

READINGS & PRAYERS

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

COLLECT

God of all grace, you chose the Virgin Mary from the moment of her conception and prepared her as a worthy dwelling-place for your incarnate Word; grant that as you blessed her with obedience to fulfil your plan, so you will complete in us the gracious work you have begun; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Gen 3.9–15,20

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.”

Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” The Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

from Ps 98



R. All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God. (*All repeat*)



Sing to the Lord | a new song,
for he has done mar-|vellous things.
With his own right hand and with his | holy
arm
he has brought de-|liverance. *R.*

The Lord has made known his | righteous
love,
in the sight of | all mankind,
and his faithful-|ness and truth
toward the | house of Israel. *R.*

All the ends of the | earth have seen
the salvation | of our God.
Let all the world be | glad in him:
Sing, rejoice and | give him thanks. *R.*

SECOND READING

Eph 1.3–6,11–12

A reading from the letter of Paul to the
Ephesians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you:
blessed are you among women.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Lk 1.26-38

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favoured one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name 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 father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "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, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, may the power of your Spirit, which sanctified Mary the mother of your Son, make holy the offerings we bring to your altar; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION

God most high, whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh: we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption you visit us with your Holy Spirit and overshadow us by your power; strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SOLEMN BLESSING

May God, who of his love redeemed mankind through the child-bearing of the blessed Virgin Mary, pour upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

At all times and in all places, may you know the patronage of her through whom you have received the author of life. **Amen.**

Gathered today in devotion to celebrate her feast, may you obtain the gifts of spiritual joy and the rewards of heaven. **Amen.**

And the blessing ...