



Ask, Father James:

Spiritual lessons from the School of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

On the 1st of January every year the church celebrates the feast and solemnity of Mary, the holy mother of God. The intent is for us to learn something from her. Though Mary is the only one to have given birth to Jesus, the only begotten son of God, she is presented to us a model of how to be God's primary caregivers. As God's primary caretakers we are encouraged to spend a lot more time thinking about God and taking care of God in the body of Christ – the church. We are invited to imitate Mary's faith, in her motherhood of God. The Catholic theologian, Dominican priest, Meister Eckhart, in the 1260's, said, "we really are ALL mothers of God." What would happen if instead of envisioning ourselves as only as children of God, we start living too as mother of God, like Mary. To use more inclusive language— it is important here to make the men feel included — so let us say, God's Primary Care takers. As God's primary caretakers we would have to make a vital and personal Yes, as people of "faith" and learn from Mary who is perhaps the preeminent example of that Yes. As your Pastor, I invite us to make as our **NEW YEAR RESOLUTION** – Be a caretaker of the Body of Christ – and the church too – with our time, talents, resources, and gifts. Go spend time with God in Christ.

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