

LENT

HOLY MARY, DISCIPLE OF THE LORD

Entrance Antiphon

How favoured are you, Mary!
You received the angel's message and became the mother of God's Word.
How favoured are you for you kept in your heart those words
from heaven and became the disciple of God's Word.

Prayer of the Assembly

Lord our God,
through the Blessed Virgin Mary
you have shown us the example of a disciple,
who is faithful to the words of life;
open our hearts to receive your saving word,
so that by the power of the Holy Spirit
it may speak to us in our daily lives
and bring forth a rich harvest of holiness.
(Grant 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 51, 18-24, 27-30

A reading from the Book of Sirach

My heart delighted in wisdom

When I was young and innocent,
I sought wisdom.
She came to me in her beauty,
and until the end I will cultivate her.
As the blossoms yielded to ripening grapes,
the heart's joy,
My feet kept to the level path
because from earliest youth I was familiar with her.
In the short time I paid heed,
I met with great instruction.
Since in this way I have profited,
I will give my teacher grateful praise.
I became resolutely devoted to her --
the good I persistently strove for.
For her I purified my hands;
in cleanness I attained to her.
At first acquaintance with her, I gained understanding
such that I will never forsake her.
My whole being was stirred as I learned about her;
therefore I have made her my prize possession.
The LORD has granted me my lips as a reward,
and my tongue will declare his praises.

This is the Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 19, 8-9, 10-11, 15

R/. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple.
The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes.

R/. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just.
They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb.

R/. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight,
O Lord, my rescuer, my rock!

R/. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life

Gospel Acclamation

cf. Luke 2, 19

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Blessed is the Virgin Mary, who kept the word of God
and pondered it in her heart.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Reading

Luke 2, 41-52

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The Mother of Jesus treasured all these things in her heart

Each year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem
for the feast of Passover,
and when he was twelve years old,
they went up according to festival custom.

After they had completed its days, as they were returning,
the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem,
but his parents did not know it.
Thinking that he was in the caravan,
they journeyed for a day and looked for him
among their relatives and acquaintances,
but not finding him,
they returned to Jerusalem to look for him.
After three days they found him in the temple,
sitting in the midst of the teachers,
listening to them and asking them questions,
and all who heard him
were astounded at his understanding and his answers.
When his parents saw him, they were astonished,
and his mother said to him,
“Son, why have you done this to us?
Your father and I have been looking for you
with great anxiety.”
And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me?
Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”
But they did not understand what he said to them.
He went down with them and came to Nazareth,
and was obedient to them;
and his mother kept all these things in her heart.
And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favour
before God and people.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

or Alternative Acclamation

cf. John 8, 31

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you stay in my word, you will indeed be my disciples,
and you will know the truth, says the Lord
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

or Alternative Gospel Reading

Matthew 12, 46-50

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers.”

While he was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and
his brothers appeared outside, wishing to speak with him.
Someone told him,
“Your mother and your brothers are standing outside,
asking to speak with you.”
But he said in reply to the one who told him,
“Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?”
And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said,
“Here are my mother and my brothers.
For whoever does the will of my heavenly Father
is my brother, and sister, and mother.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Prayer over the Offerings

Lord God,
look with favour on the gifts
we offer with grateful hearts
on this memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
mother and disciple of your Son;
grant that through these gifts
we may receive grace and wisdom in abundance
for these are beyond our human strength.
(We ask) this through Christ our Lord.

Preface of Mary, Disciple of the Lord

How blessed is Mary, disciple of the Incarnate Word

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
His mother, the Virgin Mary in her glory,
is rightly called blessed,
for she received your Son in her virginal womb,
but she is even more blessed
because, as a disciple of the Incarnate Word,
she eagerly sought to know your will
and faithfully carried it out.
With the whole company of angels
we praise you with one voice: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

Blessed are they who hear the word of God and keep it!

Luke 11, 28

Prayer after Communion

Lord God,
filled with the joy that comes from this sacrament,
we ask that by imitating the Blessed Virgin Mary
we may be true disciples of Christ,
eagerly hearing his words
and putting them into practice.
(We ask this) through the same Christ our Lord.

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