

What! Me?

by Rev. Andrew P. Carrozza

She trembles as the angel speaks;
Her heart! It pounds with fear.
"These words he speaks, what do
they mean?
What is this news I hear?
What! me? the Mother of my Lord?
Oh, no! How can that be?
I'm much too young, I'm just a girl.
Why has He chosen me?"
"Fear not!" declares the messenger.
By God you're greatly blessed.
Say 'yes' to what He asks of you
and He will do the rest.
When you accept His will for you,
what treasures you will find!
You'll be His instrument of grace;
your child will save mankind.
He's given you all that you need;
One thing more God desires:
Your willingness to play your part
is all that He requires."
Then Mary said: "Although I feel
this grace I don't deserve,
Oh, yes, Lord, I will do your will:
'Behold, I come to serve!'"

He trembles as the angel speaks;
His heart! It pounds with fear.
"These thoughts I feel, what do
they mean?
What is this call I hear?
What! me? a priest? He must be mad!
Oh, no! How can that be?
I'm just fifteen; I'm still a boy.
why is He choosing me?"
"Fear not!" declares the messenger.
By God you're greatly blessed.
Say 'yes' to what He asks of you
and he will do the rest.
When you accept His will for you,
what treasures you will find!
Your blest hands will work miracles!

Through you he'll save mankind."
"But still, I'm scared! It's such a thought!
Suppose I don't succeed?
I lack the talents and the skills
to do what He would need."
"Relax! You have all that it takes!
Just one thing God desires:
Your willingness to play your part
is all that He requires

"I'm sorry, God, I still need more.
This call is too absurd!
I can't relieve my countless fears
on just your simple word."
"Come on, you trust your soccer coach
when great he says you'll be.
If you trust him, why do you have
such trouble trusting me?"
"Cause with my coach it's easy!
That man taught me all I know.
For I could barely kick the ball
until he showed me how.
I was so weak and frightened
when I showed up that first day.
I feared they all would laugh at me
if I found I could not play.
He taught me to let go of fear,
and helped me trust in him.
He then could nurture, mold and form
the skills that lay within.
He realized that my only fear
had no reason to be.
So he knows what's inside of me
but you don't...oh, I see!"

"That's right! You see, they're both the same.
It's all within your mind.
Trust me just like you trust in him
and all will turn out fine!
I know you feel that when you play
a part of him plays too.
But really he is on the sidelines

merely watching you.
But with me that is not the case:
I'll be right by your side.
For hand-in-hand we'll do our work;
I'll always be your guide.
When you must comfort someone
it'll be my words they'll hear.
When you absolve a person's sins
by me they'll disappear.
We'll be a team, a perfect pair:
the fiddler and his bow.
Just let me play my song through you
and oh! the peace you'll know!"
"Wow!" said the boy, "When put that way,
this gift I don't deserve!
But all right, I'll accept your call:
'Behold! I come to serve!'"

And now, all you who read these words,
I ask you please to pray
For all those who are being called
to walk this holy way.
If all those being called by Christ
could hear and heed His call,
the Church would have abundant priests
to bring His grace to all.
For God has not stopped calling men;
Oh, no! His voice is clear.
But those men chosen are so often
filled with too much fear.
They know the call is awesome
and the need is truly there,
But still, they fear they won't be happy,
that no one will care.
Let them know you'll love them;
in your hearts you'll hold them dear.
Show them that you love the priesthood;
thus, they should not fear.
For they will bring your Lord to you;
in their eyes, you'll see His.
And pray for the priests who serve you now,
for through them Jesus lives!

Dedicated to the young men of SERV
(Students Encourage Religious Vocations)
of
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