



My Gift to Jesus This Christmas

By Mary Ann Collett

I have been reflecting during this Advent season and have discovered that like most people, I am so busy and distracted by all of the preparations for the Holidays. Usually in the past, but not this year, because of the pandemic things are quite different. However, I still have a few traditions that I am trying to keep with my family in mind.

One day, while praying about what kind of gifts I should give to everyone. The Lord spoke to me saying, “How about me? What is your Christmas gift to me? It is My birthday you know!

Wow! That truly stopped me thinking for a moment. I asked the Lord what can I give Him that I haven’t given Him in the past? What came to my mind was total **Surrender** and to **Repent** for what I have done and what I have failed to do. I thought I had already done that over the years! I guess I did not go deep enough!

Well, the Holy Spirit came to my rescue. So, a couple of days later, I came across this prayer “**HEALING PRAYER OF SURRENDER**” which was perfect, and I felt it could have been written by me personally...right from my heart! However, I know there is so much more for me to surrender. But by the mercy of God, I am still in the process of transformation. Thank God! He is not done with me yet! I will continue on my journey of healing with the help of His Grace and through the power of The Holy Spirit.

HEALING PRAYER OF SURRENDER

Dear Lord, it is my will to surrender to you everything that I am and everything that I'm striving to be. I open the deepest recesses of my heart and invite Your Holy Spirit to dwell inside of me. I offer you my life, heart, mind, body, soul, and spirit. I surrender to you my past, present, and future problems. I ask You to take hold over every aspect of my life. I surrender to You all my hurt, pain, worry, doubt, fear, and anxiety, and I ask You to wash me clean. I release everything into Your compassionate care.

Please speak to me clearly, Lord. Open my ears to hear Your voice. Open my heart to commune with You more deeply. I want to feel Your loving embrace. Open the doors that need to be opened and close the doors that need to be closed. Please set my feet upon the straight and narrow road that leads to everlasting life. Amen. —*Author Unknown*

As our Lord promises, He will provide all our needs! Perhaps honoring the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, in its truest sense is more important this year than ever before — The Holy Spirit showed me the way and gave me the strength I needed to persevere. He guided me and led me through prayer, obedience, repenting, surrendering, and fasting. I am now prepared to give my best gift this year that I could give, and it is, totally surrendering to Him! But, to my surprise guess who has received the best Christmas gift of all?

***I Wish a Happy Birthday to Our Lord Jesus Christ,
And a Very Merry Christmas and a Healthy and
Happy New Year to You!***



Mary Ann Collett is the proud mother of 3 married daughters and 7 grandchildren. She is an inspiring and dynamic Catholic Lay Evangelist; whose gift is to intertwine Scripture and personal stories. Mary Ann Collett, MSW, MA, CLEM, LLC, is a *Bereavement Counselor, Life Coach, Pastoral Care, Spiritual Director, Support Groups, Speaker for Retreats and Workshops*. She is in private practice in Red Bank. Mary Ann has been in the Healing Ministry for over 36 years. She is the co-founder of the thriving ministry Catholic Women of Zion celebrating their 31st year in 2020. She has traveled nationally and internationally to spread the message of the Kingdom of God through the power of the Holy Spirit.