

# UNDER MARY'S MANTLE:

*Advent Part 2: Garden of Her Womb*

SEASON 8 EP. 13

## *Group Questions*

1. What struck you from this week's episode?
2. Where are the areas that you want or need to be nurtured and mothered by Mary?
3. Mary experienced Jesus in everyday, regular life. What is God trying to grow in what may seem ordinary in your life? How is He inviting you into gratitude, wonder, and the childlike joy of the ordinary?
4. In the midst of our brokenness, God has created a way for us to receive His body into ours through the Eucharist. How do we receive Jesus at Mass as Mary received Jesus in her womb?

## *Lectio Divina*

"...When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb...Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." - Luke 1:39-45

## *Journal Questions*

1. What is God preparing to birth or make new in you this Advent?
2. Use your imagination to place yourself in the womb of Mary or the home at Nazareth. Imagine Mary and Joseph awaiting your arrival with joy and love. Imagine receiving everything you need from the generosity of others, being entirely protected and entirely loved. What does this experience of prayer stir up in you?
3. Mary lived a human life fully alive. Ask the Holy Spirit what your life would look like living fully alive and ask Mary to journey with you towards a fully alive life.

## *Quote to Ponder*

"When the angel appeared to Mary, God was announcing this love for the new humanity. It was the beginning of a new earth, and Mary became 'a flesh-gift Paradise to be gardened by the new Adam.' As in the first garden, Eve brought destruction, so in the garden of her womb Mary would now bring Redemption."  
- Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen

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