



**New Year - 1st January SUNDAY 2023 -  
Cycle A  
HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**

**SAVE ALL THESE THINGS**



**AND KEEP THEM IN YOUR HEART**

**SETTING**

Beginning of the New Year and here I am Lord, I am silent, I place myself in your hands and with Mary I give birth to life that I receive as a gift, as a gift.

I am and I am in your hands ready to go through life, ready to give everything, to be from you, in each person, in each creature that you offer me, also as a gift.

I come to you, today and every day; inspire in me that wisdom that drives us to search, to walk with others, contributing our own small talent, the simple wisdom that springs from the depths, graced by you in everything.

Put in my eyes, your look; in my being, your word; in my gestures, yours; those who heal, release, lift, lead again. Your Lord does it with me so that I can do it with others too.

Be you my light, my word, my way.

**SONG. Mary did you know – Ann Tylor**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mxnU8fWv7uU/>

**GOSPEL – LK 2, 16-21**

"And they went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger. When they saw it, they made known what they had been told about the babe; and all who heard it were amazed at what they had said to them. The shepherds told them. Mary, for her part, kept all these things, and meditated on them in her heart. The shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, according to what they had been told. Eight days were completed to circumcise him; he was given the name of Jesus, the one given to him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb."

**We deepen the Gospel**

This seemingly anecdotal account is actually deeply "theological." This means that all details matter:

1. The shepherds, first: they were not recommendable people, marginalized because their job prevented them from frequenting synagogues and respecting the Sabbath. However, they are the first to be warned of the event that has just shaken the history of humanity! And by this fact, they become the first apostles, the first witnesses.
2. All this happens in the small town of Bethlehem: at that time, everyone knew that this was the place where the Messiah was to be born in the descendants of David. Bethlehem is also the city whose name means "the house of bread" and the new-born is found lying in a manger: a beautiful image of the one who comes to give himself as food to humanity.
3. "Mary, however, retained all these events and meditated on them in her heart." Contrary to the shepherds who are made talkative by the event, Mary contemplates and meditates in her heart.

4. The name of the child already reveals its mystery: "Jesus" means "God saves" and if, unlike Matthew, Luke does not specify this etymology,

In the preceding verses he offers us the phrase of the angel: "A saviour has been born for you" (Lk 2, 1).

5. At the same time, the new-born lives to the full in solidarity with his people: like every Jewish child, he is circumcised on the eighth day: "He submitted to the Law of Moses to redeem those who were under the rule of the Law". More than the good will of a fervent marriage, there is no doubt that Luke wants us to see the solidarity of Jesus with his people. On the last afternoon, Jesus himself vindicated it: "The precise thing is fulfilled in me this text of the Scripture: He was numbered among the sinners" (Lk 22, 37).

6. One cannot avoid pointing out the discretion of the character of Mary, and this is valid for the four readings of this feast, even seeing that today's liturgy is dedicated to her under the invocation of "Mary, Mother of God." Perhaps this silence is a message for us: the glory of Mary is precisely having accepted to be the mother of God, having been able to put herself, entirely and humbly, at the service of fulfilling God's plan of salvation: She is not the center of Project. The center of the project is Jesus, the one whose name means "God saves". HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### **Imaginative Contemplation**

- Read the gospel slowly, what do you keep in your heart?
- In this year that is going to be end, what do you want to thank?
- In this coming year, where and how can you put yourself at the service of God's salvation?

**AMBIENTAL MUSIC. EINAUDI - La Linea Scura**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t\\_RNnKbs374](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t_RNnKbs374)

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**LEAVE THE WAY TO THE NEW** **YOU INSPIRE MY LIFE**

## ADMIRE

Lord of Life,  
From the inspiration that  
springs from you,  
Of the beautiful  
You who inhabit the earth and  
Each of our hearts.  
Admired by what you tell us,  
Of how you live, for what you  
feel,  
Of what you communicate  
Admired for what you suppose  
In our life, for what you are.  
Admired and encouraged,  
To be with you, being with others.  
Admired because you always  
welcome,  
To each one, as it is,  
Promoting, above all,  
How good it can be.  
Let us start the New Year,  
Clothed in simplicity,  
To embrace the simple life.  
Let us start the New Year,  
Clothed with righteousness,  
To deliver it at the meeting.  
Let us start the New Year,  
Clothed in humanity,  
What our world needs.  
Let us start the New Year,  
Clothed in gratitude  
To always thank.  
Let us start the New Year,

Clothed with the Spirit  
That gives life  
Let us start the New Year,  
Clothed in us  
That drives the new reality  
Of brothers and friends.  
Let us start the New Year,  
Like Mary, welcoming  
Things and meditating on them.  
Let us start the New Year,  
With enthusiasm to be and do  
Novelty possible every day.  
Let us start the New Year,  
Clothed in authenticity,  
Even if it is hard;  
Let light be light.  
Let us start the New Year,  
Covered with desire  
To make new, the old;  
Imagining possibilities,  
Drawing dreams,  
Opening paths of hope,  
Sowing peace  
Let us start the New Year,  
Seizing every moment,  
Let us give opportunity, its  
time;  
To the word, his body.  
To silence, your space.  
That it is possible to dream it,  
to want it  
And do it.  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**SONG. Oh Mary Mother-** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ARbq-R-KQCs>



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