

MAGNIFICAT®

THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Memorial

● *Jesus' most solemn words are spoken from the cross. In entrusting his Mother Mary to the Beloved Disciple, our Lord is concerned for much more than her practical living arrangements: he establishes a relationship between his holy Mother and all who are united to him, that is, the Church. We, too, behold our Mother, for she is the Mother of all who live the new life of grace. We turn to her, especially, when we experience the cross, knowing she is "standing by."* ●

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Acts 1:14

The disciples devoted themselves with one accord to prayer/
with Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

COLLECT

O God, Father of mercies,
whose Only Begotten Son, as he hung upon the Cross,
chose the Blessed Virgin Mary, his Mother,
to be our Mother also,
grant, we pray, that with her loving help
your Church may be more fruitful day by day
and, exulting in the holiness of her children,
may draw to her embrace all the families of the peoples.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity
of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

● *The mother of all the living.* ●

A reading from the Book of Genesis

3:9-15, 20

AFTER ADAM HAD eaten of
the tree, the LORD God
called to him and asked him, "Where are you?" He
answered, "I heard you in the garden; but I was afraid,

because I was naked, so I hid myself.” Then he asked, “Who told you that you were naked? You have eaten, then, from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat!” The man replied, “The woman whom you put here with me—she gave me fruit from the tree, and so I ate it.” The LORD God then asked the woman, “Why did you do such a thing?” The woman answered, “The serpent tricked me into it, so I ate it.”

Then the LORD God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, you shall be banned/ from all the animals and from all the wild creatures;/ On your belly shall you crawl,/ and dirt shall you eat/ all the days of your life./ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers;/ He will strike at your head,/ while you strike at his heel.”/ The man called his wife Eve, because she became the mother of all the living. The word of the Lord.

Or:

- *All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer together with Mary, the mother of Jesus.* ●

A reading from
the Book of the Acts of the Apostles 1:12-14

AFTER JESUS HAD been taken up to heaven, the Apostles returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away.

When they 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 (Ps 87)** •—

R. (3) Glorious things are told of you, O city of God.

His foundation upon the holy mountains
the LORD loves:
The gates of Zion,
more than any dwelling of Jacob. *R*

Glorious things are said of you,
O city of God!
And of Zion they shall say:
“One and all were born in her;
And he who has established her
is the Most High LORD.” *R*

They shall note, when the peoples are enrolled:
“This man was born there.”
And all shall sing, in their festive dance:
“My home is within you.” *R*

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, alleluia.**

• *Behold, your son. Behold, your mother.* •

**A reading from
the holy Gospel according to John**

19:25-34

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive our offerings, O Lord,
and transform them into the mystery of salvation,
so that by its power we may be set aflame
with the charity of the Virgin Mary,
Mother of the Church,
and with her may be united more closely
to the work of redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

PREFACE: MARY, MODEL AND MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
and to proclaim your greatness with due praise,
as we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary.
Receiving your Word in her Immaculate Heart,
she was found worthy to conceive him
in her virgin's womb

and, giving birth to the Creator,
she nurtured the beginnings of the Church.

Standing beside the Cross,
she received the testament of divine love
and took to herself as sons and daughters
all those who by the Death of Christ
are born to heavenly life.

As the Apostles awaited the Spirit you had promised,
she joined her supplication to the prayers of the disciples
and so became the pattern of the Church at prayer.

Raised to the glory of heaven,
she accompanies your pilgrim Church
with a mother's love
and watches in kindness over the Church's
homeward steps,
until the Lord's Day shall come in glorious splendor.

And so, with all the Angels and Saints,
we praise you, as without end we acclaim: Holy....

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Jn 2:1, 11

A wedding was held in Cana of Galilee,/ and the mother of
Jesus was there;/ then Jesus performed the first of his signs/
and manifested his glory,/ and his disciples believed in him.

Or:

Cf. Jn 19:26-27

As he hung upon the cross,/ Jesus said to the disciple whom
he loved:/ Behold your mother.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received the pledge of redemption and of life,
we humbly pray, O Lord,
that, with the Blessed Virgin's motherly help,
your Church may teach all nations
by proclaiming the Gospel
and, through the grace of the outpouring of the Spirit,
fill the whole earth.

Through Christ our Lord.