

God's Promises

Every year, in this holy season of Advent, we are given four weeks to prepare to welcome Jesus – God with us! The amazing reality is that even as we prepare and wait, **God is already with us.** In scripture we are reminded of calls that came forth and promises made:

- “The Lord said to Abram: Go forth from your land, your relatives, and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you...Is anything too marvelous for the Lord to do?... Abraham was old, having seen many days, and **the Lord had blessed him in every way.**” Genesis 12:1; 18:14; 24:1
- “The word of the Lord came to me: Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you. ‘Ah, Lord God!’ I said, ‘I do not know how to speak. I am too young!’ But the Lord answered me, Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ To whomever I send you, you shall go; whatever I command you, you shall speak...Do not be afraid of them, **for I am with you to deliver you...**” Jeremiah 1



In Advent and Christmas readings we are reminded of these **promises**:

- “**The Lord is my shepherd**; I shall not want. In verdant pastures he gives me repose; Beside restful waters he leads me; he refreshes my soul...I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.” Psalm 23
- “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for **his mercy endures forever...**” Psalm 116
- “Thus says the Lord God...**The Lord will give you the bread you need and the water for which you thirst...**” Isaiah 30
- “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus...Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be...?’ ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you...**For nothing will be impossible with God.**” Luke 1:26-38



For Reflection

Discerning a call is not easy, but God’s promises can assist us on the journey. May praying with these words of promise give you renewed hope in finding your response to God’s call. In the words of our School Sisters of Notre Dame foundress, Blessed Theresa of Jesus:

“May the divine child, Jesus, at whose crib we have laid all the wishes of our hearts, fulfill, in the new year of grace, whatever serves his honor and glory.” – Letter 2773

This month’s Resource: <https://www.digitalvocationguide.org>

Did you know?

Each of our *Vocation Reflections* is available on-line at our website:

<https://ssnd.org/become-sister/vocation-resources/>

Looking Ahead



“Pray with Us” Evening Prayer with the SSND Vocation Team, Virtual
December 22, 2020

7-8pm CT

Register for the Zoom Link at ssnd.org/events/

Twin Cities Nuns & Nones, Virtual Gathering

January 6, 2021 - Book Discussion: “My Grandmother’s Hands”

January 18, 2021 - Lab TBD

6:30–8pm CT

<https://www.facebook.com/nunsandnonestwincities/>



Virtual Life Awareness Retreat: Don’t spend your life wondering if you are called to the Priesthood or Religious Life
Saturday, January 9, 2021

9:00 am - 7:00 pm (Central Time - US & Canada)

Life Awareness is a virtual retreat for single men and women to discern a vocation to the priesthood and consecrated life. The event brings participants together with Priests, Religious Sisters, Brothers and Seminarians for a day of lectures, group discussions, and prayer to help participants develop a realistic view of what it’s like to serve God and the Church in today’s world. Ages 18-40. Registration required: [Click here](#)

Living Our Call as SSND: Responding to Immigrants and Refugees

Sisters Ann Scholz, Leonora Tucker, and Lucy Nigh with the NAVT

January 26, 2021

7-8pm CT

Learn more and register for the Zoom Link at ssnd.org/events/01-26-21/

Vocation Reflections is a monthly newsletter for those interested in learning more about discernment, prayer, and other topics related to the consecrated/vowed life. For questions, comments and [subscription information, please contact sisters@ssnd.org](#)