Monday, November 30, 2009 -- (Meditation: Luke 2:15-20) God, in this Advent season, when we anticipate the birth of Jesus, we praise You for the blessings of motherhood, childhood, and home. You called a young handmaiden to be blessed among women, and to give birth to Your Son. She guided Him through His growing years with tenderness and love. She was with Him before the Cross of Calvary. For ALL mothers today we pray Your blessings upon them in their holy calling. Amen.

Tuesday, December 1, 2009 -- (Meditation: Acts 20:35) Your Word says, "We have different gifts according to the grace given to us. If it is serving, let us serve. If it is teaching, let us teach. If it is contributing to the needs of others, let us give generously." (Romans 12:6-8) God, thank You for those who give generously and sacrificially to the church. We publicly thank Sunday School teachers and choir members, and we install church officers, but we do not even know who they are if they give generously and sacrificially. Yet those who give generously help build churches, spread the gospel, and feed the poor. May they be fulfilled in the blessing of being able to give their money, like those who give their time. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Wednesday, December 2, 2009 -- (Meditation: Matthew 6:33) God, all things are at Your disposal. Help me to leave them there. Only when I am not tempted to want things another way, can I rest in Your love. Only when I am not tempted to tell You what to do, can my longings cease and peace settle in my heart. Only when my feet walk Your path, can joy replace envy, forgiveness replace getting even, and prayers of praise replace prayers of asking. O God, Your name be praised! Amen.

Thursday, December 3, 2009 -- (Meditation: Psalm 23) God, the lives of those who safeguard my freedoms are no less precious than my life. Their families are no less precious than mine. Never let me take them for granted. Although I feel safe, I pray for those who do not -- those in the military, fire-fighters, police, special forces. May I never take my security for granted, nor take for granted my debt to those in danger. Protect us, and guide us ALL to support each other. Through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Friday, December 4, 2009 -- (Meditation: I Peter 5:6-7) God, into Your hands I lay the worries that wear me down. Into Your hands I lay the fears that weigh on my heart. Into Your hands I lay the doubts that rob me of peace. Into Your hands I lay the anger that claws at my soul. And into Your hands I place the reins of my life, for You to control. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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