

ORDINARY TIME
SAINT MARY OF THE SERVANTS

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 32 (33), 12

Happy the nation whose God is the Lord,
the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.

Prayer of the Assembly

Merciful God,
hear the petition of your Servants
who gather in memory of the Blessed Virgin.
May we be spared from impending dangers.
(We ask this) through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit
one God for ever and ever

First Reading

Sirach 24, 22-31

A reading from the Book of Sirach

Those who serve me will never fail

I spread out my branches like a terebinth,
my branches so bright and so graceful.
I bud forth delights like the vine,
my blossoms become fruit fair and rich.
Come to me, all you that yearn for me,
and be filled with my fruits;
You will remember me as sweeter than honey,
better to have than the honeycomb.
He who eats of me will hunger still,
he who drinks of me will thirst for more;
He who obeys me will not be put to shame,
he who serves me will never fail."

This is the Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 84 (85), 5 & 8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14

R/. Let us see you mercy, O Lord

Revive us now, God, our helper!
Put an end to your grievance against us.
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.

R/. Let us see you mercy, O Lord

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,

peace for his people and his friends
and those who turn to him in their hearts.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

R/. Let us see you mercy, O Lord

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

R/. Let us see you mercy, O Lord

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

R/. Let us see you mercy, O Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia. O humble handmaid,
who consented to the message of the angel;
O Virgin without fault, who conceived of the Spirit. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Luke 11, 27-28

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Blessed is the womb that bore you

While Jesus was speaking,
a woman from the crowd called out and said to him,
“Blessed is the womb that carried you
and the breasts at which you nursed.”
He replied,
“Rather, blessed are those
who hear the word of God
and observe it.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

Almighty God,
we humbly pray
that we may overcome all dangers
through the intercession of Our Lady.
By these offerings,
may we come to know you as our faithful refuge.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Saint Mary of the Servants

Mediatrice di grazia e regina di misericordia

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God
we do well always and everywhere
to give you thanks through Christ our Lord.
By your wonderful goodness
you have given us the Blessed Virgin Mary
as mediatrix of grace and queen of mercy.
For all her Servants, she is
a refuge in dangers,
a protection in their failings,
a certain hope in their doubts,
a help in their need,
a joy for all in mourning,
and a guiding star for all who stray.
Therefore, we, too, with all the angels praise you,
and in joyful exultation, say: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

John 2,5

The mother of Jesus instructed those waiting on table: "Do whatever he tells you."

Or

Judith 11, 19

No other woman, from one end of the world to the other,
is so beautiful and speaks so wisely.

Prayer after Communion

We entreat you, Lord,
to accompany with compassionate love
the Servants of Mary
who have been nourished with this heavenly Bread.
Under the shelter of her protection,
preserve us from all errors of the mind
and physical dangers.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF HER SERVANTS

Entrance Antiphon

Zephaniah 3, 14

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

Or

Luke 1, 47-48

My spirit finds joy in God my savior,
for he has looked upon his servant in her lowliness.

Prayer of the Assembly

God,
in your compassionate plan of redemption
you established the Blessed Virgin, your handmaid,

as mother and companion of Christ.
Grant that, by devoutly following our Lady,
we, your servants, may witness the Gospel
with our whole life
and spend ourselves for the salvation of all.
(We ask this) through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

First Reading

Galatians 4, 4-7

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians.

God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law

Brothers and sisters,
when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son,
born of a woman, born under the law,
to ransom those under the law,
so that we might receive adoption.
As proof that you are children,
God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts,
crying out, "Abba, Father!"
So you are no longer a slave but a child,
and if a child then also an heir, through God.

This is the Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 85 (86), 3-5, 6-7, 11-12, 15-16

R/. Give joy to your servant, O Lord *or* R/. Save the child of your handmaid

You are my God, have mercy on me, Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.
Give joy to your servant, O Lord,
for to you I lift up my soul.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.

R/. Give joy to your servant, O Lord *or* R/. Save the child of your handmaid

Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice.
In the day of distress I will call
and surely you will reply.

R/. Give joy to your servant, O Lord *or* R/. Save the child of your handmaid

Show me, Lord, your way
so that I may walk in your truth.
Guide my heart to fear your name.
I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart
and glorify your name for ever.

R/. Give joy to your servant, O Lord *or* R/. Save the child of your handmaid

But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love
and truth, turn and take pity on me.
O give your strength to your servant
and save your handmaid's child.

R/. Give joy to your servant, O Lord *or* R/. Save the child of your handmaid

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Happy are you, Virgin Mary, deserving of all praise!
From you rose the sun of justice, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Luke 1, 39-47

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

How does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

Mary set out
and travelled to the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
"Most blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.
Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be fulfilled."
And Mary said:
"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my saviour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

Merciful God, grant that,
through these sacrificial gifts,
which we offer to you in veneration of our Lady,
may we pay homage to your divine majesty and,
in carrying out these earthly services,
find a valid support for ourselves.

(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Our Lady Queen of her Servants

Mary, mother and sign of hope

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere
to give you thanks with all our hearts
for giving us Jesus Christ, author of our salvation,
and Mary, his mother, model of divine hope.
Your lowly handmaid placed all her trust in you.
In hope, she waited
and in faith she conceived the Son of Man,
whom the prophets had foretold.
With untiring love
she gave herself to his service
and became the mother of all the living.
Mary, the fairest fruit of Christ's redeeming love,
is a sister to all the children of Adam
as they journey toward the fullness of freedom.
They raise their eyes to her,
the sign of sure hope and comfort,
until the day of the Lord dawns in glory.
In our joy we sing with all the choirs of angels: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

cf Psalm 85 (86), 15-16

But you, O Lord, turn toward me, and have pity on me;
save the son of your handmaid.

Prayer after Communion

Lord,
nourished with these heavenly sacraments,
we humbly ask that,
by imitating the Blessed Virgin
in her prayers and works
we may fill the world with the Spirit of Christ.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

HOLY MARY, HANDMAID OF THE LORD

Entrance Antiphon

Luke 1, 47-48

My spirit rejoices in God my saviour,
for he has looked with favour upon his lowly servant.

Prayer of the Assembly

Lord our God,
in your loving plan of redemption

you chose the Blessed Virgin,
your lowly handmaid,
to be the mother and companion of Christ your Son;
grant that by constantly looking up to her
we may give you wholehearted service
in untiring care for the salvation of the world.
We make our prayer
through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

First Reading

I Samuel 1, 24-28; 2, 1-2, 4-8

A reading from the First Book of Samuel

I stood praying to the Lord, and the Lord granted my request

Hannah brought Samuel up with her,
along with a three-year-old bull,
an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine,
and presented him at the temple of the Lord in Shiloh.
After the boy's father had sacrificed the young bull,
Hannah, his mother, approached Eli and said:
"Pardon, my Lord!
As you live my Lord,
I am the woman who stood near you here,
praying to the Lord.
I prayed for this child, and the Lord granted my request.
Now I, in turn, give him to the Lord;
as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the Lord."
Hannah left Samuel there;
and as she worshiped the Lord, she said:
"My heart exults in the Lord,
my horn is exalted in my God.
I have swallowed up my enemies;
I rejoice in my victory.
There is no Holy One like the Lord;
there is no Rock like our God.
The bows of the mighty are broken,
while the tottering gird on strength.
The well-fed hire themselves out for bread,
while the hungry batten on spoil.
The barren wife bears seven sons,
while the mother of many languishes.
"The Lord puts to death and gives life;
he casts down to the nether world;
he raises up again.
The Lord makes poor and makes rich,
he humbles, he also exalts.
He raises the needy from the dust;
from the ash heap he lifts up the poor,
To seat them with nobles
and make a glorious throne their heritage.

He gives to vowers their vow,
and blesses the sleep of the just.
For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's
and he has set the world upon them."

This is the Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Luke 1, 46-48a, 48b-49, 50-51, 52-53, 54-55

R/. The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my saviour.
For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness;

R/. The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant

Behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.
The Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

R/. The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant

The Lord's mercy is from age to age
to those who fear him.
He has shown might with his arm,
dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart.

R/. The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant

He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly. The hungry he has filled
with good things; the rich he has sent away empty.

R/. The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant

The Lord has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, according to his promise to our
fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

R/. The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary,
you declared yourself the handmaid of the Lord,
and now, exalted above the choirs of angels,
you are acclaimed by the Church as queen of heaven. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Luke 1, 26-38

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord

The angel Gabriel was sent from God

to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,
of the house of David,
and the virgin's name was Mary.
And coming to her, he said,
"Hail, favoured one! The Lord is with you."
But she was greatly troubled at what was said
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.
Then the angel said to her,
"Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favour with God.
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,
and the Lord God will give him
the throne of David his father,
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,
and of his kingdom there will be no end."
But Mary said to the angel,
"How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"
And the angel said to her in reply,
"The holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.
Therefore the child to be born
will be called holy, the Son of God.
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,
has also conceived a son in her old age,
and this is the sixth month
for her who was called barren;
for nothing will be impossible for God."
Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word."
Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

All-holy Father,
on this memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
your obedient and devoted handmaid,
receive our offerings and gifts and
grant that we may present ourselves to you
as a sacrifice pleasing in your sight.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Holy Mary, Handmaid of the Lord

The Blessed Virgin, handmaid of the Lord, was a servant of the mystery of redemption

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks.
In the Blessed Virgin Mary you were especially pleased.

Embracing your plan of salvation,
she gave herself wholeheartedly
to the work of your Son
as a faithful servant
of the mystery of redemption.
She who gave great service to Christ
was given great honour by you, his Father.
She who saw herself as your lowly handmaid
was raised up by you to reign as queen in glory
in the presence of your Son,
where she intercedes for us in her goodness
as the servant of your love.
Now with all the saints and angels,
we praise you for ever: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 85 (86), 15-16

Lord God, look upon me and have pity on me;
save the child of your handmaid.

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God,
you have brought us together
to partake of this spiritual food and drink;
we pray that,
in faithful imitation of the Blessed Virgin,
we may always seek to be servants of the church
and so come to know the joys of fidelity to you.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Entrance Antiphon

Acts 1, 14

Together they devoted themselves to constant prayer
with Mary the Mother of Jesus.

Or

Luke 1, 28-42

Upon arriving the Angel said to Mary: Hail, full of grace,
the Lord is with you, blessed are you among women.

Prayer of the Assembly

O God, you have created your family
and you guide us still.
You united the Blessed Virgin Mary
with Christ the Head of the Church
as the spiritual mother of all its members.
Through the intercession
of this most excellent mother,

grant, that people of all nations
may enter into your Church.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son, who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

First Reading

Acts 1, 12-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

With one heart, the disciples continued in steadfast prayer, with Mary the mother of Jesus

After Jesus had been taken up into heaven,
the apostles returned to Jerusalem
from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem,
a sabbath day's journey away.

When the apostles entered the city
they went to the upper room where they were staying,
Peter and John and James and Andrew,
Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew,
James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot,
and Judas son of James.

All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer,
together with some women,
and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 6 (87), 1-3, 4-5, 6-7

R/. God is with the Church, it cannot be shaken

On the holy mountain is his city
cherished by the Lord.
The Lord prefers the gates of Zion
to all Jacob's dwellings.
Of you are told glorious things, O city of God!

R/. The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant

Babylon and Egypt I will count
among those who know me;
Philistia, Tyre, Ethiopia,
these will be her children
and Zion shall be called "Mother"
for all shall be her children."

R/. The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant

It is he, the Lord Most High,
who gives each his place.
In his register of peoples he writes:

"These are her children,"
and while they dance they will sing:
"In you all find their home."

R/. The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!
O happy Virgin, you gave birth to the Lord.
O blessed mother of the Church,
you warm our hearts with the Spirit of your Son, Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Luke 1, 26-38

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

You will conceive and bear a son

The angel Gabriel was sent from God
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,
of the house of David,
and the virgin's name was Mary.
And coming to her, he said,
"Hail, favoured one! The Lord is with you."
But she was greatly troubled at what was said
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.
Then the angel said to her,
"Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favour with God.
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,
and of his kingdom there will be no end."
But Mary said to the angel,
"How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"
And the angel said to her in reply,
"The holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.
Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,
has also conceived a son in her old age,
and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;
for nothing will be impossible for God."
Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word."
Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

or Alternative Gospel Reading

John 2, 1-12

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The mother of Jesus was there. And his disciples believed in him.

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee,
and the mother of Jesus was there.
Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.
When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him,
“They have no wine.”
And Jesus said to her,
“Woman, how does your concern affect me?
My hour has not yet come.”
His mother said to the servers, “Do whatever he tells you.”
Now there were six stone water jars there
for Jewish ceremonial washings,
each holding twenty to thirty gallons.
Jesus told them, “Fill the jars with water.”
So they filled them to the brim.
Then he told them,
“Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter.”
So they took it.
And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine,
without knowing where it came from
(although the servers who had drawn the water knew),
the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,
“Everyone serves good wine first,
and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one;
but you have kept the good wine until now.”
Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee
and so revealed his glory,
and his disciples began to believe in him.
After this, he and his mother,
his brothers, and his disciples went down to Capernaum
and stayed there only a few days.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

or Alternative Gospel Reading

John 19, 25-34

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Behold your Son. Behold your mother.

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother
and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,
and Mary of Magdala.
When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved,
he said to his mother,
“Woman, behold, your son.”
Then he said to the disciple,
“Behold, your mother.”

And from that hour
the disciple took her into his home.
After this, aware that everything was now finished,
in order that the scripture might be fulfilled,
Jesus said, "I thirst."
There was a vessel filled with common wine.
So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop
and put it up to his mouth.
When Jesus had taken the wine, he said, "It is finished."
And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.
Now since it was preparation day,
in order that the bodies might not remain
on the cross on the sabbath,
for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,
the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken
and they be taken down.
So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first
and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus.
But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead,
they did not break his legs,
but one soldier thrust his lance into his side,
and immediately blood and water flowed out.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

By the coming of the Holy Spirit,
whom the Virgin Mother invokes upon the world
by her unceasing prayers,
we ask you, Lord,
to transform the offering of your Church
into the Sacrament of unity.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Mary, Mother of the Church

Mary is the image and mother of the Church

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks;
we especially praise you and proclaim your glory
as we honour the Blessed Virgin Mary.

She received your Word in purity of her heart,
conceived in her virgin womb, gave birth to our Saviour
and so nurtured the Church at its very beginning.

She accepted God's parting gift of love
as she stood beneath the cross.
She became the mother of all those
who were brought to life
through the death of her only Son.

She joined her prayers with those of the apostles,
as together they awaited the coming of your Spirit,
and so became the perfect pattern
of the Church at prayer.

Raised to the glory of heaven,
she cares for the pilgrim Church with a mother's love,
following its progress homeward
until the day of the Lord dawns in splendour.

Now, with all the angels and saints,
we proclaim your glory
and join in their unending hymn of praise: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

cf. John 2, 1, 11, 12

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.
Jesus performed this first of his signs, and his disciples believed in him.

Or

Blessed are you, Mary, full of grace, mother and virgin:
you are an outstanding model of faith, hope, charity and the Church.

Prayer after Communion

Filled with the promise of redemption and life,
Lord, we humbly ask that your Church,
helped by the Virgin Mother,
might bring the good news of the Gospel
to all peoples and fill the whole world
with the outpouring of the Spirit.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

MARY, QUEEN AND MOTHER OF MERCY

Entrance Antiphon

Hail, queen of mercy, Mother of Christ in your glory,
solace of the repentant, hope of the distressed.

Prayer of the Assembly

God, whose mercy is without measure,
through the prayers of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
mother of mercy,
grant that we may know
your loving kindness on earth
and come at last to the glory of heaven.
We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son, who lives and reigns with you

and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

Or

All-holy Father, hear the prayers of your children,
weighed down by our sinfulness,
as we turn to you and call upon the merciful love
that moved you to send your Son as Saviour of the world
and to enthrone holy Mary as the queen of mercy.
We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your Son who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

First Reading

Esther 4, 12, 14-15, 25, 30

A reading from the Book of Esther

Queen Esther prays for her people

Queen Esther, seized with mortal anguish,
had recourse to the Lord.
Then she prayed to the Lord, the God of Israel, saying:
“My Lord, our King, you alone are God.
Help me, who am alone and have no help but you,
for I am taking my life in my hand.
Save us by your power, and help me, who am alone
and have no one but you, O Lord.
O God, more powerful than all,
hear the voice of those in despair.
Save us from the power of the wicked,
and deliver me from my fear.”

The Word of the Lord

or Alternative First Reading

Ephesians 4, 4-10

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

God is rich in mercy

Brothers and sisters:
God, who is rich in mercy,
because of the great love he had for us,
even when we were dead in our transgressions,
brought us to life with Christ
(by grace you have been saved),
raised us up with him,
and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus,
that in the ages to come,
God might show the immeasurable riches of his grace
in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.
For by grace you have been saved through faith,
and this is not from you; it is the gift of God;
it is not from works, so no one may boast.
For we are his handiwork,

created in Christ Jesus
for the good works that God has prepared in advance,
that we should live in them.

This is the Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 102 (103), 1-2, 3-4, 6 & 8, 13 & 17

R/. The kindness of the Lord is everlasting.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

R/. The kindness of the Lord is everlasting.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion,

R/. The kindness of the Lord is everlasting.

The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgment for all who are oppressed.
The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

R/. The kindness of the Lord is everlasting.

As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him;
But the love of the Lord is everlasting
upon those who hold him in fear;
his justice reaches out to children's children

R/. The kindness of the Lord is everlasting.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia! Hail, Mother of the Lord, Queen of Mercy.
You are comfort for the world and hope for the downcast. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Luke 1, 39-55

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The Lord has mercy on those who fear him in every generation

Mary set out and travelled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.
When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,

the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
“Most blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.
Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.”
And Mary said: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my saviour.
For he has looked upon his handmaid’s lowliness;
behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.
The Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him.
He has shown might with his arm,
dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart.
He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones
but lifted up the lowly.
The hungry he has filled with good things;
the rich he has sent away empty.
He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy,
according to his promise to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, receive the gifts of your people, and grant that,
as we look up to the Blessed Virgin, mother of mercy,
we may show ourselves merciful to others
and receive your pardon toward us.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Mary, Queen and Mother of Mercy

The Blessed Virgin is queen of pity and mother of mercy

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks,
and, as we celebrate the memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
to proclaim the greatness of your name with fitting praise

She is the gracious queen
who has herself uniquely known your loving kindness
and stretches out her arms
to embrace all who take refuge in her
and call upon her help in their distress.

She is the mother of mercy,
always attentive to the voice of her children,
seeking to win your compassion for them,
and asking your forgiveness for their sins.

She is the handmaid of your love,
never ceasing to pray for us to your Son,
that he may enrich our poverty with his grace
and strengthen our weakness with his power.

Through him the angels of heaven
offer their prayer of adoration
as they rejoice in your presence for ever.
May our voices be one with theirs
in their triumphant hymn of praise: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

Luke 6,36

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Or

Luke 1, 49-50

The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

Prayer after Communion

Lord God,
you have given us food and drink from heaven;
grant that we may always praise your mercy
in company with the Blessed Virgin
and rejoice in her protection,
for we acknowledge her as our queen,
compassionate to sinners and merciful to the poor.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

HOLY MARY, THE NEW EVE

Entrance Antiphon

Revelation 12, 1

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon
beneath her feet, and a crown of twelve stars on her head.

Prayer of the Assembly

Lord our God, you chose the Blessed Virgin,
formed by the Holy Spirit,
as the first fruits of the new creation;
grant that we may reject the old ways of sin,
embrace wholeheartedly the new life of the gospel
and honour faithfully the new commandment of love.
We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ,

your Son who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

First Reading

Revelations 21, 1-5a

A Reading from the Book of Revelationsns

I saw the new Jerusalem, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth.
The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no more.
I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
“Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race.
He will dwell with them and they will be his people
and God himself will always be with them as their God.
He will wipe every tear from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death or mourning,
wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away.”
The one who sat on the throne said,
“Behold, I make all things new.”

This is the Word of the Lord

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Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 61, 10a-d. f. 11; 62, 2-3

R/. O Mary, you are the new earth in whom justice dwells

I rejoice heartily in the Lord,
in my God is the joy of my soul;
For he has clothed me with a robe of salvation,
and wrapped me in a mantle of justice,
Like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem,
like a bride bedecked with her jewels.

R/. O Mary, you are the new earth in whom justice dwells

As the earth brings forth its plants,
and a garden makes its growth spring up,
So will the Lord God make justice and praise
spring up before all the nations.

R/. O Mary, you are the new earth in whom justice dwells

Nations shall behold your vindication,
and all kings your glory;
You shall be called by a new name
pronounced by the mouth of the Lord.
You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the Lord,

a royal diadem held by your God.

R/. O Mary, you are the new earth in whom justice dwells

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glorious are you, holy Mary, the new Eve.

From you the new Adam, Christ Jesus was born. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading

Luke 1, 26-38

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

You will conceive and bear a son

The angel Gabriel was sent from God
to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,
to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph,
of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.
And coming to her, he said,
"Hail, favoured one! The Lord is with you."
But she was greatly troubled at what was said
and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.
Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favour with God.
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,
and of his kingdom there will be no end."
But Mary said to the angel,
"How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"
And the angel said to her in reply,
"The holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.
Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,
has also conceived a son in her old age,
and this is the sixth month
for her who was called barren;
for nothing will be impossible for God."
Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word."
Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Alternative Gospel Reading

John 2, 1-12

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

The mother of Jesus was there. And his disciples believed in him

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee,
and the mother of Jesus was there.
Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.
When the wine ran short,
the mother of Jesus said to him,
“They have no wine.”
And Jesus said to her,
“Woman, how does your concern affect me?
My hour has not yet come.”
His mother said to the servers,
“Do whatever he tells you.”
Now there were six stone water jars there
for Jewish ceremonial washings,
each holding twenty to thirty gallons.
Jesus told them, “Fill the jars with water.”
So they filled them to the brim.
Then he told them,
“Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter.”
So they took it.
And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine,
without knowing where it came from
(although the servers who had drawn the water knew),
the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,
“Everyone serves good wine first,
and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one;
but you have kept the good wine until now.”
Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee
and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.
After this, he and his mother,
his brothers, and his disciples went down to Capernaum
and stayed there only a few days.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord, as we celebrate the memory
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
and her complete self-giving
to the sacrifice of the New Law,
we offer you these gifts as a sign of our worship
and ask that by the power of your grace
we may walk all our days
in the new life you have given us.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Holy Mary, the New Eve

Mary, the new Eve, is the first disciple of the New Law

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

You gave to Christ, author of the New Covenant,
the Blessed Virgin Mary as his mother and companion
and you made her the firstfruits of your new people.

Conceived without stain,
enriched by gifts of grace,
she is indeed the new woman ,
the first disciple of the New Law.

She is a woman who finds joy in your service,
who is attentive to the voice of the Spirit,
who is always ready to obey your word.

She is a woman blest for her faith,
a woman blest in her child,
a woman raised up from among the lowly.

She is a woman standing firm in adversity,
keeping faith by the cross of her Son,
entering into glory at the end of her days.
With the whole company of the angels
we praise you with one voice: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

cf. Psalm 86 (87), 3; Luke 1, 49

Glorious things are told of you, Virgin Mary,
for the Almighty has done great things for you.

Or

Blessed are you, Virgin Mary, through you
God has given us the Saviour of the world,
through you Christ has prepared the new wine for the Church.

Prayer after Communion

Lord our God,
in the Blessed Virgin Mary,
you formed a new heart for the second Eve;
grant that by the grace of this sacrament
we may be obedient
to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit
and grow more and more each day
in the likeness of Christ, the second Adam,
who lives and reigns forever and ever.

Note: Some biblical texts are taken from: The New American Bible <http://www.vatican.va/archives/>