

For Mary, God is Enough – May

Call to Prayer “Hope is not a feeling... It’s the conviction of knowing we are loved by God.”

Mary models hope based on God’s choice and love. She believed God is enough.

adapted Allen Hunt, Dynamic Catholic Best Advent Ever, 12-22-17

Leader: O God, open our lips

ALL: and our mouths will proclaim your praise.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning so now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia!



Hymn “Sing of Mary” verses 1, 3

1. Sing of Ma - ry, pure and low - ly, Vir - gin Moth - er un - de -
2. Sing of Je - sus, son of Ma - ry, In the home at Naz - a -
3. Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther; Glo - ry be to God the

1. filed. Sing of God’s own Son most ho - ly, Who be - came her
2. reth. Toil and la - bor can - not wea - ry Love en - dur - ing
3. Son; Glo - ry be to God the Spir - it; Glo - ry to the

1. lit - tle child. Fair - est child of fair - est moth - er,
2. un - to death. Con - stant was the love he gave her,
3. Three in One. From the heart of bless - ed Ma - ry,

1. God the Lord who came to earth, Word made flesh, our
2. Though he went forth from her side, Forth to preach and
3. From all saints the song as - cends, And the Church the

1. ver - y broth - er, Takes our na - ture by his birth.
2. heal and suf - fer, Till on Cal - va - ry he died.
3. strain re - ech - oes Un - to earth’s re - mot - est ends.

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Music: *Christian Lyre*, 1830.

Reading Luke 1: 38 “Mary said, ‘Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.’ Then the angel departed from her.” (New American Bible revised)

Reflection It seems like all the angel needed was Mary’s answer. “Then the angel departed from her.” The angel’s mission was complete and Mary’s had just begun. She couldn’t have known all that being the Mother of God would entail. But she did know that God had chosen her and, through faith and in hope, she knew that would be enough. She would have what she needed at each step of the way. Through faith and hope, we have that same assurance. We may have questions or want more information. We may doubt whether we have what it takes to do what God asks, but, like Mary, we can always be confident that God will provide for us wonderfully well. (adapted Loyola 3-minute retreat <http://www.loyolapress.com/retreats/god-is-enough>)

Pause in Silent Prayer

Response ALL: My soul rejoices in you, God. You know me, love me and work wonders in my life. May I always say yes to your will, to all you ask of me. Amen.

Reading The Song in Our Heart Hope is the virtue of those who, experiencing conflict – the struggle between life and death, good and evil – believe in the Resurrection of Jesus, in the victory of love. The Song of Mary is a song of hope. Mary says, “*My soul glorifies the Lord.*” For us Christians, there is hope, always. If there is no hope, we are not Christian. That is why I like to say, “*Do not allow yourselves to be robbed of hope*” because hope is a grace, a gift from God which carries us forward with our eyes fixed on Jesus. And Mary is always there. She accompanies us and sings the Magnificat of hope. With all our hearts, let us, too, unite ourselves to this song of patience and victory, of struggle and joy. Amen. (adapted from Pope Francis, homily, August 15, 2013)

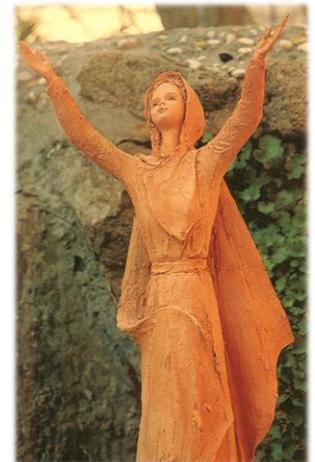
Reflection and Sharing

How does Mary’s modeling of acceptance of God’s will impact my life of service?
What would my song of hope and thanksgiving include?

Crowning of Mary “On this Day” refrain only

Refrain

On this day, O beau-ti-ful Moth-er, On this
day we give thee our love. Near thee, Ma-don-na,
fond-ly, we hov-er, Trust-ing thy gen-tle care to prove.



Prayer ALL: My soul glorifies you, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you, my Savior. You have looked with favor on the lowliness of your servant. Surely, from now on, all generations will call me blessed; for you, the Mighty One, have done great things for me and holy is your name. Your mercy is for those who fear you from generation to generation. You have shown strength with your arm; you have scattered those who are proud in the thoughts of their hearts. You have brought down those who are powerful from their thrones and lifted the lowly ones. You have filled those hungry with good things and sent those who are rich away empty. You have helped your servant, in remembrance of your mercy, according to the promise you made to our ancestors, to Abraham, Sarah and to their descendants forever.” Amen. (adapted Luke 1:46–55)

Leader: Let us “*implore Mary to offer to God the way by which He is calling*” us. O God, through the intercession of Mary, our Mother, bless us and keep us close to you now and always.

ALL: Amen, alleluia! (Louise de Marillac, Spiritual Writings, A.30, page 697)



Prayer Texts (New American Bible)

Luke 2: 19 “Mary treasured all ... in her heart.”

John 2: 1-11 “Do whatever he tells you.”