

March 25 is the feast of the **Annunciation**, the visit of the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary telling her that she would be the **mother of Jesus**, the Son of God.

Saying, “**Yes,**” to God means saying, “**Yes,**” to being who **He** wants us to be, to all that He is, to becoming all that we can be for Him, to being all that He created us to be--to live our purpose, with Him beside us.

One of my favorite quotes on “**yes**” is from Dag Hammarskjold:

“You **dare** your Yes – and experience **meaning**.
You **repeat** your Yes – and **all things** acquire a meaning,
Then, how can you live anything but “**Yes**”?”

Mary’s “**yes**” **changed** her life. It is believable, even without God’s request, that she and Joseph would have become parents. However, because of her “yes”, she became **not only a mother**, but the **mother of Jesus**. An ordinary life was made **sacred** by way of an **invitation** that she affirmed. Her life was deepened but the shape of it remained mostly the same. When Mary said “**yes,**” she welcomed God into the deepest part of her being, So it is with our lives when we say “**yes**” to God.

“Yes” is my prayer.

It is my Amen.

Yes is my belief in all things possible.

May God hear **your** “yes”, as you listen to Him **inviting** you to see your **ordinary life as sacred**. Like Mary, may you accept the **deepening** of the life that you have already been given? May you say “**yes**” and let your life be **sacred**?

Years ago, my spiritual director had me write my own “**Magnificat Prayer**”, a prayer based on Mary’s “**fiat**”, her “**yes**” to God. It expresses my “**yes**” to God for the **past, present and future** as well my love for the **Word** (Scripture) and **bread** (Eucharist). My **Magnificat Prayer**:

“My morning song is a hymn of praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Your **Word**, O God, becomes my **bread**. In Eucharist I’m fed.

Mary’s “**fiat**” of long ago is mine today.

Yes, to the past – a letting go – free at last,

Yes, to the present, Jesus Incarnate in every event,

Yes, to the future, as yet unknown.”

When we say “**yes**” to the **past**, we let go of both the **good** and **bad** things, so are **free** to live in the present.

May “yes” be your belief in all things are possible.

