

Epilogue

**The Cover**



# Journey to Joy

Epilogue

# Summary of the Journey to Joy

Sorrow	Temptation	Lesson learned	Gift of Holy Spirit
The prophecy of Simeon	Worry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Live in the present</li> <li>● Reflect on past</li> <li>● Trust in God's Providence</li> </ul>	Knowledge
The flight into Egypt	Insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Let go of human security to find it in God alone</li> <li>● Temperance, simplicity, humility</li> </ul>	Understanding
The loss of Jesus in the Temple	Failure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Perfect love drives out fear</li> <li>● Do not blame others</li> </ul>	Counsel
Mary meets Jesus on the way to Calvary	Aversion to suffering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Encounter with Christ</li> </ul>	Fortitude
Jesus dies on the Cross	Self-pity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● "Art of accompaniment"</li> <li>● Openness to new family, greater mission</li> </ul>	Fear of the Lord
Jesus is pierced with a lance and placed in Mary's arms	Despair & Bitterness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Grieving</li> <li>● Forgiveness</li> </ul>	Piety
Jesus is buried in the tomb	Separation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Holding on</li> <li>● Letting go</li> <li>● Moving forward</li> </ul>	Wisdom

## Arise

The wisdom we learn from Mary's life is that the difficulties we face are not obstacles to holiness, but are the way to it.



Christ Appearing to The Virgin (c. 1475) by Rogier van der Weyden.



# What's Next?

- Giving back
- CWM, signed book, rosary
- Personal resolutions (shared)
- Daily prayer
  - The Better Part
  - RC Prayer book
- “Tell me who your friend are...”
  - Instagram, Facebook friends
  - Small group

# The Seed of Christianity

- [Evolution of religions from 1947](#)
- ISIS video beheading of 21 Egyptian Christians in February 2015
- Audrey Assad 2016
- Martyrs (i.e. witnesses) to Jesus
- [“The blood of martyrs is the seed of Christians”](#)
- 21<sup>st</sup> witness – Matthew Ayariga from Ghana



# An Invitation to Prayer

Mary, Mother of Sorrow transformed to Joy, you are showing me how to take up my cross each day and follow your Son. Keep my heart always open to authentic love, not settling for the shallow substitutes of sensuality, vanity, or pride. Help me see that the difficulties I face are not obstacles to holiness, but are the way to it. Through your Son, help me be a witness to his love in this world, and turn all my sorrows into an even deeper joy that will be fulfilled with you forever through eternal life in heaven. Amen.

- Hail Mary full of grace...
- Jesus, I trust in you!



# King of Kings

In the darkness, we were waiting  
Without hope, without light  
'Til from Heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfill the law and prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father, praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit, three in one  
God of glory, Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of Kings

To reveal the kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross

For even in Your suffering  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake You died

Praise the Father, praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit, three in one  
God of glory, Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of Kings

And the morning that You rose  
All of Heaven held its breath  
'Til that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe

For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored  
And the church of Christ was born  
Then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel, shall not faint  
By His blood and in His name  
In His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me, ohh

Praise the Father, praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit, three in one  
God of glory, Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of Kings  
Praise forever to the King of Kings