

## VIDEO TRANSCRIPTION

## 2 | Annunciation and Incarnation (Luke 1: 26-38)



Commentary by

Fr. Benedict Croell, O.P. | DIRECTOR OF MISSION ADVANCEMENT, PONTIFICAL UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

These beautiful words, which tell what happened to the Blessed Virgin Mary when the Angel Gabriel came to announce that she would be the Mother of Our Savior Jesus Christ, they're beautiful. It's a beautiful story of what happened, and it seems to me that when we reflect upon this passage, it's important to consider that the Lord asks many things of us that don't quite seem to make sense. And I think this is a perfect example because she, the Blessed Mother, couldn't understand it, obviously at first, because she said, "How can this be, that I would conceive this Son because I do not have any relations with a man?"

So it was completely, you know, out of nowhere, but God had His plans and He realizes those plans within our life. And at the announcement from God by the Angel Gabriel the Blessed Mother, even though she couldn't understand everything, she said, "Let it be done unto me according to your word." So in other words her 'fiat,' her 'yes', and would that we could have that same faith when the Lord asks us to do something very, very difficult. Now, in her case it was she had no idea; she couldn't quite understand and she wouldn't understand it really until later.

But God asks many things of us. Even today, as you're listening to this, He's going to ask of you things and you can either reject them or you can do like the Blessed Virgin Mary, and respond to God's grace. Because the Lord doesn't give us anything beyond what we cannot handle, right? So His grace is always sufficient and it's such a beautiful expression of faith with the Blessed Mother. So, with Mary, when we say 'yes' to God in imitation of her, then everything becomes possible, everything becomes beautiful, because the blessed mother takes things that are extremely complicated extremely difficult - and maybe that we don't quite understand - and she makes them simple and beautiful because that's what she does. That's what she did at the announcement of the birth of Jesus when the Angel Gabriel came to her, and that's what it's possible for us to do as well when we say 'yes' to God. So today, as you listen to this, consider, with God's grace all things are possible and say with Mary, "let it be done unto me according to your word."

