

Mother of God reflection

January 1, 2012

And Mary said: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; because he has looked upon his lowly servant. Yes, from now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name. (Luke 1:46-49)

We all have a song to sing. The Advent/Christmas season is marked by Mary's song of trust, a sign of her great humility. With her whole being she proclaims God as savior. As God's handmaid, she acts according to God's will. In haste, she travels to the hill country to a town of Judah. She is surrounded by shepherds, angels, travelers from afar and keeps all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Mary knows how to hold the mystery, the unknown, the seemingly impossible.

Mary knows how to ponder. Her young life had to be full of reflective moments because we see her as one who knows how to ask the question and one who knows how to wait patiently for the response. This gift of pondering prepared her for her great act of trust. For her saying YES to God's messenger, for her saying YES to becoming the Mother of God. She was humble enough to know her special place in this world, a place of faithfulness and humility. In humility she became grounded in God. Eyes fixed on the Almighty. In her heart, she had no room for anything else but love, patience and trust. She is Mary, full of grace. Full of God's life and the Mystery Incarnate. What a model of faith Mary provides us all. What an example of contemplative pondering.

As we enter a new year, let us ask for the grace of holding the mystery of God deep within our heart, of pondering all that God has done, is and will be for us.

Reflect: What song will you sing for a world in need of faith, hope and love?