

January 1, 2025



Daily Reflections

A BLESSED NEW YEAR!

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

By Sr. Jane DeLisle, CSJ

An Excerpt from Today's Responsorial Psalm

"May God bless us in his mercy."

PSALM 67:2A

Reflection

Happy New Year! I pray that this year be one in which you experience more deeply God's abiding love, compassion, mercy and presence. Scripture from the Hebrew testament flows from God through Moses to us, offering blessing and grace for 2025:

***"The LORD bless you and keep you!
The LORD let his face shine upon you,
and be gracious to you!"***

***The LORD look upon you kindly and
give you peace.”***

NUMBERS 6:24

May this blessing of God’s loving presence be ours as we engage each new day with integrity and grace. The Psalm response rings out our desire for God to be in our lives. We ask in the words of the Psalmist that **“God bless us in his mercy.”** No one knows how the course of our days will proceed. All we can do is hope in God, plead our need for God’s abiding presence, and ask for the wisdom, courage, and integrity to live in the flow of God’s grace at work in us. No matter what the new year brings, with God at our side, enough has been given.

Like Mary, whose feast we celebrate today, we say, “Yes!” To living in God’s presence within and among us. In HOPE I desire to steadfastly respond to all that is asked of me in ways that are faithful and lead to holiness. Mary’s “Yes!” made way for the incarnation, for God to live among us in human form. Jesus is the reflection of God’s great love to all he encountered. Perhaps as a child, he gleaned the wisdom of such love made tangible through his Mother, who gave herself, body, soul, and spirit to faithfully respond to the grace of each day, come what may.

As Mary grew into the person God formed her to be, Jesus was born of her faith, born of her love, and born of her flesh. May we continue to grow into the person God invites us to be formed in flesh, faith, and love.

May God bless each one of us in his mercy this new year 2025. Amen! Yes!
Alleluia!



A Choice of Paths
Photo by Sister Jane DeLisle, CSJ

For Pondering

- What is my hope for this New Year?
- What is the blessing I desire as the New Year begins?

For Prayer

After a time of quiet reflection, write your prayer for the New Year.

Periodically read this prayer during the year. The beginning of each month would be a good way to keep your eyes focused on your desire.

Loving God, as I stand at the threshold of a New Year, ...

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