

GOSPEL PEARLS

A girl unknown to the world

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In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. (Luke 1: 26-38)

The divine person of the Son enters into human history through the Incarnation. However, in order to allow the salvation of mankind, God arranged for it to pass through the consent of an unknown girl from Nazareth in an equally unknown village of Galilee. Evidently, even in this case, God's ways are definitely not like ours, since we are so attentive to the power, prestige and consideration of others. Following the example of the Most Holy Virgin Mary, let us ask the Lord to make us like her, meek and obedient to His will and ever aware of His involvement in our lives.