

# Daily Reflections

## ADVENT

### The Divine Intervention

December 12, 2016

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#### Scripture

##### **Luke 1:39-47**

Mary set out  
and traveled to the hill country in haste  
to a town of Judah,  
where she entered the house of Zechariah  
and greeted Elizabeth.  
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,  
the infant leaped in her womb,  
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,  
cried out in a loud voice and said,  
"Most blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.  
And how does this happen to me,  
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?  
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,  
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.  
Blessed are you who believed  
that what was spoken to you by the Lord

would be fulfilled.”

And Mary said:

“My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my savior.”

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

This Gospel text flies in the face of the popular thinking today regarding "SELF-esteem." Mary has just been told by the Angel Gabriel that she is to conceive and give birth to the Savior of the world. Now, if anyone ever had bragging rights, it was Mary. But what does she do instead? She makes a bee line through treacherous territory so that she can tell her cousin about the astonishing news. Upon her arrival, she simply says, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord. My spirit rejoices in God my Savior." What an incredible lesson on humility!

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## **Food for your Journey**

A pastor startled his members one Sunday morning by asking the question: "What have you done today that nobody but a Christian would do?"

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## **Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Please help me to follow the example of Your Mother, Mary. May I grow beyond my self-concern and place You at the center of my thoughts, hopes, and desires. Amen.