

## **VOCATION Semester 2**

**Let us remember... ALL: that we are in the holy presence of God.  
(Pause to remember)**

### **A Proclamation from the Gospel of Luke 1:26-38**

“In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin’s name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, ‘Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you.’ But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

“Then the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.’

“But Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?’ And the angel said to her in reply, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.’

“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.”

### **An Adapted Reading from Feminine Spirituality by Rosemary Haughton (Read alone and let the YES rest in the depths of your own heart.)**

“The coming of God into our lives can happen to any of us; one doesn’t have to be a saint. The attempt to say ‘yes’ to God changes people. God comes into our lives, even if we find this hard to understand. He works there; he becomes available in us to others who are wanting him. This even happens, sometimes, to people who do not believe.

“Think for a moment of Mary, the Mother of God. Her story began with a simple ‘yes.’ This woman said ‘yes’ to something that was going to change her whole life and the lives of others. We know that something of revolutionary importance and on a cosmic scale happened when Mary said ‘yes’ to God’s messenger. But we can never understand how she felt.

“This same thing happens to us in many little moments, when God sends messengers into our lives, and their invitation is accepted or rejected. It happens to a person needing comfort or help, perhaps an irritating person, at a busy moment. Or something beautiful – a flower struggling to grow among city concrete, or a sunset, the turn of a child’s head, a snatch of music, or laughter – something which demands a response to the glory of the Spirit in the

world, only we often prefer not to see it for it disturbs our comfortableness. Or perhaps some humiliation comes, we feel neglected, tied to a dull, thankless job, or we lose a friend, or an opportunity, and again the invitation is to let the experience in, let it work and grow. Whatever it is, it asks that we let the experience take us over, changing us, making us alive and helping us grow.

“And so, as you surrender to this experience, as you struggle to know what God is doing in you, remember the woman Mary who knew God’s action in a most profound manner. And so, with a sense of extraordinary release, discovery, companionship find yourself saying: Hail Mary – full of grace, the Lord is with you – and with me, in my way, and so, blessed are we. Pray for me now, because now I’m beginning to know what you knew. Help me to know it more fully, to bring it to birth.”

### **Recommitting to Lasallian Mission**

Lord Jesus, you have entrusted young people to us; and you yourself stand in our midst. Let us honor that trust and lead those who have been entrusted to our care to experience your love through our ministry with them; we pray... **ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Help us, Lord, to be good leaders and witnesses for for our colleagues and those to whom we have been sent; we pray... **ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**

For whom or for what else shall we pray?

### **And in conclusion, let us join together in saying this prayer.**

God, Our Father,  
Lead us to find delight in our lives each day,  
in all the circumstances in which you place us,  
and with the people whom you entrust to us.  
Inspire us to seek first your kingdom,  
to live joyfully in your presence,  
and to grow in your image and likeness.  
Empower us with your Spirit  
that we may transform ordinary lives  
and be credible witnesses of your love. Amen.

**St. John Baptist de La Salle**  
**Live Jesus in our hearts**

**ALL: Pray for us**  
**ALL: Forever**