	Luke 1:57-80
Angel visits Joseph in a dream	Matthew 1:18-25
Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem	Luke 2:1-7
Shepherds visit Jesus	Luke 2:8-20
Circumcision of Jesus	Luke 2:21
Jesus was 8 days old	
Seal of the covenant that God made with Abraham	
Jesus presented in the Temple	Luke 2:22-24
Jesus was 40 days old	
Mary remained ritually unclean until this time	
Poor – one pigeon in place of a lamb for burnt offering – one pigeon for sin offering	
Praise of Simeon	Luke 2:25-35
Praise of Anna	Luke 2:36-38
Return to Bethlehem	
Not specifically recorded, but logical based on later events	
Eventually moved into a house	
Crowds would have thinned – baby was too young to travel	
Visit of the Magi	Matthew 2:1-12
Jesus was several months old	
Time for Magi to discover/interpret the star and to travel	
Flight to Egypt	Matthew 2:13-15
God had prepared a safe haven in Egypt (Alexandria?)	
Slaughter of the Innocents	Matthew 2:16-18
...two years old or under...	
To be certain – supports Jesus being several months old	
Return to Nazareth	Matthew 2:19-23; Luke 2:39-40
Jesus could have been several years (2-4) old	