

**FR.TK.REFLECTIONS 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT 2023:**

**SUBMISSION AND YES TO GOD:**

The most challenging thing as human being is to give ourselves up to someone and let that person control our destiny. Humanly speaking there will always be resistance to **let go in detaching self from the familial comfort zone to unfamiliar world of somebody else control.** It will involve a lot of **sacrifice, courage and determination with will power.** This is what we may call **an act of faith in action.**

The gospel today (Lk.1:26-38) recounts such an act of faith in the **Annunciation to Mary.** We can see intimate moment between Mary and the Angel Gabriel when this young lady said **yes to God.** *She must have been troubled and panic stricken* after the Angel appeared to her. The message completely changed her whole life the time she said **May it be done to me according to your word (1:38)** with this something in the universe changed, new light entered into our world. In Mary's body a baby began to form by these words of Mary's response to **the call and promise of God.** They represent **obedience and surrender and submission to the will of God.** she was **no longer in control, of herself she totally and full gave herself to God.** These words carry in them all the **joyful mysteries, the luminous, sorrowful, glorious, the birth, the presentation, the suffering, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension, Pentecost and assumption this is the whole salvation presented in Annunciation** what a faith! What a great moment and lesson to learn to imitate the **humility and submission of Mary.** The work of salvation through those words of Mary began in that little unknown town of Nazareth due to humility of Mary. God is calling you and me as we prepare this last Sunday of Advent to continue the work of salvation through us. How are you going to do it? Are you, prepared to take that bold step and say **yes?**

Can you say I am the servant of the Lord, when you experience a **change in your life such as change of assignment, job transfer, when a spouse is afflicted with cancer, Diabetics, Alzheimer's, burden of age weighs us down, plans don't work out, that son, daughter is involved in drugs, bad**

**company, become alcoholic, cheating spouse impeding divorce, midlife crisis, giving witness to sacredness of life or when we have to carry the burden of addition, *can we submit ourselves to the will of Gods and say may it be done to me according to your words?***

Can we actually say yes to Him when he calls us to walk on the road which we had not planned or with people we would rather not choose to. The Annunciation is all about our calling and doing the will of God always and in all circumstances. It is about God **coming to us and His entrance into human life Emmanuel, God with us here and now not in heaven but in our daily lives.** He comes to us through **events, people, Responsibilities, challenges and family.** Are we going to be open to him this Christmas?, are you **willing to surrender like mary.** We are called today to say **yes, take responsibility and commitment's for our actions.** All are subject in asking like mary **how can this happen and why should it happen?** Mary in her submission to God shows us the way forward, to **let Gods will be done to us.** The Angel had told Mary **do not be afraid, the words were told to Joseph and the shephards, they are being echoed to us DO NOT BE AFRAID.** LETS PREPARE AND CELEBRATE THIS CHRISTMAS WITH CONFIDENCE.