

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2023

By Revd John Marshall

Mary's Burden Eleanor Farjeon

My Baby, my Burden,  
    Tomorrow the morn  
I shall go lighter  
    And you will be born.

I shall go lighter;  
    But heavier too,  
For seeing the burden  
    That falls upon you.

The burden of love,  
    The burden of pain,  
I'll see you bear both  
    Among men once again.

Tomorrow you'll bear it  
    Your burden alone.  
Tonight you've no burden  
    That is not my own.

My Baby, my Burden,  
    Tomorrow the morn  
I shall go lighter  
    And you will be born.

- The Oxford book of Christmas Poetry

What do you think Mary's hopes and fears were for her baby?

What are our hopes and fears?