

December 8, 2007
Saturday of the First Week of Advent
Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings of the day may be found on the following link:

<http://www.nccbuscc.org/nab>

Genesis 3: 9-15, 20

Psalm 98: 1, 2-3a, 3cd-4

Like 1: 26-38

"Why did you do such a thing?" The woman answered, "The serpent tricked me into it, so I ate it."

"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

Such different stories about mothers: One woman falls prey to temptation while the other cooperates with grace. I love this gospel. I love reflecting on Mary's question, "How can it be?" Yet, today, I seem drawn to the fact that at every point of decision we face the above two choices: we can cooperate with temptation or cooperate with grace. Mary faced this choice when the angel asked her to serve God. She could have taken the easy road and said 'no thank you'. But instead she said yes and world has never been the same again. Good triumphs over evil; Mary's yes gives us hope for wholeness again through Jesus. How many times have I fallen prey to temptation? How many no thank you's have I uttered? My prayer this Advent season is that an eternal yes will be born in me.

Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin.

~Mother Theresa