Maryam bint Imran, was a pious woman from the Bani Israel, a beacon of light, faith, action and character. The only woman to be named in the Qur'an and to have a Surah named after her. Maryam means worshipper / servant of Allah.

And made her and her son a sign for all peoples. (21:91)

DEVOTED FROM BIRTH – DU'A OF PIOUS & PATIENT PARENTS IMRAN-HANNAH

Indeed I have pledged to You what is in my womb, consecrated for Your service, so accept this from me. Indeed, You are the Hearing, the Knowing... And I have named her Maryam, and I seek refuge for her in You and (for) her descendants from Satan, the expelled. (3:35-36)

ACCEPTED & GUIDED BY ALLAH - MARYAM & INSPIRATION FOR OTHERS

From a very young age, Maryam was recognised as someone who was extremely blessed, with abundance of provisions. Especially by her Uncle Prophet Zakariyyah , who would look after her, & via her Waseela he was inspired to do Du'a & blessed with Yahya ...

"O Maryam, from where is this (coming) to you?" She said, "It is from Allah. Indeed, Allah provides for whom He wills without account." "My Lord, grant me from Yourself a good offspring. Indeed, You are the Hearer of supplication." "Indeed, Allah gives you good tidings of Yahya, confirming a word from Allah, and honourable, abstaining, and a prophet from among the righteous." (3:37)

A TRUE SERVANT OF ALLAH – GIVEN GLAD TIDINGS

- O Maryam! Remain you truly devout unto your Sustainer, and prostrate yourself in worship, and bow down with those who bow down [before Him]." [3:43]
 - Eesa son Maryam, of great honour in this world and in the life to come, and [shall be] of those who are drawn near unto Allah. [3:45]

CHOSEN ABOVE THE WOMEN OF THE WORLD DUE TO HER RIGHTEOUSNESS

- One day, when Maryam was in her chamber worshipping Allah, something happened that would change her life forever. An angel appeared and said:
- O Maryam, indeed, Allah has chosen you and purified you and chosen you above the women of the worlds. (3:42)

A SYMBOL OF MODESTY

Maryam was extremely modest and chaste. When the Jibril first came to her in the form of a man, she immediately sought protection from Allah:

Then We sent to her Our Angel, and he represented himself to her as a well-proportioned man. She said, "Indeed, I seek refuge in the Most Merciful from you, (so leave me), if you should be fearing of Allah." (19:17)

A MIRACULOUS VIRGIN BIRTH – PROPHET EESA

"I am only the messenger of Your Lord to give you a pure boy. How can I have a boy when no man has touched me and I have not been unchaste?" (19:20)

ALLAH CONFIRMED HER TRUTHFULNESS IN THE QUR'AN

And his mother was a woman of truth. (5:75)

RANK AMONGST BEST OF WOMEN - "Sufficient for you among the women of mankind are Mariam bint 'Imran, Khadijah bint Khuwailid, Fatimah bint Muhammad and Asiyah the wife of Fir'awn." (Tirmidhi)

A MIRACULOUS PURE OBEDIENT CHILD

So she pointed to him. They said, "How can we speak to one who is in the cradle a child?" (Isa) said, "Indeed, I am the servant of Allah. He has given me the scripture and made me a prophet." "And He has made me blessed wherever I am and has enjoined upon me prayer and zakah as long as I remain alive. And dutiful to my mother, and He has not made me a wretched tyrant. And peace is on me the day I was born and the day I will die and the day I am raised alive."

CONCLUSION

The miraculous life of Maryam teaches us that when we are devoted to the obedience of Allah, He will protect us, provide for us, and honour us beyond anything we can imagine. We learn from Maryam that no matter how impossible a situation may seem, Allah will always make a seamless way out for us if we are close to Him. As we near the end of what has been a challenging year, we must remember the courage of Maryam and her consistent trust in Allah's plan for her.