

## Advent Marian Meditation Ep. 1 Transcript

*The Annunciation* (with Gabby Bibeau and Bro. Tom Redmond, SM)

### **00:06 - Gabby Bibeau**

Welcome to the first episode of our Advent Marian Meditations. We at NACMS thought it would be good to do a different kind of podcast for the Advent season, something that's a bit more prayerful. Each week in Advent, we will have a podcast for you that is a reflection on one aspect of Mary relating to the Advent season. This episode is the first of our Advent Marian meditations.

### **00:33 - Gabby Bibeau**

Today, we will be reflecting on the Annunciation. Our goal in this podcast is to help you pray in a new way about Mary and her presence in the Advent season. We will have a scripture reading, a written reflection on the scripture, and then a few minutes of silence for you to ponder their readings and some questions. We suggest that you listen to this episode in a quiet place - in your car, a comfortable chair, or even on a walk by yourself. However you decide to listen, we invite you to relax and remember that you are in the presence of God. Let's begin.

### **01:32 - Bro. Tom Redmond, SM**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke: "In the sixth month, the Angel Gabriel was sent from God to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. The Virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, the Angel said, 'Hail favored one, the Lord is with you.' But she was 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. The Lord God will give him the throne of David and of his Kingdom there will be no end.' But Mary said to the Angel, 'How can this be since I am a virgin?' 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 left her." The Gospel of the Lord.

### **03:36 - Gabby Bibeau**

When talking about the Annunciation, Father Chaminade said, "In Mary, faith was full. The faith of the prophets, the apostles, and all the church would not come close to hers. She believed in the Divine Word and because of her belief and her hope against all hope, she became the mother of God and of all people."

**04:04 – Gabby Bibeau**

There is quite a difference between knowing the word of God by heart and having the word of God be born within us. When contemplating the scene of the Annunciation, ask for the grace to welcome Jesus into your life, to be transformed into his image and give him to the world. The depth of the mystery you are contemplating is that the word of God became flesh in Mary in such a way that she could say, “This word of God is my Son.” Pray that this word of God may be born in you. Like Mary, may you respond with the same joyousness, “Let it be with me according to your word.”

**05:02 – Gabby Bibeau**

Spend some time reflecting on the following questions: Imagine the Angel Gabriel is appearing to you with an invitation. What is that invitation for you today? What is God inviting you to say “Yes,” to this Advent?

*[Soft music 05:22 - 05:59]*

**05:59 - Gabby Bibeau**

What is keeping you from saying “Yes” to God?

*[Soft music 06:03 - 06:52]*

**06:52 – Gabby Bibeau**

Ask God for the grace to say “Yes” in faith like Mary.

**07:06 - Gabby Bibeau**

Let us pray: Mary, throughout the Gospel, you are portrayed as the woman who listened to God's word and lived by it. You were the first disciple, the woman of fidelity to the word. You know how to listen. Be our teacher. Your only wish is that we be transformed into the likeness of your Son. We pray with you that we may receive the fullness of the Spirit of Jesus. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

**07:47 Gabby Bibeau**

Our reflection was from *Enfleshing the Word*, a book on prayer and the Marianist's spiritual journey. The closing prayer was written by Fr. Paul Landolfi in his book *Until Christ Be Formed in You*. Copies of both books can be purchased on the NACMS website at [www.nacms.org](http://www.nacms.org). Thank you for praying with us today.

*Ave Maria, gratia plena / Dominus tecum / Benedicta tu in mulieribus / Et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus / Sancta Maria, Mater Dei / Ora pro nobis peccatoribus / Nunc et in hora mortis nostræ, Amen.*