

## Prayers of Surrender:

### My Lord God,

I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.  
Nor do I really know myself  
and the fact that I think that I am following your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe that desire to please you does in fact please you.  
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.  
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.  
And I know if I do this, you will lead me through the right road  
though I may know nothing about it.  
Therefore, I will trust you always  
though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.  
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,  
and you will never leave me to face peril alone.

by Thomas Merton

### Take, Lord, Receive (*Suscipe*)

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,  
my memory, my understanding,  
and my entire will,  
all I have and call my own.  
You have given all to me.  
To you, Lord, I return it.  
Everything is yours; do with it what you will.  
Give me only your love and your grace,  
that is enough for me.

by St. Ignatius Loyola

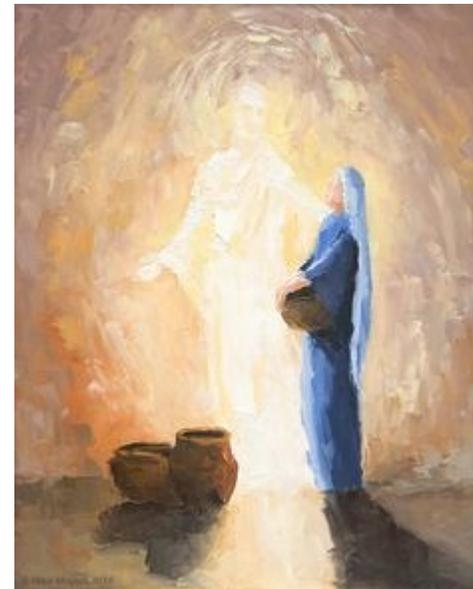
For further reading:

- ◇ *Rediscover the Saints*, Matthew Kelly
- ◇ *Gaze Upon Jesus, Experiencing Christ's Childhood through the Eyes of Women*, Edited by Kelly M. Wahlquist

## Holy Spirit Parish

## RE-IGNITE WITH THE SAINTS

### -- Mary Mother of God -- Surrender



*"May it be done to me according to your word."*  
~ Luke 1:38

## Scripture Passage

### Guided Reflection Based on the following text:

#### Luke 1:26-38a

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."



## Reflection Questions

1. Do you feel God might be calling you to give your yes to something you can't completely comprehend?
2. How does Mary's life and witness to surrender to God inspire me?
3. What prevents me from surrendering myself to God completely?
4. What is one step that I can take today toward surrender?