

# Solemnity of The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

January 1, 2010

*“May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us.  
So may your ways be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation.”*

Psalm 67:2-3

God calls each of us to faith, however he often chooses those in lowly estate to be our example and to carry his message. Mary willingly become the mother of our Savior, Jesus Christ. By her faith, Mary is, for all people, an example and messenger of God’s loving and saving grace.

In the same manner, the shepherds were called by God to witness his Son’s birth. Shepherds, who in their society were looked down upon, even unable to give evidence in court, would be God’s witnesses for us all of the glory of His mercy through the gift of his Son. In faith, we all need to be open to God’s message to each of us, especially in opening ourselves to His message to love one another. Loving not only the “well to do,” but also those looked down upon, the outcasts of our society. It is often those of meager estate who, through their simple faith and basic love of family, remind us that God’s salvation is not found through the gifts and riches of this world, but by the gifts of faith and blessings of the Holy Spirit. It is in truly being His children that we can fully receive these blessings; only then will His face clearly shine upon us.

## **Readings:**

Numbers 6:22-27

<http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/numbers/numbers6.htm#v22>

Psalm 67:2-3,5,6,8 <http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/psalms/psalm67.htm>

Galatians 4:4-7 <http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/galatians/galatians4.htm>

Luke 2:16-21 <http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/luke/luke2.htm#v16>