

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. And, Mary said, **“Yes”**.

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 Hammarskjöld:



**“You dare your Yes – and experience meaning.
You repeat your Yes – and all things acquire a meaning,
And once all things have meaning,
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 as my love for the **Word** (Scripture) and **bread** (Eucharist). A quote from 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 prayer,