

# LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

## 24 FEBRUARY 2021

Lent Devotion/Day 8/Wednesday, February 24, 2021

MARY

For behold, henceforth, all generations will call me blessed. Luke 1:48

**Meditation:** The Virgin Mary was the most unique human being who ever lived, due to her extraordinary role in bearing Jesus. She visited her cousin Elizabeth, soon to be the mother of John the Baptist, and poured out her heart in the *Magnificat*: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior ... from now on all generations will call me blessed."

How could a humble teenage girl announce that future generations would call her blessed unless she firmly believed what was happening to her? Her prophecy is fulfilled as each generation of Christians calls her blessed, a fulfillment to which we are all witnesses.

Mary is front and center in the Christmas story, but is often overlooked in Jesus' public ministry. Yet she was with him until the end and beyond: present at his first miracle at Cana at Peter's house in Capernaum and up to that week that changed the world: Holy Week in Jerusalem. She was at his cross on Good Friday and celebrated his resurrection. Later, faithful to Jesus' words from the cross, she went to Ephesus with the disciple John and ended her days there, the most blessed woman indeed.

**Prayer:** *You chose not to be born of a queen in royal splendor, O King of the Universe, but of an otherwise common young woman who had the greatest credentials of all: a firm faith. May your Holy Spirit inspire us with similar faith. Amen.*

-from **Faithful Facts for Lent**, Paul L. Maier, Creative Communications for the Parish.