

Daily Prayer

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

We enter into a time of quiet. We offer to God our selves and in the silence know that God embraces us as God's very own. We offer our hopes and our concerns through our prayers and in the silence listen for God. Today we hold in our prayers the ordinary moments in life—the trials and the joys.

We begin by saying

Rejoice always, pray constantly; in everything give thanks,
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus.

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

The First Reading

Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

Isaiah 61.9-11

The Psalm

Now, we heard of the ark in Ephrathah ♦
and found it in the fields of Ja-ar.

Let us enter his dwelling place ♦
and fall low before his footstool.

Arise, O Lord, into your resting place, ♦
you and the ark of your strength.

For the Lord has chosen Zion for himself; ♦
he has desired her for his habitation:

'This shall be my resting place for ever; ♦
here will I dwell, for I have longed for her.

'I will abundantly bless her provision; ♦
her poor will I satisfy with bread.

'I will clothe her priests with salvation, ♦
and her faithful ones shall rejoice and sing.

'There will I make a horn to spring up for David; ♦
I will keep a lantern burning for my anointed.

Psalm 132.6-8, 14-18

The Gospel Reading

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will

name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

Luke 1.26-33

In silence, we ask what the readings have to say to us today. Is there something that draws us more deeply into the reading? What does God have to say to us? What do we have to ask God? When the time is right, we conclude our time of silence with the canticle

The Canticle ~ The Magnificat

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; ♦
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed; ♦
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.

He has mercy on those who fear him, ♦
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm ♦
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,

Casting down the mighty from their thrones ♦
and lifting up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things ♦
and sent the rich away empty.

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, ♦
to remember his promise of mercy,

The promise made to our ancestors, ♦
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Luke 1.46-55

We continue in prayer for those people and situations that we hold up before God (The Intercessions) and continue with the concluding collect, the Lord's prayer and the closing sentences.

The Intercessions

For the whole People of God, that each one may be a true and faithful servant of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those drawing near to the light of faith, that the Lord will bring them to true knowledge of himself, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our families and friends, that the Lord will give them joy and satisfaction in all that they do, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who are lonely, sick, hungry, persecuted, or ignored, that the Lord will comfort and sustain them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our country, that the Lord will help us to contribute to its true growth and well-being, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the whole human family, that we may live together in justice and peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Our prayers conclude

Eternal God,
who revealed the mystery of your loving providence
in the birth of Mary, the Mother of our Lord,
grant that we who now call her blessed
may be clothed with the light of your new creation
and rejoice with her
in the radiance of our Saviour Jesus Christ,

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

[let us pray as our Saviour taught us,]

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen

We conclude

Let us pursue all that makes for peace
and builds up our common life.
Amen.

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