

December 20

REFLECT

Mary's full surrender to God was made flesh. Through our surrender God continues to take flesh acting with us, in us, and through us. We are a work in progress. What challenges might God be calling you to do in the coming year to imitate God's loving concern for others?

PRAYER

Loving God, help me embrace the journey ahead which awakens me to new light.

December 21

REFLECT

Hope shows us there is always a way out, that we can always redirect our steps, that we can always do something to solve our problems. How can you let go of despair and embrace living in hope?

PRAYER

Loving God, bring me to continue to make positive steps forward.

December 22

REFLECT

God speaks hope to the weary, the burnt out, and the hopeless. Heartbreaking poverty co-exists with inconceivable wealth; this is a sign of individualism and self-obsession. How can you expand your capacity to be a light bringing hope to someone in need today?

PRAYER

Loving God, remind me that the opposite of selfishness is love, and that *you* are love.

December 23

REFLECT

On our Advent journey, the unforeseeable future comes to us as a chance for something new, for a birth, for the expectation, the hope, the possibility for transformation. Taking time to rest in the darkness helps us to see where God's light is leading us forward. How can you be a light to lead others out of darkness?

PRAYER

Loving God, close the doors to the dark places I no longer wish to visit. Be a light unto my path forward.

December 24

REFLECT

In Bethlehem, the world changes forever when God becomes human. We must be willing to encounter God wherever God presents, even in the most unlikely of places. Into this life of ours with all its problems, anxieties, and uncertainties, God enters. Thank you for coming even when we didn't understand, deserve, or were not ready for you. How can we join the angels in heralding "Joy to the world!"?

PRAYER

Loving God, use me as a beacon of light to draw other people to you.