

Editorial

THE ANNUNCIATION TO MARY

The Lord's conception and birth were like, yet unlike, that of any man.

In the fullness of time, Jehovah God, the infinite and invisible Divine "bowed the heavens" and came down, taking on from Mary a body and finite human nature. Hidden within the infant child that Mary bore was a Divine soul that yearned for our salvation. This was the wonder of the Advent which took place in Bethlehem so long ago.

But there is more! The virgin Mary signifies an affection in us, a capacity to be moved and affected by truth. The Lord comes to each one of us in this affection. His seed of Divine truth is implanted. Veiled and contained in the forms of our own making, it bears our stamp and material. Yet, if it is to lead us to salvation, it must be glorified or made Divine. So truths, conceived in our mind by the power of the Holy Spirit and given substance in our thought, must be elevated above the limitations of our finite understanding.

How significant then, is Mary's affirmation: "Let it be to me according to your word." This is the attitude we must strive to attain. Every day the Lord is urging and pressing to be received. Will we receive His truth in our hearts? Will we acknowledge that it is His, to be served and obeyed? If so, the miracle of the Advent is renewed in our life.

"From this time the person begins to have his understanding enlightened as regards spiritual matters, and to advance to more and more interior wisdom.... After death he comes into heaven to the Lord Himself, and there, although he died an old man, he is restored to the morning of his life, and the rudiments of the wisdom implanted in him in the natural world grow to eternity" (*True Christian Religion* 766).