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## MASSES

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January 19

### THE FINDING OF JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

Memorial for the Daughters of Wisdom

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I saw the Lord seated on a great high throne;  
a host of angels adored Him, and sang together:  
‘Behold our God, who reigns for ever’.

#### COLLECT

O God, you made the glory of divine wisdom  
shine in the humble childhood of your Son;  
grant that we who recognise you as our Father  
may also put obedience to your will before all things.  
We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
forever and ever.

#### FIRST READING

*The Lord has raised up a prophet in your midst*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

3, 22-26

Moses said, ‘The Lord your God will raise up for you from your own people a prophet like me. You must listen to whatever he tells you. And it will be that everyone who does not listen to that prophet will be utterly rooted out from the people.’ And all the prophets, as many as have spoken, from Samuel and those after him, also predicted these days.

You are the descendants of the prophets and of the covenant that God gave to your ancestors, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your descendants all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’ When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 8

3-8

**R/.** How great is your name, O Lord our God, through all the earth.

When I look at your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established,  
what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them? **R/.**

Yet you have made them little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honour.  
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet. **R/.**

All sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,  
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the path of the seas. **R/.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk. 2, 47

Alleluia. Alleluia.  
And all who heard him were amazed  
at his understanding and his answers.  
Alleluia.

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## GOSPEL

*After three days, they found him in the Temple*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke      2, 41-52

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching 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.

Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

O God, source of true devotion and true peace,  
grant that we may worthily adore your majesty  
through the offering of these gifts,  
and be united in the same faith  
through our participation in the sacred mysteries.  
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

## Preface of Christmas I or II

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jn 6, 68-69

You have the words of eternal life.  
We have come to believe  
and we know you are the Holy One of God.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Filled with these holy gifts,  
we ask for your mercy, O Lord;  
grant that we who hear the voice of your Only-Begotten Son  
may walk in the path that leads to you.  
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

February 11

### OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Memorial

All as found in the Roman Missal and the Lectionary.

March 25

### THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Titular Feast of the Montfortian Family

Solemnity

All as found in the Roman Missal and the Lectionary.



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April 28

**SAINT LOUIS MARIE GRIGNION**  
**DE MONTFORT**, priest  
Founder and Patron of the Montfortian Family  
**Solemnity**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

**Is 52,7**

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation  
and tells Zion,  
‘Your God reigns!’ Alleluia.

Gloria

**COLLECT**

O God, you inspired Saint Louis Marie  
to undertake the apostolic mission of  
preaching the Gospel of Christ your Son to all people.  
Aided by his prayers and taught by the Virgin Mary,  
grant that we may be open to the inspiration of your Spirit,  
attentive to the cries of the poor,  
and so become untiring messengers of your reign.  
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**

*You will receive power from the Holy Spirit, and you will be my witnesses*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

**1, 6-14**

So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

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**PSALM 22****25-29, 31-32**

**R/.** I will announce the Lord's salvation to my brethren.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.  
May your hearts live forever and ever! **R/.**

All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him. **R/.**

For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
and he rules over the nations  
and I will live for the Lord  
and my descendants will serve him. **R/.**

Future generations will be told about the Lord,  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying, "Behold what he has done". **R/.**

**SECOND READING**

*It has pleased God to save believers through the foolishness of  
our preaching*

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

**1, 17-25**

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the  
gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of  
Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided through the foolishness of our proclamation to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Cor. 1, 30

Alleluia. Alleluia.

You are in Christ Jesus, who has been sent by  
God to be our wisdom, our justice, our sancti-  
fication and our redemption.

Alleluia.

## GOSPEL

Mt. 28, 16-20

*Go and teach all nations what I have commanded you.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some doubted.

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And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Creed

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

O Lord, may the gifts we present  
on this feast of Saint Louis Marie,  
free us from the cares and selfishness of the world.  
May we glorify your holy and  
powerful name with all our hearts.  
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

## PREFACE

St Louis de Montfort, missionary of true Wisdom

V/. The Lord be with you.  
R/. And with your spirit.  
V/. Lift up your hearts.  
R/. We lift them up to the Lord.  
V/. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
R/. It is right and just.

It is truly right to give you thanks;  
it is good to sing of your mercy,  
Holy Father, Lord of heaven and earth.  
You revealed to the poor the mysteries of your Kingdom through Christ our Lord.

You taught Saint Louis Marie  
in the school of Divine Wisdom.  
Impelled by your Spirit,  
he preached the sublime folly of the Cross.  
With a heart dedicated to you alone  
and filled with true devotion to Mary,  
he called all people to rekindle in their lives  
the splendour of baptismal grace.  
And so (in the fullness of Easter joy)  
we join with the angels and the saints,  
to sing with one voice the hymn of your glory:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord...

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

cf. Jn 17, 3

This is eternal life that they may know you,  
the only true God and the one whom  
you have sent, Jesus Christ, born of the  
Virgin by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our Father,  
through the powerful mystery of these sacraments  
confirm us in faith,  
so that totally dedicated to you in love,  
we may always bear witness to the wisdom of the Gospel  
for which Saint Louis Marie  
laboured tirelessly until death.  
We make our prayer through Christ the Lord.

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## SOLEMN BLESSING

The deacon, or in his absence the priest himself, invites the faithful to pray in these or similar words:

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

Then the priest, extending his hands over the people, gives the blessing.

God our Father  
has brought us together today to celebrate the feast of  
Saint Louis Marie de Montfort;  
may he strengthen you in faithfulness to his call.  
R/. Amen

Christ our Lord brought his kingdom into being  
through the faith of the Virgin Mary;  
may he give you grace to serve both God and neighbour  
with the zeal and generosity of Saint Louis Marie.  
R/. Amen.

The Holy Spirit inflamed the missionary fervour  
of Saint Louis Marie;  
may the Spirit make you true witnesses to the Pascal  
life before all those whom you meet on your way.  
R/. Amen.

And may the blessing of Almighty God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
come down on you, and remain with you forever.  
R/. Amen.

## VOTIVE MASS

In particular circumstances (gatherings, retreats, meetings), and when the Calendar permits, the following Mass may be used.

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 116, 16-17

O Lord, I am your servant,  
the child of your serving-maid.  
I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice  
and call on the name of the Lord.

### COLLECT

O God, Eternal Wisdom,  
you made Saint Louis Marie de Montfort  
an outstanding witness and teacher  
of perfect dedication to Christ your Son  
through his holy Mother;  
grant that we may work with you for the  
coming of your Kingdom  
by following the same spiritual path.  
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.

### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Merciful Father,  
you formed in St. Louis Marie  
an image of our restored humanity,  
created in justice and holiness.  
Grant that we too may be renewed in the Spirit  
and worthily offer you a sacrifice of praise.  
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

Preface from the Mass for the Solemnity, April 28th.



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## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Jn 19, 27

Jesus said to the disciple,  
"Here is your mother."  
And from that hour  
the disciple took her into his own home.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Strengthened by this communion, we ask you Lord, our God,  
that following the example of St. Louis Marie,  
we may always seek You alone,  
and live in this world as a new creation.  
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

## 1st READING

### 1. Outside the Easter Season

*The Lord has anointed me and sent me to the poor*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

61, 1-3. 11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring the good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the broken-hearted,  
to proclaim liberty to captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion  
and to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
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.

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM 40

5-11a

R/. Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will.

You have multiplied, O Lord my God,  
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;  
none can compare with you.  
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,  
they would be more than can be counted. R/.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,  
but you have given me an open ear.  
Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.  
Then I said, "Here I am. R/.

In the scroll of the book it is written of me.  
I delight to do your will, O my God;  
your law is within my heart." R/.

I have told the glad news of deliverance  
in the great congregation;  
see, I have not restrained my lips,  
you know, O Lord.  
I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,  
I have spoken of your faithfulness. R/.

## 2. Outside the Easter Season

*The Lord grants wisdom to those who listen*

A reading from the book of Proverbs

2, 1-11

My child, if you accept my words and treasure my commandments within you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; if you indeed cry out for insight and raise your voice for understanding; if you seek it like silver, and search for it as for hidden treasures — then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly, guarding the paths of justice and preserving the way of his faithful ones. Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path; for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul; prudence will watch over you; and understanding will guard you.

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM

Wis. 9, 1a.4-5a.9- 10

R/. Blessed are those who seek you with all their heart,  
O Lord.

O God of my ancestors and Lord of mercy,  
give me wisdom that sits by your throne,  
and do not reject me from among your servants,  
for I am your servant and the son of your serving girl. R/.

With you is wisdom, she who knows your works  
and was present when you made the world;  
she understands what is pleasing in your sight

and what is right according to your commandments. **R/.**

Send her forth from the holy heavens,  
and from the throne of your glory send her,  
that she labour at my side,  
and that I may learn what is pleasing to you. **R/.**

**3.**

*We preach Christ the wisdom and power of God*

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians  
**1, 17-25**

**See the second reading of the Mass of April 28**

**PSALM 33** **4-5.8-11.13-14**

**R/.** Your wisdom, O Lord, renews the whole earth.

The word of the Lord is upright,  
and all his work is done in faithfulness.  
He loves righteousness and justice;  
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord. **R/.**

Let all the earth fear the Lord;  
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.  
For he spoke, and it came to be;  
he commanded, and it stood firm. **R/.**

The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;  
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.  
The counsel of the Lord stands forever,  
the thoughts of his heart to all generations. **R/.**

The Lord looks down from heaven;  
he sees all humankind.  
From where he sits enthroned, he watches  
all the inhabitants of the earth. **R/.**

4.

*We are your servants for Jesus' sake*

A Reading from the Second Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians  
4, 1-2.5-7

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let the light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM 40

6-11a

see above, no. 1

GOSPEL ACCLAMATIONS AND GOSPELS

1.

Cf. Gn 9, 17

Alleluia. Alleluia.

The cross of Christ  
is a sign of the covenant  
which I have established between myself  
and all creatures upon the earth.

Alleluia.

*Behold your son! Behold your mother!*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 19, 25-27

Standing near 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 he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son" Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother". And from that hour, the disciple took her into his own home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

2. Cf. Lk. 10, 5.9

Alleluia. Alleluia.

As you go, proclaim the good news of peace.

"The reign of God is in the midst of you,"

says the Lord.

Alleluia.

*The blessed of the Kingdom*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

5, 1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

3.

Cf. Mt. 28, 19.20

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go therefore and make disciples  
of all nations, and teach them.

Remember, I am with you always  
to the end of the ages.

Alleluia.

*The missioning of the disciples*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 10, 1-9

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go.

He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.

Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for

the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house.

Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ ”

The Gospel of the Lord.

May 7

**BLESSED MARIE LOUISE TRICHET, virgin**

Co-Foundress of the Daughters of Wisdom

Memorial

Feast for the Daughters of Wisdom

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Mic. 6, 8

We celebrate Blessed Marie Louise of Jesus,  
a wise woman who acted justly,  
loved tenderly and walked humbly with her God. Alleluia.

Where the day is celebrated as a feast, the Gloria is sung or said.

COLLECT

O God, in your providential design  
you willed that Blessed Marie Louise of Jesus,  
formed in the school of the Mother of the Lord,  
should become a disciple of your Wisdom.  
Grant that by following her example  
we may reveal your love to the poor and bring to all  
the joyful message of the wisdom of the gospel.  
We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever.



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Where the day is celebrated as a memorial, either these readings or the readings of the day may be used:

## FIRST READING

*God has chosen that which is weak*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

1, 26-31

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM 34

1-10

**R/.** With my life I will bless the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.  
My soul makes its boast in the Lord;  
let the humble hear and be glad. **R/.**

O magnify the Lord with me,  
and let us exalt his name together.  
I sought the Lord, and he answered me,  
and delivered me from all my fears. **R/.**

Look to him, and be radiant;  
so your faces shall never be ashamed.  
This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord,  
and was saved from every trouble. **R/.**

The angel of the Lord encamps  
around those who fear him, and delivers them.  
O taste and see that the Lord is good;  
Happy are those who seek refuge in him. **R/.**

O fear the Lord, you his holy ones,  
for those who fear him have no want.  
The young lions suffer want and hunger,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. **R/.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Mt. 11, 25**

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants.

Alleluia.

## **GOSPEL**

*He has hidden these things from the wise and revealed them to the little ones.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**Mt. 11, 25-30**

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.

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All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord, receive the gifts we offer you  
in memory of Blessed Marie Louise of Jesus.  
Recognising the wonders you have accomplished  
in her heart, we humbly ask you to renew the depths  
of our spirit that we may live a new life  
in the light of the Gospel.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord

## Preface of Virgins

Where the day is celebrated as a memorial, either the preface of Virgins or one of the prefaces of Easter may be used.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Mt 11, 28; Pr 9, 5

Come to me,  
all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens;  
eat my bread  
and drink the wine I have prepared for you. Alleluia

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, may our communion in the body and blood of your Son  
free us from the lure of passing, worldly things;  
aided by the example of Blessed Marie Louise of Jesus,  
may we grow in your love  
and know the joy of contemplating you forever.  
We ask this through Christ the Lord.

May 8

### **HOLY MARY, MOTHER AND MEDIATRIX OF GRACES**

Memorial

As in Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **formulary no. 30.**

May 24

### **HOLY MARY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS**

Memorial

As in Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **formulary no. 42.**

Monday after the Ascension of the Lord

### **BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, QUEEN OF APOSTLES**

Memorial

As in Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **formulary no. 18.**

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June 8

**HOLY MARY, SEAT OF WISDOM**  
**Memorial**

As in Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **formulary no. 24.**

July 16

**OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL**  
**Memorial**

All as found in the Roman Missal and the Lectionary.

August 13

**HOLY MARY, REFUGE OF SINNERS**  
**Optional Memorial**

As in Masses for the Blessed Virgin Mary, **formulary no. 14.**

September 29

**SS MICHAEL, GABRIEL and RAPHAEL, archangels**  
St Gabriel: secondary patron of the  
Brothers of St Gabriel  
**Feast**

All as found in the Roman Missal and the Lectionary.

October 11

**HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH**

**Memorial**

As in the Masses for the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
**formulary no. 25, 26 or 27.**

In November on the day chosen each year

**MEMORIAL OF THE DECEASED MEMBERS,  
RELATIVES AND  
BENEFACTORS OF THE THREE CONGREGATIONS**

**Mass as in the Roman Missal: Masses for the Dead.**  
**Readings of the day or from the lectionary of the Masses for**  
**Dead.**

**PRAYER**

O God who is rich in pardon  
and who wishes all to be saved,  
we implore you in your great goodness,  
through the intercession of the Virgin Mary and the Saints,  
to grant to our brothers and sisters,  
and to our relatives and benefactors who have left this world,  
a share in your goodness in heaven for all eternity  
Through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

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Saturday after the Second Sunday of November

**HOLY MARY,  
MOTHER OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE**  
Memorial

As in the Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **formulary no. 40.**

November 27

**OUR LADY  
OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL**  
Optional Memorial

From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, or from the Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **formulary no. 35**

December 10

**OUR LADY OF LORETTO**  
Optional Memorial for the Company of Mary

As in the Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary, **formulary no. 2.**

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## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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January 19

### FINDING OF JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

Memorial for the Daughters of Wisdom

#### INVITATORY

**Ant.** Come, let us adore Christ, The Wisdom of God,  
in the Temple.

Invitatory Psalm from the ordinary.

#### Office of Readings

HYMN, ANTIPHONS AND PSALMS of the day of the week.

1<sup>st</sup> READING of the weekday.

2<sup>nd</sup> READING

From the Sermon of St. Augustine for Christmas

(Sermon 194, 3-4: PL 38, 1016-1017)

*In Christ are all the treasures of Wisdom*

Who knows all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge hidden in Christ, concealed in the poverty of his flesh? Scripture says: *Although he was rich he became poor for our sake to enrich us by his poverty.* He showed himself poor when he assumed our mortal nature and destroyed death, yet he promised us riches, for he had not been robbed of his wealth but was keeping it in reserve.



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How great are the blessings of his goodness which he reserves for those who fear him and shows to those who hope in him! Until he gives them to us in their plenitude, we can have only the faintest conception of them; but to enable us to receive these blessings, he who in his divine nature is the equal of the Father assumed the condition of a slave and became like us, and so restored to us our likeness to God. The only Son of God became a son of man to make many men sons of God. He instructed slaves by showing himself in the form of a slave, and now he enables free men to see him in the form of God.

For *we are sons of God, and although what we shall be has not yet been revealed, we know that when he appears we shall be like him for we shall see him as he is.* For what are those treasures of wisdom and knowledge, what those divine riches, if not the one thing that can fulfill our longing? What are the great blessings of his goodness, if not the one thing that will content us? Therefore: *Show us the Father, and all our desires will be satisfied.*

Christ speaks both in us and for us when, in one of the psalms, he says to the Father: *I shall be satisfied when your glory is revealed.* For he and the Father are one, and whoever sees him sees the father also. *The Lord of hosts is himself the king of glory.* He will transform us and show us his face, and we shall be saved; all our longing will be fulfilled, all our desires will be satisfied.

But this has not yet been accomplished; he has not yet given us the vision that will satisfy every desire; we have not yet drunk our fill of the fountain of life. So while all this remains in the future and we still walk by faith, absent from the Lord, while we still hunger and thirst for justice and with inexpressible longing yearn for God's beauty, let us reverently celebrate the day he was born into our own servile condition.

Since we can as yet form no conception of his generation by the Father before the daystar, let us keep the festival of his birth of a virgin in the hours of the night.

Since it is still beyond our understanding that *his name endures for ever and existed before the sun*, let us at least recognize *his dwelling* that he has placed *beneath the sun*. We cannot yet behold him as the only Son, abiding for ever in his Father, so let us recall *his coming forth like a bridegroom from his chamber*. We are not yet ready for the banquet of our Father, so let us contemplate the manger of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Response:

R. You are the way, the truth and the life

\* Jesus, Son of God!

V. Whoever would find the Father must go through you

\* Jesus, Son of God!

V. It is you who lead us to the joy without end

\* Jesus, Son of God!

*The prayer is as at Morning Prayer.*

## Morning Prayer

HYMN of the day

ANTIPHONS AND PSALMS of the weekday.

THE WORD OF GOD

Wis: 7: 26-27

Wisdom is a reflection of eternal light, a spotless mirror of the working of God, and an image of His goodness. Although she is but one, she can do all things, and while remaining in herself, she renews all things. In every generation Wisdom passes into holy souls, and makes them friends of God and prophets.

Response:

Ps 98, 2

R. The Lord remembers his love.

\* Alleluia, alleluia.

V. He has revealed his justice to the nations.

\* Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father.

R. The Lord remembers his love.

\* Alleluia, alleluia.

## CANTICLE OF ZACHARIAH

Ant. Jesus remained in Jerusalem. His parents did not know; they searched for him among their companions on the way.

### Praise and Intercessions

The Son of the living God wished to be born into a human family: let us adore him and pray:

R. *Jesus, make us holy, through your obedience.*

Eternal Word of the Father, you submitted yourself to Mary and Joseph,

--teach us humility.

Master and Lord, your mother kept your words and actions in her heart,

--teach us to keep your word, and to put it into practice.

Creator of the universe, you were known as the son of the carpenter,

--give us your courage and love in our tasks.

You, grew in age and grace in the family of Nazareth,

--make us more like you, our master and our brother.

Our Father.

## PRAYER

O God, you made the glory of divine wisdom shine on the hidden childhood of your Son; grant that we who recognize you as Father may also put obedience to your will before all things. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

### Evening Prayer

HYMN of the weekday.

ANTIPHONS AND PSALMS of the weekday.

## WORD OF GOD

Phil 2, 6-7

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness and found human in appearance.

## RESPONSE

**R.** God our Father, blessed be your Son

\* Jesus our Saviour!

**V.** He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave

\* Jesus our Saviour!

Glory be to the Father . . .

**R.** God our Father, blessed be your Son

\* Jesus our Saviour!

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## MAGNIFICAT ANTIPHON:

**Ant.** Why have you done this to us? We have searched for you with anguish. – Why were you looking for me? I had to be with my Father.

## PRAISE AND INTERCESSIONS:

Let us adore the Son of God, who wished to be part of a human family:

**R.** *Jesus, our brother, Jesus our saviour!*

You wished to submit yourself to Mary and Joseph,  
--teach us the value of obedience and respect.

You loved your parents and your parents loved you,  
--make families live in peace and in love.

You carried out all that your Father had given you to do,  
--make us recognize in you the one whom the Father has sent.

You who were found by Joseph and Mary in your Father's house,  
--teach us to look for the reign of God.

You who gave to Mary and Joseph a share of your eternal glory,  
--let those who have gone before us enter into the family of saints.

Our Father.

*The prayer is as at morning prayer.*

February 11

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES**

Memorial

All as in the Liturgy of the Hours.

March 25

**THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**

Titular feast of the Montfortian Family

Solemnity

All as in the Liturgy of the Hours.

**Office of Readings**

**2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

At the Office of Readings, the following text may be used as an alternative second reading.

From ‘The Treatise on True Devotion to Mary’ by St Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort (nn.243.246-248).

*The Incarnation is the compendium of all mysteries*

Loving slaves of Jesus in Mary should hold in high esteem devotion to Jesus, the Word of God, in the great mystery of the Incarnation, March 25th, which is the mystery proper to this devotion, because it was inspired by the Holy Spirit for the following reasons:

1. That we might honor and imitate the wondrous dependence which God the Son chose to have on Mary, for the glory of his

Father and for the redemption of humanity. This dependence is revealed especially in this mystery where Jesus becomes a captive and slave in the womb of his Blessed Mother, depending on her for everything.

2. That we might thank God for the incomparable graces he has conferred upon Mary and especially that of choosing her to be his most worthy Mother. This choice was made in the mystery of the Incarnation. These are the two principal ends of the slavery of Jesus in Mary.

Since the principal mystery celebrated and honored in this devotion is the mystery of the Incarnation where we find Jesus only in Mary, having become incarnate in her womb, it is more appropriate for us to say, "slavery of Jesus in Mary," of Jesus dwelling and reigning in Mary, according to the beautiful prayer, recited by so many great souls, "O Jesus, living in Mary."

These expressions show more clearly the intimate union existing between Jesus and Mary. So closely are they united that one is wholly in the other. Jesus is all in Mary and Mary is all in Jesus. Or rather, it is no longer she who lives, but Jesus alone who lives in her. It would be easier to separate light from the sun than Mary from Jesus. So united are they that our Lord may be called, "Jesus of Mary," and his Mother "Mary of Jesus."

Time does not permit me to linger here and elaborate on the perfections and wonders of the mystery of Jesus living and reigning in Mary, or the Incarnation of the Word. I shall confine myself to the following brief remarks. The Incarnation is the first mystery of Jesus Christ; it is the most hidden; and it is the most exalted and the least known.

It was in this mystery that Jesus, in the womb of Mary and with her cooperation, chose all the elect. For this reason the saints called her womb the throne-room of God's mysteries. It was in this mystery that Jesus anticipated all subsequent mysteries of his life by his willing acceptance of them. Consequently, this mystery is a summary of all his mysteries since it contains the intention and the grace of them all.

Lastly, this mystery is the seat of the mercy, the liberality,

and the glory of God. It is the seat of his mercy for us, since we can approach and speak to Jesus through Mary. We need her intervention to see or speak to him. Here, ever responsive to the prayer of his Mother, Jesus unfailingly grants grace and mercy to all poor sinners. “Let us come boldly then before the throne of grace.”

It is the seat of *liberality* for Mary, because while the new Adam dwelt in this truly earthly paradise God performed there so many hidden marvels beyond the understanding of humans and angels. For this reason, the saints call Mary “the magnificence of God,” as if God showed his magnificence only in Mary.

It is the seat of *glory* for his Father, because it was in Mary that Jesus perfectly atoned to his Father on behalf of humankind. It was here that he perfectly restored the glory that sin had taken from his Father. It was here again that our Lord, by the sacrifice of himself and of his will, gave more glory to God than he would have given had he offered all the sacrifices of the Old Law. Finally, in Mary he gave his Father infinite glory, such as his Father had never received from humanity.

## RESPONSORY

Cf. Lk 1, 31.42

**R/.** O Virgin Mary, receive the word, the message of the angel of the Lord: You will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.

\* Blessed are you among women. (Alleluia).

**V/.** You will be with child, and you will be mother ever virgin.

**R/.** Blessed are you among women. (Alleluia).

April 28

**SAINT LOUIS MARIE GRIGNION DE  
MONTFORT**, priest

Founder and Patron of the Montfortian Family

**Solemnity**



St. Louis was born on the 31st of January 1673 at Montfort-sur-Meu in the diocese of Rennes in Brittany. He was ordained priest in the Seminary of Saint Sulpice in Paris on the 5th of June 1700. During the first years of his priesthood he undertook a variety of ministries, first in Nantes, and then principally at Poitiers, where he was responsible for the poor in the city's hospital, and where he came to know Marie Louise Trichet, whom he guided in her vocation. Having obtained the title 'apostolic missionary' from Pope Clement XI, he wholly consecrated his life to missionary activity in the midst of the people. He died while preaching at Saint-Laurent-sur Sèvre, on the 28th of April 1716, aged 43 years. He spent his whole life witnessing and proclaiming to the poor the mystery of the Wisdom and love of Christ, incarnate and crucified. Wherever he was, he encouraged the praying of the Rosary, and the practice of consecration to Christ through Mary as the perfect way of living out the promises made at Baptism. Best known among his writings is the 'Treatise on True Devotion to Mary'. He was canonised by Pope Pius XII in 1947.

All from the Common of Pastors, except the following:

### First Vespers

**HYMN:** from the Common of Pastors, or another approved hymn.

**Ant. 1**           The Lord has sent me to preach the Good News,  
through the manifestation of the Spirit and of his saving  
power, alleluia.

### Psalm 113

Praise the Lord!

Praise, O servants of the Lord;  
praise the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
from this time on and forever more.

From the rising of the sun to its setting

the name of the Lord is to be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations,

and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like the Lord our God,

who is seated on high,

who looks down

on the heavens and the earth?

He raises the poor from the dust,

and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

to make them sit with princes,

with the princes of his people.

He gives the barren woman a home,

making her the joyous mother of children.

**Ant. 1**           The Lord has sent me to preach the Good News,  
through the manifestation of the Spirit and of his saving  
power, alleluia.

**Ant. 2**           We preach Christ crucified, the power of God  
and the wisdom of God, alleluia.

### **Psalm 146**

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

When their breath departs, they return to earth;

on that very day their plans perish.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the Lord their God,

who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them;

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who keeps faith forever;  
who executes justice for the oppressed;  
who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.  
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;  
the Lord loves the righteous.  
The Lord watches over the strangers;  
he upholds the orphan and the widow,  
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The Lord will reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, for all generations.

**Ant. 2**            We preach Christ crucified, the power of God  
and the wisdom of God, alleluia.

**Ant. 3**            God chose us before the foundation of the world  
to be his adopted children through Jesus Christ, alleluia.

### **CANTICLE (Eph 1)**

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,  
just as he chose us in Christ  
before the foundation of the world  
to be holy and  
blameless before him in love.

He destined us for adoption  
as his children through Jesus Christ,  
according to the good pleasure of his will,  
to the praise of his glorious grace

that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.  
In him we have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of his grace  
that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight he has made  
known to us the mystery of his will,  
according to his good pleasure  
that he set forth in Christ,  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
to gather up all things in him,  
things in heaven and things on earth.

**Ant. 3**            God chose us before the foundation of the world  
to be his adopted children through Jesus Christ, alleluia.

## SCRIPTURE READING

1 Cor. 1, 17-18

For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

## RESPONSORY

Ps. 116, 16

**R/.** O Lord, I am your servant,

**\*** Alleluia, Alleluia.

**V/.** And the child of your handmaid.

**\*** Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father . . .

**R/.** O Lord, I am your servant

**\*** Alleluia, Alleluia.

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CANTICLE OF MARY

Lk 1, 46-55

**Ant.** You have filled your servant with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. We glorify you, O Lord our God, alleluia.

My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,  
for he has looked with favour on the  
lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will called me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones  
and lifted up the lowly;

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

He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
according to the promise he made to  
our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.

**Ant.** You have filled your servant with the spirit of wisdom and understanding. We glorify you, O Lord our God, alleluia.

## INTERCESSIONS

Celebrating the glorious memory of Saint Louis Marie de Montfort and through his intercession, let us offer our prayer in faith to Jesus the Lord:

*R/. May your kingdom come through the Virgin Mary,*

You have chosen Pope N., the vicar of Christ, to preside in charity over the universal Church,

- grant that your ministers may always be true to the teaching of the apostles, and serve as faithful stewards of your mysteries.

You sent your disciples into the whole world to preach the gospel to every creature,

- give the gift of wisdom to those who preach, and confirm their words with your grace.

You inspired in Saint Louis Marie de Montfort a burning desire to serve your people,

- renew our hearts by your Spirit, that through his example we too may work for the service of the poor.

You raised up our family, consecrated to you through the work of Saint Louis Marie,

- grant that enlightened by your wisdom and guided by the Holy Virgin, we may lead lives worthy of our calling.

You are the inheritance of the saints, and the joy from which no one can separate us,

- grant eternal joy to the faithful departed, and bring us all to share in your glory in the kingdom of heaven.

Our Father.

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Concluding Prayer as at Morning Prayer.

## INVITATORY

**Ant.** Come, let us adore Christ, the Wisdom of God, incarnate in the womb of the Virgin Mary, alleluia.

**PSALM 100 or another as in the Ordinary.**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.  
Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.  
It is he that made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,  
and his courts with praise.  
Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good;  
his steadfast love endures for ever,  
and his faithfulness to all generations.

## Office of Readings

**HYMN: from the Common of Pastors or another approved hymn.**

**Ant. 1** Wisdom leads the just in the right path, and shows them the reign of God, alleluia.

**PSALM 21**

In your strength the king rejoices, O Lord,  
and in your help how greatly he exults!  
You have given him his heart's desire,

and have not withheld the requests of his lips.

For you meet him with rich blessings;  
you set a crown of fine gold on his head.  
He asked you for life, you gave it to him,  
length of days forever and ever.

His glory is great through your help;  
splendor and majesty you bestow on him.  
You bestow on him blessings for ever;  
you make him glad with the joy of your presence.

For the king trusts in the Lord,  
and through the steadfast love of the Most High,  
he shall not be moved.

**Ant. 1** Wisdom leads the just in the right path, and shows  
them the reign of God, alleluia.

**Ant. 2** Christ was guided by the Spirit to lead people to  
repentance and destroy the reign of sin, alleluia.

## PSALM 92

### I

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,  
to the music of the lute and the harp,  
to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hand I sing for joy.  
How great are your works, O Lord!  
Your thoughts are very deep!



The dullard cannot know,  
The stupid cannot understand this;  
though the wicked sprout like grass  
and all evildoers flourish,  
they are doomed to destruction forever,  
but you, O Lord, are on high forever.

For your enemies, O Lord,  
for your enemies shall perish;  
all evildoers shall be scattered.

**Ant. 2** Christ was guided by the Spirit to lead people to repentance and destroy the reign of sin, alleluia.

**Ant. 3** Attracted by the glory of the knowledge of Christ, he left all things for the sake of the Gospel, alleluia.

## II

You have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox;  
You have poured over me fresh oil.  
My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies;  
my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.

The righteous flourish like the palm tree,  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.  
They are planted in the house of the Lord;  
they flourish in the courts of our God.

In old age they still produce fruit;  
they are always green and full of sap,  
showing that the Lord is upright.  
He is my rock, and there is no  
unrighteousness in him.

**Ant. 3** Attracted by the glory of the knowledge of Christ, he

left all things for the sake of the Gospel, alleluia.

**V/.** He proclaimed the power of the Lord, alleluia.

**R/.** And the marvellous deeds he has done, alleluia.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

1, 26 - 2, 16

### *Worldly wisdom and Christian wisdom*

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth.

But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not plausible words of wisdom, but a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart

conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

## RESPONSORY

cf. 1 Thess. 2, 8; Gal. 4, 19

**R/.** Because of the great love I have for you, I would have given you not only the gospel of God, but my whole life as well:

\* you have become like beloved children to me, alleluia.

**V/.** For you I will go through the pains of giving birth, that Christ may be born in you:

\* you have become like beloved children to me, alleluia.

## SECOND READING

A reading from 'The Treatise on True Devotion to Mary' of Saint Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort **mn. 61-62**

*Jesus Christ, final goal of devotion to the Virgin*

Jesus, our Savior, true God and truly human must be the ultimate end of all our other devotions; otherwise they would be false and misleading. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and end of everything. "We labor," says St. Paul, "only to make all humanity perfect in Jesus Christ."

For in him alone dwells the entire fullness of the divinity and the complete fullness of grace, virtue and perfection. In him alone we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing: he is the only teacher from whom we must learn; the only Lord on whom we should depend; the only head to whom we should be united and the only model that we should imitate. He is the only physician that can heal us; the only shepherd that can feed us; the only way that can lead us; the only truth that we can believe; the only life that can animate us. He alone is everything to us and he alone can satisfy all our desires.

We are given no other name under heaven by which we can be saved. God has laid no other foundation for our salvation, perfection and glory than Jesus. Every edifice which is not built on that firm rock, is founded upon shifting sands and will certainly fall sooner or later. Every one of the faithful who is not united to him is like a branch broken from the stem of the vine. It falls and withers and is fit only to be burnt. If we live in Jesus and Jesus lives in us, we need not fear damnation. Neither angels in heaven nor people on earth, nor devils in hell, no creature whatever can harm us, for no creature can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus. Through him, with him and in him, we can do all things and render all honor and glory to the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit; we can make ourselves perfect and be for our neighbor a fragrance of eternal life.

If then we are establishing sound devotion to Our Blessed Lady, it is only in order to establish devotion to Our Lord more perfectly, by providing a smooth but certain way of reaching Jesus Christ. If devotion to Our Lady distracted us from Our Lord, we would have to reject it as an illusion of the devil. But this is far from being the case. As I have already shown and will show again later on, this devotion is necessary, simply and solely because it is a way of reaching Jesus perfectly, loving

him tenderly, and serving him faithfully.

RESPONSORY

Prov. 4, 10-11

R/. Hear my child, and accept my words,

\* that the years of your life may be many, alleluia, alleluia.

V/. I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness

\* that the years of your life may be many, alleluia, alleluia.

Or

A reading from ‘The Treatise on True Devotion to Mary’ of Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort **nn. 120-121.125-126**

*I am all yours*

As all perfection consists in our being conformed, united and consecrated to Jesus, it naturally follows that the most perfect of all devotions is that which conforms, unites, and consecrates us most completely to Jesus. Now of all God’s creatures Mary is the most conformed to Jesus. It therefore follows that, of all devotions, devotion to her makes for the most effective consecration and conformity to him. The more one is consecrated to Mary, the more one is consecrated to Jesus.

That is why perfect consecration to Jesus is but a perfect and complete consecration of oneself to the Blessed Virgin, which is the devotion I teach; or in other words, it is the perfect renewal of the vows and promises of holy baptism.

This devotion consists in giving oneself entirely to Mary in order to belong entirely to Jesus through her. It requires us to give:

1. Our body with its senses and members;
2. Our soul with its faculties;
3. Our present material possessions and all we shall acquire in the future;
4. Our interior and spiritual possessions, that is, our merits, virtues and good actions of the past, the present and the future.

In other words, we give her all that we possess both in our

natural life and in our spiritual life as well as everything we shall acquire in the future in the order of nature, of grace, and of glory in heaven. This we do without any reservation, not even of a penny, a hair, or the smallest good deed. And we give for all eternity without claiming or expecting in return for our offering and our service, any other reward than the honour of belonging to Our Lord through Mary and in Mary, even though our Mother were not — as in fact she always is — the most generous and appreciative of all God's creatures.

It follows that we consecrate ourselves at one and the same time to Mary and to Jesus. We give ourselves to Mary because Jesus chose her as the perfect means to unite himself to us and unite us to him. We give ourselves to Jesus because he is our last end. Since he is our Redeemer and our God we are indebted to him for all that we are.

I have said that this devotion could rightly be called a perfect renewal of the vows and promises of holy baptism. Before baptism, Christians were slaves of the devil because they belonged to him. At baptism they have either personally or through their sponsors solemnly renounced Satan, his seductions and his works. They have chosen Jesus as their Master and sovereign Lord and undertaken to depend upon him as slaves of love. This is what is done in the devotion I am presenting to you. We renounce the devil, the world, sin and self, as expressed in the act of consecration, and we give ourselves entirely to Jesus through Mary. We even do something more than at baptism, when ordinarily our godparents speak for us and we are given to Jesus only by proxy. In this devotion we give ourselves personally and freely and we are fully aware of what we are doing.

In holy baptism we do not give ourselves to Jesus explicitly through Mary, nor do we give him the value of our good actions. After baptism we remain entirely free either to apply that value to anyone we wish or keep it for ourselves. But by this consecration we give ourselves explicitly to Jesus through Mary's hands and we include in our consecration the value of all our actions.

## RESPONSORY

Ps. 116, 16-18

R/. O Lord, I am your servant, the child of your serving-maid

\* I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice, alleluia.

V/. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people

\* I will offer you a sacrifice of praise, alleluia.

Concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer

## Morning Prayer

HYMN: from the Common of Pastors, or another approved hymn.

Ant. 1 I have loved and searched for wisdom from my youth; through her I will gain eternal life, alleluia.

## PSALM 63

O God, you are my God, I seek you,  
my soul thirsts for you;  
my flesh faints for you,  
as in a dry and weary land  
where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,  
beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live;

I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,  
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips  
when I think of you on my bed,  
and meditate on you in the watches of the night;  
for you have been my help,

and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand upholds me.

**Ant. 1** I have loved and searched for wisdom from my youth;  
through her I will gain eternal life, alleluia.

**Ant. 2** Bless the Lord with me; let us praise his wisdom for  
all ages, alleluia.

### **Canticle (Dn 3)**

Bless the Lord, all you works of the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Angels of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
You heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you waters from above the heavens, bless the Lord.  
All you hosts of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Sun and moon, bless the Lord.  
Stars of heaven, bless the Lord.

Every shower and dew, bless the Lord.  
All you winds, bless the Lord.  
Fire and heat, bless the Lord.  
Cold and chill, bless the Lord.  
Dew and rain, bless the Lord.  
Frost and chill, bless the Lord.  
Ice and snow, bless the Lord.  
Nights and days, bless the Lord.  
Light and darkness, bless the Lord.  
Lightnings and clouds, bless the Lord.

Let the earth bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Mountains and hills, bless the Lord.  
Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord.  
You springs, bless the Lord.  
Seas and rivers, bless the Lord.



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You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord.  
All you birds of the air, bless the Lord.  
All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord.  
You sons of men, bless the Lord.

O Israel, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Priests of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Servants of the Lord, bless the Lord.  
Spirits and souls of the just, bless the Lord.  
Holy men of humble heart, bless the Lord.  
Hananiah, Azariah, Mishaël, bless the Lord.  
Praise and exalt him above all forever.

Let us bless the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
Let us praise and exalt him above all forever.  
Blessed are you, Lord, in the firmament of heaven.  
Praiseworthy and glorious and exalted above all forever.

**Ant. 2** Bless the Lord with me; let us praise his wisdom for all ages, alleluia.

**Ant. 3** I have made myself all things to all people, so that all might be saved, alleluia.

### Psalm 149

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel be glad in its Maker;  
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.  
Let them praise his name with dancing  
making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.  
For the Lord takes pleasure in his people;  
he adorns the humble with victory.  
Let the faithful exult in glory;  
let them sing for joy on their couches.  
Let the high praises of God be in their throats

and two-edged swords in their hands,  
To execute vengeance on the nations  
and punishment on the peoples,  
to bind their kings with fetters  
and their nobles with chains of iron,  
to execute on them the judgement decreed.

**Ant. 3** I have made myself all things to all people, so that all  
might be saved, alleluia.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Prov. 9, 1-5

Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars.  
She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she  
has also set her table. She has sent out her servant girls, she  
calls from the highest places in town, “You that are simple,  
turn in here!” To those without sense she says, “Come, eat my  
bread and drink the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity,  
and live, and walk in the way of insight.”

### SHORT RESPONSORY

**R/.** The Lord led the virtuous along the right paths

**\*** Alleluia, Alleluia.

**V/.** He has shown them the kingdom of God  
along the right paths

**\*** Alleluia, Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy  
Spirit.

**R/.** The Lord led the virtuous along the right paths

**\*** Alleluia, Alleluia

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

Lk 1, 68-79

**Ant.** Christ, the Wisdom of God, has visited his people like the

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dawn from on high, alleluia.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for he has looked favourably on his  
people and redeemed them.

He has raised up a mighty saviour for us  
in the house of his servant David,

As he spoke through the mouth of his  
holy prophets from of old,  
that we would be saved from our enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate us.

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,  
and has remembered his holy covenant,

The oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,  
to grant us that we, being rescued from  
the hands of our enemies,  
might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness  
before him all our days.

And you, child, will be called the  
Prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go before the Lord  
to prepare his ways,  
to give knowledge of salvation to his people  
by the forgiveness of their sins.

By the tender mercy of our God,  
the dawn from on high will break upon us,  
to give light to those who sit in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Ant.** Christ, the Wisdom of God, has visited his people like the  
dawn from on high, alleluia.

## INTERCESSIONS

Made sharers in a holy vocation, let us draw near in faith to the throne of grace, asking that the light of divine presence may be with us throughout this day. Through the intercession of Saint Louis Marie, let us pray to the Lord Jesus, Incarnate Wisdom:

*R/. Jesus living in Mary, come and live in us.*

Lord Jesus, in baptism you made us the adopted children of the Father,

- grant that with the maternal help of Mary we may be more fully conformed to you.

You were born of the Virgin, and willingly obedient to her, you grew in wisdom, grace and years,

- grant us your divine wisdom, that it may enlighten us and guide us in the ways of truth.

You purified us by shedding your blood on the cross, calling us to be holy and spotless in love,

- make us worthy of our vocation to follow you and to give our lives for the good of our sisters and brothers.

You set the heart of Saint Louis Marie on fire with the mission of preaching the Gospel,

- transform us by your Spirit, that we may be credible witnesses of your word of salvation.

You never cease to make your voice heard in the hearts of the young,

- raise up missionaries for your Church, that your name may be glorified through all the earth.

Our Father

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## CONCLUDING PRAYER

O God, you inspired Saint Louis Marie to undertake the apostolic mission of preaching the Gospel of Christ your Son to all people. Aided by his prayers and taught by the Virgin Mary, grant that we may be open to the inspiration of your Spirit, attentive to the cries of the poor, and so become untiring messengers of your reign. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

### Prayer During the Day

Complementary Psalmody, p. 61

#### Before Noon

**Ant.** Blessed is the one whom the Spirit of the Lord  
has instructed in the ways of goodness, alleluia.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Col. 2, 1-3

For I want you to know how much I am struggling for you, and for those in Laodicea, and for all who have not seen me face to face. I want their hearts to be encouraged, and united in love, so that they may have all the riches of assured understanding and have the knowledge of God's mystery that is, Christ himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

**V/.** O Lord, I am your servant, alleluia.

**R/.** And the child of your handmaid, alleluia.

## Midday

**Ant.** When put to the test he was found perfect; to him be honour for ever, alleluia.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Col. 2, 6-10a

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every rule and authority.

**V/.** I am not ashamed of the Gospel, alleluia.

**R/.** It is the power of God for salvation, alleluia.

## Afternoon

**Ant.** We preach Christ crucified, the power and the wisdom of God, alleluia.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Col. 1, 24-27

I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations, but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this

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mystery which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

V/. The Spirit of God created him, alleluia.

R/. And the breath of the Almighty gave him life, alleluia.

The concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer.

### Complementary Psalmody 123

To you I lift up my eyes,  
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,  
So our eyes look to the Lord our God,  
until he has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,  
for we have had more than enough of contempt.  
Our soul has had more than its fill  
of the scorn of those who are at ease,  
of the contempt of the proud.

### Psalm 124

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side  
- let Israel now say -  
if it had not been the Lord who was on our side,  
when our enemies attacked us,  
then they would have swallowed us up alive,

When their anger was kindled against us,  
then the flood would have swept us away,  
the torrent would have gone over us;  
then over us would have gone  
the raging waters.

Blessed be the Lord,  
    who has not given us  
as prey to their teeth.  
We have escaped like a bird  
    from the snare of the fowlers.

The snare is broken,  
    and we have escaped.  
Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
    Who made heaven and earth.

### Psalm 125

Those who trust in the Lord  
    are like Mount Zion,  
which cannot be moved,  
    but abides forever.

As the mountains surround Jerusalem,  
so the Lord surrounds his people,  
    from this time on and for evermore.

For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest  
    on the land allotted to the righteous  
So that the righteous may not stretch out  
    their hands to do wrong.

Do good, O Lord, to those who are good,  
    and to those who are upright in their hearts.  
But those who turn aside to their own crooked way,  
    the Lord will lead away with evildoers.

Peace be upon Israel!



## Second Vespers

**HYMN:** from the Common of Pastors, or another approved hymn.

**Ant. 1** When I was with you, I claimed to know nothing except Jesus Christ, and him crucified, alleluia.

### Psalm 15

O Lord, who may abide in your tent?  
Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,  
and speak the truth from their heart;  
who do not slander with their tongue,  
and do no evil to their friends,

nor take up a reproach against their neighbours;  
in whose eyes the wicked are despised,  
but who honour those who fear the Lord;

Who stand by their oath even to their hurt;  
who do not lend money at interest,  
and do not take a bribe against the innocent.  
Those who do these things shall never be moved.

**Ant. 1** When I was with you, I claimed to know nothing except Jesus Christ, and him crucified, alleluia.

**Ant. 2** Blessed is the one whom the Spirit of the Lord has made wise, and instructed in the law of God, alleluia.

## PSALM 112

Happy are those who fear the Lord,  
who greatly delight in his commandments.  
Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Wealth and riches are in their houses,  
and their righteousness endures forever.  
They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright;  
they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

It is well with those who deal generously and lend,  
who conduct their affairs with justice.  
For the righteous will never be moved;  
they will be remembered for ever.

They are not afraid of evil tidings;  
their hearts are firm, secure in the Lord.  
Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid;  
in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.

They have distributed freely,  
they have given to the poor;  
Their righteousness endures for ever;  
their horn is exalted in honour.  
The wicked see it and are angry;  
they gnash their teeth and melt away;  
the desire of the wicked comes to nothing.

**Ant. 2** Blessed is the one whom the Spirit of the Lord has  
made wise, and instructed in the law of God, alleluia.

**Ant. 3** I will bless your name, O Lord, for marvellous is your  
wisdom, alleluia.

## CANTICLE (Rev. 15)

Great and amazing are your deeds,  
 Lord God Almighty!  
 Just and true are your ways,  
 King of the nations!

Lord, who will not fear  
 and glorify your name  
 for you alone are holy.

All nations will come  
 and worship before you,  
 For your judgements have been revealed.

**Ant. 3** I will bless your name, O Lord, for marvellous is your wisdom, alleluia.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Rom. 8, 28-30

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

## SHORT RESPONSORY

Wis. 9, 4

**R/.** O Lord, give me the wisdom that sits by your throne.

**\*** Alleluia, alleluia.

**V/.** And do not reject me from among your servants.

**\*** Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**R/.** O Lord, give me the wisdom that sits by your throne.

**Ant.** Today, Saint Louis de Montfort has clothed himself with Christ, and has taken his place at the banquet of heavenly wisdom, alleluia.

## INTERCESSIONS

As we give thanks for all the gifts of God's mercy, let us humbly pray to Jesus the Lord, in union with Saint Louis Marie:

**R/.** *Lord Jesus, give children to your Mother.*

You willed to unfold the mystery of salvation through the Virgin Mary,

- with her help, bring to completion the work you have begun in all the baptised.

You granted that Saint Louis Marie experience the power of the paschal mystery,

- grant us the wisdom of the Cross, and make our lives a worthy offering to the Father.

You are the origin of every vocation, and the source of all faithfulness,

- raise up ministers after your own heart, consecrated in love to the service of the poor.

You are the true light of the world, and the redeemer of all nations,

- grant that all peoples may be enlightened by the splendour of the Gospel.

You have taken us from among all the nations, and gathered us into the Montfortian Family,

- welcome into your kingdom, together with Mary and all the

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saints, our departed brothers and sisters.

Our Father.

Concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer

May 7

**BLESSED MARIE LOUISE TRICHET**, virgin  
Co-foundress of the Daughters of Wisdom

Memorial  
Feast for the Daughters of Wisdom

Marie Louise Trichet was born in Poitiers, France on the 7th of May 1684. At the age of seventeen, she left home for spiritual formation by Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort. On the 2nd of February 1703, clothed in the habit of the Daughters of Wisdom, she received the name Sister Marie Louise of Jesus. Working alone in the General Hospital at Poitiers for ten years, she courageously endured a series of extraordinary trials. She moved to La Rochelle with her first companions, and then to Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre, continuing her work of service to the poor in hospitals and schools.

Her life revealed the wisdom of one totally dedicated to the Lord through works of love for the poor, all performed under the maternal care of Mary, mother of the eternal and incarnate Wisdom. Her spiritual testament is in itself a programme for life:

"I urge all Daughters of Wisdom, in the present and in the future, never to deviate from the primitive spirit of our holy founder, which is a spirit of humility, of poverty, of detachment, of charity and of union with each other".

When she died at Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre on the 28th of April 1759, the Congregation of the Daughters of Wisdom numbered 122 religious distributed in 35 communities; forty

had already departed to their eternal reward.

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## INVITATORY

Today we keep the feast of Blessed Marie Louise. Come,  
let us adore the Wisdom of God, incarnate in the womb  
of the Virgin, alleluia.

Psalm 100. p.45

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## Office of Readings

HYMN from the Common of Virgins or the Common of Holy Women

Where the day is celebrated as a memorial, the psalms and first reading are from the day of the week.

**Ant. 1** The lessons of wisdom are on her tongue; on her lips are words of goodness, alleluia.

## PSALM 19, 1-6

The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.  
Day to day pours forth speech,  
and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words;  
their voice is not heard;  
Yet their voice goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,  
which comes out like a bridegroom  
from his wedding canopy,  
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

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Its rising is from the end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the end of them;  
and nothing is hidden from its heat.

**Ant. 1** The lessons of wisdom are on her tongue; on her lips  
are words of goodness, alleluia.

**Ant. 2** Blessed is she who trusts in the Lord; in her heart is a  
hymn to our God, alleluia.

## PSALM 45

### I

My heart overflows with a goodly theme;  
I address my verses to the king;  
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

You are the most handsome of men;  
grace is poured upon your lips;  
therefore God has blessed you for ever.

Gird your sword on your thigh, O mighty one,  
in your glory and majesty.

In your majesty ride on victoriously for the cause of  
truth and to defend the right;  
let your right hand show your wondrous deeds.

Your arrows are sharp  
in the heart of the kings' enemies;  
the people fall under you.

Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.  
Your royal sceptre is a sceptre of equity;  
you love righteousness and hate wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil  
of gladness beyond your companions;

your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

From ivory palaces stringed instruments make you glad;  
daughters of kings are among your ladies of honour;  
at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

**Ant. 2** Blessed is she who trusts in the Lord; in her heart is a  
hymn to our God, alleluia.

**Ant. 3** Enter the house of God with joy and gladness, alleluia.

## II

Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear;  
forget your people and your father's house,  
and the king will desire your beauty.

Since he is your Lord, bow to him,  
the people of Tyre will seek your favour with gifts,  
the richest of the people with all kinds of wealth.

The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes;  
in many-coloured robes she is led to the king;  
behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.

With joy and gladness they are led along  
as they enter the palace of the king.  
In the place of ancestors you, O king shall have sons;  
you will make them princes in all the earth.

I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations;  
therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever.

**Ant. 3** Enter the house of God with joy and gladness, alleluia.

**V/.** My heart ever ponders your word, alleluia.

**R/.** O Lord, my rock and my redeemer, alleluia.



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## FIRST READING

From the first letter of Saint John

1 John 4, 7-21

*Let us love one another, since love comes from God*

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love and those who abide in love abide in God and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

## RESPONSORY

1 Jn. 4, 16.21; Sir. 23, 27

R/. Those who abide in love, abide in God and God abides in them.

\* Nothing is sweeter than adherence to the Lord's commandments.

V/. We have known and believe the love God has for us.

\* The commandment we have from God is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

## SECOND READING

From 'The Love of Eternal Wisdom' by St Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort

(nn. 64, 92, 203-204, 209)

*The intense desire of divine Wisdom  
to give herself to humanity*

There is a bond of intimacy between humankind and Wisdom that is so deep that it is absolutely beyond human understanding - Wisdom exists for each one of us, and each one of us exists for Wisdom.

Wisdom is an infinite treasure for humankind, but not for angels or other creatures.

This friendship of Wisdom for humanity is based on the fact that by their very creation humans sum up in themselves all her marvelous qualities. A human being reflects the 'big world' or universal dimension of Wisdom by being her living image; at the same time every human person is, in a sense, a 'little world' of Wisdom, her representative here on earth.

Out of her great love for humanity, She took on our human nature by becoming incarnate and She even delivered herself up to death for the sake of mere human beings. Thus She

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shows how deeply She loves each human being as Her brother or sister, as her friend, her disciple, her pupil, the gift won by her blood sacrifice, and the coheir of her kingdom. So true is this that whenever one refuses her love or snatches from her the heart of any human being, She feels it as an immeasurable violence done to herself.

She communicates her own spirit full of Light:

*I prayed and understanding was given to me. I begged humbly in prayer, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.*

Wisdom's delicate and discerning spirit confers upon humans good judgment and a capacity for appropriate decisions very like that of Solomon himself.

*I shall be considered to be as clever as a judge, and the great will be amazed at me.*

The greatest of all means and the most wonderful of all secrets for obtaining and conserving divine Wisdom is this: a loving and true devotion to the Blessed Virgin.

Mary alone found grace before God for herself and for the whole human family. She alone attracted Eternal Wisdom to become incarnate, and she alone brought him (Incarnate Wisdom) into the world. Thus one could say that only she, through the action of the Holy Spirit, has the power (in a manner of speaking) to 'incarnate him' in predestinate souls.

The patriarchs, the prophets and the saints of the Old Testament yearned, implored, and begged God for the incarnation of Eternal Wisdom, but none of them was able to merit it. Only Mary, by her awe-inspiring virtue, was able to reach the throne of God and merit this infinite blessing. She it was who became the Mother, the Mistress, and the Throne of Divine Wisdom.

She is Wisdom's most worthy Mother, because she incar-

nated him in the world as the fruit of her womb: “Blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus.” So wherever Jesus is, in heaven or on earth, in our tabernacles or in our hearts, it can truly be said that he remains in a fundamental relationship to Mary: she alone is the tree of life, and he is its sole fruit.

It follows that whoever wants to have this admirable fruit in their heart must have the Tree which produced it: whoever wants to have Jesus must have Mary

So it is through Mary alone that we can obtain Wisdom. But if we were given a gift as great as Wisdom, where would we lodge her? What house, what seat, what throne would we offer to this Princess so pure and so brilliant that the rays of the sun are no more than gloomy darkness and mud in her presence? Perhaps you will say that it is only our heart that she asks for, that our heart is the gift we must give her, and the lodging we should offer her.

## RESPONSORY

cf. Wis. 7, 7-8; James 1, 5

**R/.** I prayed, and understanding was given me; I entreated, and the spirit of Wisdom came to me

**\*** I have preferred her to every honour and power, alleluia.

**V/.** If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives freely and ungrudgingly, and it will be given

**\*** I have preferred her to every honour and power, alleluia.

Where the Feast is celebrated the Te Deum is sung or said.

Concluding Prayer as at Morning Prayer.

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## Morning Prayer

Hymn from the Common of Virgins or the Common of Holy Women

Where the day is celebrated as a memorial, antiphons and psalms are from the day of the week.

Psalms and Canticle of Sunday Week I.

**Ant. 1** Freely I have placed my faith in you, O Jesus Christ; my soul thirsts for you and my heart desires you.  
Alleluia.

**Ant. 2** Virgins, bless the Lord; he who calls you to an undivided love now crowns the fruit of your life with his own gifts. Alleluia.

**Ant. 3** Having triumphed over human frailties, now she rejoices in the glory of God. Alleluia.

### SCRIPTURE READING

Wis. 6, 12-14

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate.

### SHORT RESPONSORY

**R/.** My heart remembers your word: "Seek my face."

**\*** Alleluia, alleluia.

**V/.** It is your face, O Lord, that I seek. Do not hide yourself from me.

\* Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R/. My heart remembers your word: "Seek my face."

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

**Ant:** Blessed is she who offered all that she had to acquire Divine Wisdom. Alleluia.

## INTERCESSIONS

Let us bless God the Almighty Father who in his wisdom orders all creation with power and gentleness. Together with Blessed Marie Louise of Jesus, let us ask him to listen mercifully to our prayers:

**R/.** *Blessed are you, God of wisdom.*

In fulfilment of your will the Word became flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary,

- teach us to seek your will above all, and to be open always to what is pleasing to you.

Through the Cross of Christ you revealed your love and completed our salvation,

- grant that we may come to recognise the mystery of Wisdom hidden in the daily crosses of our lives.

You called Blessed Marie Louise to dedicate herself to the service of the poor and the sick,

- through her example, inflame our hearts with a generous and persevering love.

You have marked out the path of wisdom for our Montfortian family,

- lead us to Jesus through Mary, together with all those who seek the truth.

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You care for all your creation,

- receive our thanksgiving, and protect from all anxiety those who abandon themselves to your providence.

Our Father.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

O God, in your providential design you willed that Blessed Marie Louise of Jesus, formed in the school of the Mother of the Lord, should become a disciple of your Wisdom. Grant that by following her example we may reveal your love to the poor and bring to all the joyful message of the wisdom of the gospel. 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.

## Midday

Where the day is celebrated as a feast: from the Common of Virgins or Holy Women, with antiphons and psalms of the day of the week; concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer. Where the day is celebrated as a memorial: all from the day of the week.

## Vespers

Where the day is celebrated as a memorial: antiphons and psalms of the day of the week.

Hymn from the Common of Virgins or Holy Women

**Ant. 1** I have kept myself for you alone, O Jesus. Now with

lighted lamp, I run to meet you. Alleluia.

### Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me,  
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

Our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem – built as a city  
that is bound firmly together.

To it the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord,  
as was decreed for Israel,  
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.  
For there the thrones for judgement were set up,  
the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:  
May they prosper who love you.  
Peace be within your walls,  
and security within your towers.  
For the sake of my relatives and friends  
I will say, “peace be within you.”  
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,  
I will seek your good.

**Ant. 1** I have kept myself for you alone, O Jesus. Now with  
lighted lamp, I run to meet you. Alleluia.

**Ant. 2** Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God,  
Alleluia.

### Psalm 127

Unless the Lord builds the house,  
those who build it labour in vain.  
Unless the Lord guards the city,  
the guard keeps watch in vain.



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It is in vain that you rise up early  
and go late to rest,  
eating the bread of anxious toil;  
for he gives sleep to his beloved.

Sons are indeed a heritage from the Lord,  
the fruit of the womb a reward.  
Like arrows in the hand of a warrior  
are the sons of one's youth.

Happy is the man who has  
his quiver full of them.  
He shall not be put to shame  
when he speaks with his enemies at the gate.

**Ant. 2** Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.  
Alleluia.

**Ant. 3** My heart is steadfast, O God. It is rooted in Christ.  
Alleluia.

### **CANTICLE (Ephesians 1: 3-10)**

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,  
just as he chose us in Christ  
before the foundation of the world  
to be holy and blameless before him in love.

He destined us for adoption  
as his children through Jesus Christ,  
according to the good pleasure of his will,  
to the praise of his glorious grace  
that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of our trespasses  
according to the riches of his grace  
that he lavished on us.

With all wisdom and insight he has made known  
to us the mystery of his will,  
according to his good pleasure  
that he set forth in Jesus Christ,  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
to gather up all things to him,  
things in heaven and things on earth.

**Ant. 3** My heart is steadfast, O God. It is rooted in Christ.  
Alleluia.

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Phil. 3, 7-8**

Whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.

## SHORT RESPONSORY

**R/.** The Lord is my portion and my hope.

**\*** Alleluia, Alleluia.

**V/.** He gives his love to those who seek him.

**\*** Alleluia, Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**R/.** The Lord is my portion and my hope

**\*** Alleluia, Alleluia.

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## CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** A disciple of Wisdom, she loved God and her neighbour with the love of Christ. Alleluia.

## INTERCESSIONS

In faith let us pray to Christ, eternal and incarnate Wisdom, whose love led Blessed Marie Louise to consecrate her life to the service of those most in need. Let us say together:

**R/.** *In your tenderness hear our prayer.*

Jesus, Wisdom of God, be with your people on the road that leads to the Kingdom,

- may we ever walk in the light of your Gospel.

Jesus, Wisdom of God, renew our love for serving the poor, the sick and the oppressed,

- may they find in us a witness of their heavenly Father's compassion.

Jesus, Wisdom of God, strengthen your disciples in the gift of their lives,

- through their example, may young people find the courage to answer your call.

Jesus, Wisdom of God, teach us to live like Blessed Marie Louise under the watchful gaze of your holy Mother,

- may we be attentive to your word, and faithful in putting it into practice.

Jesus, Wisdom of God, welcome into your Kingdom our sisters and brothers who have completed their earthly pilgrimage,

- may they share the fullness of your joy in the communion of saints.

Our Father.

Concluding Prayer as at Morning Prayer.

May 8

**HOLY MARY, MOTHER  
AND MEDIATRIX OF GRACES**

Memorial

From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with  
psalmody of the day of the week.

**Office of Readings**

**SECOND READING**

From ‘The Secret of Mary’ by St Louis Marie Grignion de  
Montfort (nn.3.6-12)

*Mary gave life to the Author of all graces*

Chosen soul, living image of God and redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus Christ, God wants you to become holy like him in this life, and glorious like him in the next.

It is certain that growth in the holiness of God is your vocation. All your thoughts, words, actions, everything you suffer or undertake must lead you towards that end. Otherwise you are resisting God in not doing the work for which he created you and for which he is even now keeping you in being. What a marvellous transformation is possible! Dust into light, uncleanness into purity, sinfulness into holiness, creature into Creator, humanity into God! A marvellous work, I repeat, so difficult in itself, and even impossible for a mere creature to bring about, for only God can accomplish it by giving his grace

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abundantly and in an extraordinary manner. The very creation of the universe is not as great an achievement as this.

It all comes to this, then. We must discover a simple means to obtain from God the grace needed to become holy. It is precisely this I wish to teach you. My contention is that you must first discover Mary if you would obtain this grace from God.

I explain:

1. Mary alone found grace with God for herself and for every individual person. No patriarch nor prophet nor any other holy person of the Old Law could manage to find this grace.

2. It was Mary who gave existence and life to the author of all grace, and because of this she is called the “Mother of Grace.”

3. God the Father, from whom, as from its essential source, every perfect gift and every grace come down to us, gave her every grace when he gave her his Son. Thus, as St. Bernard says, the will of God is manifested to her in Jesus and with Jesus.

4. God chose her to be the treasurer, the administrator and the dispenser of all his graces, so that all his graces and gifts pass through her hands. Such is the power that she has received from him that, according to St. Bernardine, she gives the graces of the eternal Father, the virtues of Jesus Christ, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit to whom she wills, and when she wills, and as much as she wills.

5. As in the natural life, a child must have a father and a mother, so in the supernatural life of grace a true child of the Church must have God for his Father and Mary for his mother. If this child prides himself on having God for his Father but does not give Mary the tender affection of a true child, such a one is an imposter whose father is the devil.

6. Since Mary produced the head of the elect, Jesus Christ, she must also produce the members of that head, that is, all true Christians. A mother does not conceive a head without members, nor members without a head. If anyone, then, wishes to become a member of Jesus Christ, and consequently be filled with grace and truth, that one must be formed in Mary through the grace of Jesus Christ, which she possesses with a fullness enabling her to communicate it abundantly to true members of Jesus Christ, her true children.

or:

From ‘Lumen Gentium’, the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church of Vatican II (nn. 60-62. Abbott)

*The mediation of Mary in the economy of salvation*

We have but one Mediator, as we know from the words of the Apostle: “For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and humanity, himself human, Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all” (1 Tim. 2:5-6). The maternal duty of Mary toward humanity in no way obscures or diminishes this unique mediation of Christ, but rather shows its power. For all the saving influences of the Blessed Virgin on people originate, not from some inner necessity, but from the divine pleasure. They flow forth from the superabundance of the merits of Christ, rest on His mediation, depend entirely on it, and draw all their power from it. In no way do they impede the immediate union of the faithful with Christ. Rather, they foster this union.

The Blessed Virgin was predestined to be the Mother of God in the eternal plan for the incarnation of God’s Word. By decree of God’s providence she was, here on earth, the loving mother of the divine Redeemer, the noblest of all his companions, and the humble servant of the Lord. In conceiving Christ, in bearing him, in nursing him, in presenting him to the Father in the temple, in sharing her Son’s passion, as he was dying on the cross, by her obedience, her faith, her hope and burning

love, she cooperated in a way that was unique, in the work of the Saviour in restoring supernatural life to souls. She is therefore, a mother to us in the order of grace.

This motherhood of Mary in the order of grace—from the consent which she gave in faith at the annunciation, and which she continued to give unhesitatingly at the foot of the cross—lasts without interruption until all the elect enter into eternal fulfilment. When she was taken up into heaven, she did not lay aside this saving role but she continues by her intercession for all to gain for us the gifts of eternal salvation.

In her maternal love she cares for the brothers and sisters of her Son as they journey on earth in the midst of dangers and hardships, until they are brought safely home to the happiness of heaven.

The Blessed Virgin is thus invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Auxiliatrix, Adjutrix and Mediatrix. These titles must not, however, be understood as in any way detracting from, or adding to, the dignity and effectiveness of Christ, the one Mediator.

No creature can ever be classed as an equal with the incarnate Word, the Redeemer. But just as the priesthood of Christ is shared in various ways by his ministers and his faithful people, and as the goodness of God, one though it is, is, in different ways, really shared with creatures, so also the unique mediation of Christ does not exclude but brings about a variety of shared cooperation, deriving from the one unique source.

The Church does not hesitate to acknowledge this kind of subordinate role in the person of Mary. The Church has continuous experience of its effects, and commends it to the hearts of the faithful, so that they, as they lean on her motherly protection, may be brought into closer union with the Mediator, our Saviour.

## RESPONSORY

R/. Blessed are you among women: you have changed the curse of Eve into a blessing;

\* through you the Father's blessing has shone forth on all

people. Alleluia.

**V/.** Through you your ancestors have found salvation;

**\*** through you the Father's blessing has shone forth on all people. Alleluia.

**Concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer.**

## **Morning Prayer**

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Is 55, 1-3**

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

### **SHORT RESPONSORY**

**R/.** Rejoice full of grace.

**\*** The Lord is with you.

**V/.** You are blessed among all women.

**\*** The Lord is with you.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**R/.** Rejoice full of grace.

**\*** The Lord is with you.

### **CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH**

**Ant.** Let us celebrate with joy Mary, Virgin and Mother; may she intercede for us with our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia.



## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord our God, in your eternal wisdom and love you chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of the author of all grace and as his companion in bringing about the mystery of our redemption. Grant that she may obtain for us graces in abundance and lead us at last to the harbour of eternal salvation.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

## Vespers

## CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** Remember, O Mary, as you stand in the presence of the Lord to speak to him on our behalf. Alleluia.

Concluding Prayer as at Morning Prayer.

May 24

## HOLY MARY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS

### Memorial

From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with psalmody from the day of the week.

## Office of Readings

## SECOND READING

From ‘Lumen Gentium’ the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church of Vatican II (nn. 63-65)

*Mary, Virgin and Mother, Model of the Church*

Her privileged office as Mother of God unites the Blessed Virgin with the Redeemer Son, and together with her singular graces and gifts unites her also in an intimate way with the Church. The Mother of God is a type of the Church, as Saint Ambrose taught, in the order, that is, of faith, love and perfect union with Christ.

In the mystery of the Church, which is itself rightly called mother and virgin, the Blessed Virgin Mary played a leading role, providing an example as virgin and mother in an eminent and unique way. In faith and obedience she brought forth on earth the very Son of the Father; she who knew not man was overshadowed by the Holy Spirit. As a new Eve she believed, not the serpent of old but the messenger of God, with a faith wholly free from doubt. She gave birth to the Son, appointed by God to be *the firstborn among many brothers and sisters*, that is, among those who believe; with a mother's love she co-operates in their birth and development.

The church contemplates the depth of her holiness, imitates her charity and in fidelity brings to completion the Father's will; she herself becomes a mother through the word of God received in faith. Through preaching and by baptism she brings forth to new and everlasting life children conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of God. She is herself a virgin, preserving with integrity and purity the faith she has pledged to her Spouse. She imitates the mother of her Lord, and by the power of the Holy Spirit treasures with virginal purity faith in all its fullness, hope in all its certainty, love in all its sincerity.

In the person of the Blessed Virgin the Church already possesses the perfection by which it stands *without spot or wrinkle*, but the faithful still strive to grow in holiness as they conquer sin. So they lift up their eyes to Mary, shining above the whole community of God's elect as the pattern of virtue. As the Church lovingly reflects on her and contemplates her in the light of the Word made flesh, it reverently enters more deeply

into the surpassing mystery of the incarnation and takes on more and more the likeness of its Spouse.

Mary, because she has entered intimately into the history of salvation, in a certain sense gathers up in her own person the great truths of the faith and awakens their resonance when she is the object of preaching and veneration; she summons the faithful to her Son, to his sacrifice and to the Father's love. In seeking to further the glory of Christ, the Church becomes more and more like Mary, its exalted type, as it continues its progress in faith, hope and charity, seeking and fulfilling the divine will in all things.

So also in its apostolic task the Church rightly looks to the one who bore Christ, Christ who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin in order that he might also be born and grow in the hearts of the faithful. In her whole life this virgin mother showed herself as an example of that motherly love that must animate all who share in the apostolic mission of the Church for the regeneration of humankind.

## RESPONSORY

**R/.** Through the Virgin Mary, the Saviour of the world has appeared to the faithful.

- Her wonderful life is the glory of the whole Church. Alleluia.

**V/.** With great devotion let us celebrate the feast of the Virgin Mary.

- Her wonderful life is the glory of the whole Church. Alleluia

Concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer.

## Morning Prayer

### SCRIPTURE READING

Is. 61, 10

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 justice, as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

### RESPONSORY

**R/.** The Lord has chosen you, and made you his beloved.

**\*** Alleluia, alleluia.

**V/.** He has made you to dwell in his tent, and made you his beloved.

**\*** Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**R/.** The Lord has chosen you, and made you his beloved.

**\*** Alleluia, alleluia.

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

**Ant.** Rejoice, O Virgin Mary: through you, the Lord has freed us from our enemies and shown us mercy. Alleluia.

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord our God, you chose the mother of your beloved Son to be the mother and help of Christians; grant that we may live under her protection and that your Church may enjoy unbroken peace. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one

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God, forever and ever.

## Vespers

### SCRIPTURE READING

Rom. 8, 28-32

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to this purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else?

### SHORT RESPONSORY

R/. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you

\* Alleluia, Alleluia.

V/. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

\* Alleluia, Alleluia.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

R/. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you

• Alleluia, Alleluia.

### CANTICLE OF MARY

Ant. To you do we fly, O Holy Mother of God; through you may we obtain the help of the Lord, Alleluia.

Monday following the Ascension of the Lord

**BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, QUEEN OF APOSTLES**

**Memorial**

From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with psalmody of the day of the week.

**Office of Readings**

From ‘The Treatise on True Devotion to Mary’ by St Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, priest (nn. 55-59)

*Servants and children of Mary*

Those who are consecrated to Jesus through Mary will perceive the splendors of this Queen and give themselves entirely to her service as subjects and slaves of love.

But what will they be like, these servants, these slaves, these children of Mary?

They will be ministers of the Lord who, like a flaming fire, will enkindle everywhere the fires of divine love. They will carry the gold of love in their heart, the frankincense of prayer in their mind and the myrrh of mortification in their body. They will bring to the poor and lowly everywhere the sweet fragrance of Jesus, but they will bring the odor of death to the great, the rich and the proud of this world.

They will be like thunder-clouds flying through the air at the slightest breath of the Holy Spirit. Attached to nothing, sur-

prised at nothing, troubled at nothing, they will shower down the rain of God's word and of eternal life.

They will be true apostles of the latter times to whom the Lord of Hosts will give eloquence and strength to work wonders and carry off glorious spoils from his enemies. They will sleep without gold or silver and, more important still, without concern. Yet they will have the silver wings of the dove enabling them to go wherever the Holy Spirit calls them, filled as they are, with the resolve to seek the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

Lastly, we know they will be true disciples of Jesus Christ imitating his poverty, his humility, his contempt of the world and his love. They will point out the narrow way to God in pure truth according to the holy Gospel and not according to the maxims of the world. They will have the two-edged sword of the Word of God in their mouths and the blood-stained standard of the Cross on their shoulders. They will carry the crucifix in their right hand and the rosary in their left, and the holy names of Jesus and Mary on their hearts. The simplicity and self-sacrifice of Jesus will be reflected in their whole behaviour.

Such are the great men who are to come. By the will of God Mary is to prepare them to extend his rule.

## RESPONSORY

Acts 4, 31.33; 1,14

- R/. The place in which they gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.
- \* All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary, the mother of Jesus. Alleluia.
- V/. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord.
- \* All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer,

together with certain women, including Mary, the mother of Jesus, alleluia.

Concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer.

## Morning Prayer

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

**Ant.** With one heart, the apostles devoted themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary, the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers. Alleluia.

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

O God, you gave the Holy Spirit to your apostles as they joined in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus. By the help of her prayers grant us the gift of serving you faithfully by spreading the glory of your name in our words and actions.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

## Vespers

### CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** When they had finished praying, the place where they were gathered shook; all were filled with the Holy Spirit, and they proclaimed the word of God with boldness. Alleluia.



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Concluding prayer as at Morning prayer.

June 8

**HOLY MARY**  
**SEAT OF WISDOM**  
 Memorial

From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with psalmody from the day of the week.

**Office of Readings**

**SECOND READING**

From ‘The Love of Eternal Wisdom’ by St Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort (nn. 203-205.208)

*Devotion to Mary is a way to acquire divine Wisdom*

The greatest of all means and the most wonderful of all secrets for obtaining and conserving Divine Wisdom is this: a loving and true devotion to the Blessed Virgin.

Mary alone found grace before God for herself and for the whole human family. She alone attracted Eternal Wisdom to become incarnate, and she alone brought Her into the world. Thus one could say that only she, through the action of the Holy Spirit, has the power (in a way of speaking) to “incarnate Her” in predestinate souls.

The patriarchs, the prophets and the saints of the Old Testament yearned, implored, and begged God for the incarnation of Eternal Wisdom, but none of them was able to merit it. Only Mary, by her awe-inspiring virtue, was able to reach the throne of God and merit this infinite blessing. She it was who became

the Mother, the Mistress, and the Throne of Divine Wisdom.

She is Wisdom's most worthy Mother, because she incarnated Her in the world as the fruit of her womb: "Blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus." So wherever Jesus is, in heaven or on earth, in our tabernacles or in our hearts, it can truly be said that he remains in a fundamental relationship to Mary: she alone is the tree of life and he is its sole fruit.

It follows that whoever wants to have this admirable fruit in their heart must have the Tree which produced it:

*Whoever wants to have Jesus must have Mary.*

In a certain way we can say that Mary is also the Mistress of Divine Wisdom — not that she is above Divine Wisdom, who is true God, or that she is the equal of Wisdom (it would be blasphemous to believe that or to teach it), but because God the Son, Eternal Wisdom, submitted himself perfectly to her as to his Mother. In so acting, he gave her for all eternity a kind of natural maternal power over him (to us it seems beyond comprehension), not just for the duration of his earthly life, but even in heaven — for not only does glory not destroy nature, but indeed it perfects nature.

Thus Jesus remains the child of Mary as much as ever in heaven, and Mary in turn remains the mother of Jesus. In this capacity, she has power over him, and he submits to her in a certain way, because he wills it. Thus Mary by her powerful prayers and her divine maternity, obtains whatever she wants from Jesus; she gives him to whomever she wishes; and she brings him forth everyday in souls, as she wishes.

Moreover, Mary is the royal throne of Eternal Wisdom. In Mary She manifests her grandeurs and displays her treasures; in her She takes Her delight. There is no place in heaven or on earth where Eternal Wisdom reveals so much magnificence and takes so much pleasure as in the incomparable Mary. This is why the holy Fathers call her the Sanctuary of the Divinity, the

Repose and Contentment of the Holy Trinity, the Throne of God, the City of God, the Altar of God, the Temple of God, the World of God, the Paradise of God. All these titles and praises are true, with respect to the different marvels that the Most High has worked in Mary.

So it is through Mary alone that we can obtain Wisdom.

## RESPONSORY

- R/.** Blessed are you, O holy Virgin Mary, and worthy of all praise.  
**\*** from you was born the Sun of Justice, Christ the Saviour (Alleluia).  
**V/.** We celebrate your memory with joy, O Virgin Mary.  
**\*** from you was born the sun of justice, Christ the Saviour (Alleluia).

Concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer.

## Morning Prayer

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

**Ant.** O glorious woman, Mother of God, shine forth for us as a star of faithfulness to God (Alleluia).

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

God of wisdom, in your desire to restore us to your friendship after we had lost it by sin, you chose the Blessed Virgin Mary as the seat of your Wisdom. Grant through her intercession that we may not seek the wisdom of the proud but with humility, treasure your revealed wisdom. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

## **Vespers**

### **CANTICLE OF MARY**

**Ant.** Jesus made himself obedient, Mary declared herself the handmaid of the Lord. May the world experience their love (Alleluia).

**Concluding Prayer as at Morning Prayer.**

July 16

### **OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL**

**Memorial**

All as in the Roman Office.

August 13

### **HOLY MARY REFUGE OF SINNERS**

**Optional Memorial**

**From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with psalmody from the day of the week.**

## **Office of Readings**

### **SECOND READING**

From the Discourses of St Thomas á Kempis  
(Serm. ad nov. 23: Opera Omnia, ed. M.I. Pohl,  
Friburgi Brisgavorum 1906, VII, 218-225)

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*Mary pleads for mercy for all*

Service of Mary ought not to be either too long or too burdensome. Indeed, it should be a pleasure and a cause of joy to serve with heart and voice such a patroness as she. Such service will never be without a great reward, even though the burden of honouring her seems to have been so slight. She knows only too well that we cannot give very much, and our merciful Sovereign, our tender Queen does not demand the impossible from her subjects. How many would have been eternally lost, how many would have remained prisoners of desperation, had not the most gentle Virgin Mary interceded in their favour with prayer to her Son. Rightly, therefore, she is called ‘She who has compassion’ on the unhappy, the helper of all sinners. When she asks service of us, it is our good that she seeks; when she asks that we pay her honour, it is our salvation that she ardently desires. When she sees that her name is honoured, she takes this as an opportunity to pour out benefits upon us.

She is moved by the tears of those in misery, shares the sufferings of the troubled; she makes herself present in the trials of those who are tempted, she hears the requests of the devout. If anyone should seek refuge in her and invoke her sweet and glorious name without hesitation and in all humility, such a one will never leave her with empty hands. Mary has many loyal servants, and the choirs of angels obey her, and these she can send to the aid of those who are helpless. She commands even the demons, since they will not dare to molest any of those who trust themselves to her rule and to her care. Evil spirits are terrified of the Queen of Heaven, and when they hear her holy name, they flee as one flees from a fire.

Thus the name of Mary deserves to be honoured by all the faithful, ever loved by the devout, held in highest affection by religious, recommended to the laity, taught to sinners, offered to those who suffer, invoked in every danger. Mary is so close to God, and so beloved of the Son of God born of her, the blessed Jesus, that she may intercede for the suffering children of Adam in certain knowledge that she will be heard, so that the Lord will pardon their sins and will comfort them in trials.

In fact, whenever opportunity arises, she does not hesitate to whisper a good word in the ear of her Son, asking mercy for as many as have need of it. So then, in every cause entrusted to her, Mary's plea is heard immediately because of the singular honour which is due to her; for Jesus, her most beloved Son and Saviour of the human race, honours his Mother, and denies her nothing.

Because of all this, any faithful and devout person who wishes to escape from the shipwreck of this world and to reach the harbour of eternal salvation, should take refuge in Mary, our holy Sovereign Lady; she makes sinners feel her ineffable goodness with more sweetness, and touches their hearts with more strength, so that one can confidently expect an ever greater generosity from her.

## RESPONSORY

**R/.** Blessed are you among women: you have transformed the curse of Eve into a blessing.

**\*** Thanks to you, the blessing of the Father has shone forth on all people.

**V/.** Let us celebrate with joy the memory of the Virgin Mary.

**\*** Thanks to you, the blessing of the Father has shone forth on all people.

## Morning Prayer

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

**Ant.** Behold, the Mother of Mercy, the Help of Sinners, the Hope of the Weak.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord our God, through the blood of your Son you reconciled

the world to yourself and at the foot of his cross you chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of reconciliation for sinners; grant through her intercession that we may obtain pardon for our sins. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

## Vespers

### CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** O Mary, all generations shall call you blessed; through your prayers God remembers mercy.

September 29

### SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL and RAPHAEL,

Archangels

(Saint Gabriel: Secondary Patron  
of the Brothers of Saint Gabriel)

Feast

As in the Roman Office, except:

## Office of Readings

### FIRST READING

Dan. 9, 19-28

“O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord listen and act and do not delay, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people bear your name!”

While I was speaking, and was praying and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God on behalf of the holy mountain of my God — while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen before in a vision, came to me in swift flight at the time of the evening sacrifice. He came and said to me, “Daniel, I have now come out to give you wisdom and under-

standing. At the beginning of your supplications a word went out, and I have come to declare it, for you are greatly beloved. So consider the word and understand the vision:

“Seventy weeks are decreed for your people and your holy city: to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place. Know therefore and understand: from the time that the word went out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the time of an anointed prince, there shall be seven weeks; and for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with streets and moat, but in a troubled time. After the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing, and the troops of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed. He shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall make sacrifice and offering cease; and in their place shall be an abomination that desolates, until the decreed end is poured out upon the desolator.”

## RESPONSORY

**R/.** In the presence of the angels I will bless you, I will adore before your holy temple.

**\*** and I will praise your name, O Lord.

**V/.** Great is your mercy and truth, for your holy name is exalted among us.

**\*** and I will praise your name, O Lord.

October 11

**HOLY MARY  
MOTHER OF THE CHURCH**

**Memorial**



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From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with psalmody from the day of the week.

## Office of Readings

### 2<sup>nd</sup> READING

From ‘The Treatise on True Devotion to Mary’ by St Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, priest (nn. 31-33)

*Head and members are born from the same mother*

God, the Son, wishes to form himself, and, in a manner of speaking, become incarnate every day in his members through his dear Mother. To her he said, “Take Israel for your inheritance.” It is as if he said, God the Father has given me as heritage all the nations of the earth, all people good and evil, predestinate and reprobate. To the good I shall be father and advocate, to the bad a just avenger, but to all I shall be a judge. But you, my dear Mother, will have for your heritage and possession only the predestinate represented by Israel. As their loving mother, you will give them birth, feed them and rear them. As their queen, you will lead, govern and defend them.

“This one and that one were born in her.” (Ps 87:5) According to the explanation of some of the Fathers, the first human born of Mary is God-made-man, Jesus Christ. The second is simply human, child of God and Mary by adoption. If Jesus Christ, the head of humankind, is born of her, the predestinate, who are members of this head, must also as a necessary consequence be born of her.

One and the same mother does not give birth to the head without the members nor to the members without the head, for these would be monsters in the order of nature. In the order of grace likewise the head and the members are born of the same mother. If a member of the mystical body of Christ, that is, one of the predestinate, were born of a mother other than Mary who gave birth to the head, he would not be one of the predestinate, nor a member of Jesus Christ, but a monster in the order of grace.

Moreover, Jesus is still as much as ever the fruit of Mary, as heaven and earth repeat thousands of times a day, "Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus." It is therefore certain that Jesus is the fruit and gift of Mary for every single person who possesses him, just as truly as he is for all humankind. Consequently, if any of the faithful have Jesus formed in their heart they can boldly say, "It is thanks to Mary that what I possess is Jesus, her fruit, and without her I would not have him." We can attribute more truly to her what St. Paul said of himself, "I am in labor again with all the children of God until Jesus Christ, my Son, is formed in them to the fullness of his age." St. Augustine, surpassing himself as well as all that I have said so far, affirms that in order to be conformed to the image of the Son of God all the predestinate, while in the world, are hidden in the womb of the Blessed Virgin where they are protected, nourished, cared for and developed by this good Mother, until the day she brings them forth to a life of glory after death, which the Church calls the birthday of the just. This is indeed a mystery of grace unknown to the reprobate and little known even to the predestinate!

or

From the discourse of Pope Paul VI, 21<sup>st</sup> of November, 1964

### *Mary, Mother of the Church*

To the glory of the Virgin Mary, and for our comforting, we proclaim Mary as the most holy Mother of the Church, that is, of the whole People of God, faithful and shepherds alike, who call her Mother most beloved; and we desire that from henceforth the Virgin may be even more highly honoured and invoked by all Christian people under this sweetest of titles. We treat of a title which is not new to Christian piety; indeed, in preference to all others, it is with this very name of Mother that the faithful and the whole Church habitually ad-

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dress themselves to Mary. This name belongs to the genuine substance of devotion to Mary, finding its justification in Mary's dignity as Mother of the Incarnate Word.

Just as the divine maternity of Mary is the basis of her special relationship with Christ, and of her role in the economy of salvation accomplished by Jesus Christ, so too it constitutes the principal basis of the relationship between Mary and the Church, since she is Mother of Him who, from the first moment of the Incarnation in her virginal womb, united to himself as Head his mystical body which is the Church. Mary, then, as Mother of Christ, is Mother also of all the faithful and their shepherds, that is, of the Church.

And so, with soul filled with faith and filial love, we lift our gaze to her, despite our unworthiness and weakness. She who gave us in Jesus the source of grace will not cease to succour the Church which now, flourishing with the abundance of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, sets out with new strength in its mission for salvation.

Our faith is further enlivened and strengthened when we consider how close are the links which bind our heavenly Mother to the human race. For despite the riches of the marvellous graces with which God honoured her to make her worthy to be the Mother of the Incarnate Word, she is still very close to us. She is a child of Adam like us, and thus our sister through the bonds of nature; but she is the creature preserved from original sin in view of the merits of the Saviour, and to those privileges already attained she adds a personal virtue, total and exemplary faith, and merits the gospel blessing 'Blessed is she who believed'. In her earthly life, she became the perfect image of a disciple of Christ, mirror of every virtue, and incarnated the gospel beatitudes proclaimed by Christ. Thus the whole Church, in all its incomparable variety of life and work, touches in her the most authentic form of the perfect imitation of Christ.

## RESPONSORY

**R/.** Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary: you bore the Creator of the World.

**\*** You gave life to him who made you, and remain a virgin forever.

**V/.** Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

**\*** You gave life to him who made you, and remain a virgin forever.

**Concluding Prayer as at Morning Prayer.**

### **Morning Prayer**

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

**Ant.** The apostles, with one accord, devoted themselves to prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

God of mercy, your only Son, while hanging on the cross, appointed the Blessed Virgin Mary, his mother, to be our mother also. Like her, and under her loving care, may your Church grow day by day, rejoice in the holiness of its children, and so attract to itself all the peoples of the earth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

### **Vespers**

## CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** Jesus said to his mother: ‘Woman, behold your son!’ And to the disciple whom he loved: ‘Behold your mother!’

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## Concluding Prayer as at Morning Prayer.

Saturday after the 2nd Sunday in November

### HOLY MARY MOTHER OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE Memorial

From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with psalmody from the day of the week.

#### Office of Readings

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> READING

From the “Letter to the Members of the Company of Mary” by St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort (nn. 1-4)

*Have every faith in God, through Mary*

1. “Fear not, little flock, because it has pleased your Father to bestow a kingdom on you” (Lk. 12, 32). Fear not, although, humanly speaking, you have every cause for fear. You are only a little flock, so few in numbers that a child can count you. Ranged in opposition against you are nations, worldlings, misers, pleasure-seekers and profligates, all banded together in their thousands ready to fight you with mockery, calumnies, contempt and violence. (cf. Ps 2, 2).

2. You are of little account. They are influential. You are poor. They are rich. You have no influence. They have the backing of all who matter. You are weak. They are people in positions of authority. But let me repeat: *Have no fear, at least, no deliberate fear.* Listen to Jesus Christ who tells you: *It is I, do not be afraid. It is I who have chosen you. I am your good shepherd and I know you for my sheep* (cf. Mt 14, 27; Jn 15, 16; 10, 14).

*Do not be surprised if the world hates you, (1Jn 3:13), but know that it began by hating me. (Jn 15,18).* If you belonged to the world, it would hold you dear as something of its very own but, because you do not belong to the world, you must endure its hatred, calumnies, insults, contempt and outrages.

3. *I am your protector and your bulwark.* (Gn 15, 1), I hold you in my hands, little company, says our Eternal Father, *I have carved you on my heart and on the palms of my hands* (Is 49, 16), in order to cherish and defend you because you have put your trust in me and not in humanity, in my Providence and not in wealth. I will deliver you from the snares they set for you, from the calumnies they spread about you, from the terrors of the night and from the devil who roams at noonday to seduce you.

I will shelter you under my wings, I will carry you on my shoulders. I will provide your sustenance. I will arm you with my truth and you will find it such a powerful weapon that you will see with your very own eyes your enemies falling by the thousands around you: a thousand wicked paupers on your left hand and ten thousand evil rich on your right. You yourselves have nothing to fear from my avenging power. It will not even come near you.

You will trample on the asp and on the basilisk with all its envy and calumny. You will crush underfoot the lion and the dragon of un-godliness with its proud fury. I will hear you when you pray and I will be at your side when you suffer. I will deliver you from all the evils that beset you. All the glory that I have will be yours and will be revealed to you after I have given you length of days and abundant blessings upon earth.

4. Dear little Company of Mary, these are the marvelous promises which God has made to you through his prophets. They will be yours provided you put all your trust in him through Mary.

Entirely dependent as you are on the Providence of God, it is for him to support you and to increase your numbers, saying to you, *"Increase and multiply and fill the earth"* (Gen. 1:28). Do not, therefore, be discouraged because you are few in number. It is for God to be your defender, so do not be afraid of your enemies. It is for God to provide all that is necessary for your bodily needs. Do not, then, be afraid that you will go short of the necessities of life in these hard times which are hard only because people do not have enough trust in God. It is God who will glorify you, and have no fear that anyone will take this glory from you. In a word, fear nothing whatsoever and sleep in peace in your Father's arms.

## RESPONSORY

**R/.** How should we sing your praises, O Holy Virgin Mary?

**\*** For you have carried in your womb him whom the heavens cannot contain.

**V/.** Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

**\*** For you have carried in your womb him whom the heavens cannot contain.

**Concluding Prayer as at Morning Prayer.**

## Morning Prayer

## CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

**Ant.** O glorious Woman, from you the sun which lightens the world is risen; through you the earth shines with light, and the darkness is clothed with splendour.

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Lord our God, your loving providence is always wise and unfailing; through the prayers of the Blessed Virgin, mother of your Son, remove from us all that would harm us and grant us all that will be for our good. We make our prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

## Vespers

## CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** O Virgin Mary, the Holy Spirit has found a home in you and achieved a singular miracle in the fruit of your womb.

November 27

## OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

### Optional Memorial

From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with psalmody from the day of the week.

## Office of Readings

## SECOND READING

From ‘The Treatise on True Devotion to Mary’ by St Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, priest (nn. 52-53)

*Mary has become cause of salvation  
for herself and for all her children*



God has established only one enmity — but it is an irreconcilable one which will last and even go on increasing to the end of time. That enmity is between Mary, his worthy Mother, and the devil, between the children and the servants of the Blessed Virgin and the children and followers of Lucifer.

Thus the most fearful enemy that God has set up against the devil is Mary, his holy Mother. From the time of the earthly paradise, although she existed then only in his mind, he gave her such a hatred for his accursed enemy, such ingenuity in exposing the wickedness of the ancient serpent and such power to defeat, overthrow and crush this proud rebel, that Satan fears her not only more than angels and humanity but in a certain sense more than God himself. This does not mean that the anger, hatred and power of God are not infinitely greater than the Blessed Virgin's, since her attributes are limited. It simply means that Satan, being so proud, suffers infinitely more in being vanquished and punished by a lowly and humble servant of God, for her humility humiliates him more than the power of God. More over, God has given Mary such a great power over the evil spirits that, as they have often been forced unwillingly to admit through the lips of possessed persons, they fear one of her pleadings for a soul more than the prayers of all the saints, and one of her threats more than all their other torments.

What Lucifer lost by pride Mary won by humility. What Eve ruined and lost by disobedience, Mary saved by obedience. By obeying the serpent, Eve ruined her children as well as herself and delivered them up to him. Mary by her perfect fidelity to God saved her children with herself and consecrated them to his divine majesty.

**RESPONSORY**

**cf. Rv. 12, 1; Is. 61, 10**

**R/.** A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet.

**\*** And on her head a crown of twelve stars.

**V/.** He has clothed me with the garments of salvation

\* And on her head a crown of twelve stars.

Concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer.

## **Morning Prayer**

### **CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH**

**Ant.** In Mary, God has accomplished his plan of salvation and his wonders.

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

Almighty and eternal God, you gave the Blessed Virgin Mary, glorious mother of your Son, as a pillar of strength to all who call upon her aid; grant through her intercession that we may be strong in faith, unwavering in hope, and steadfast in love. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

## **Vespers**

### **CANTICLE OF MARY**

**Ant.** Whoever finds me finds life and will obtain the salvation of the Lord.

Concluding prayer as at Morning Prayer.

December 10

## **OUR LADY OF LORETTO**

Optional Memorial for the Company of Mary

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From the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with psalmody from the day of the week.

## Office of Readings

### SECOND READING

From ‘The Treatise on True Devotion to Mary’ by St Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, priest (nn. 16. 20-21)

*The Son of God became flesh,  
in Mary and through Mary*

God the Father gave his only Son to the world only through Mary. Whatever desires the patriarchs may have cherished, whatever entreaties the prophets and saints of the Old Law may have made for 4,000 years to obtain that treasure, it was Mary alone who merited it and found grace before God by the power of her prayers and the perfection of her virtues. “The world being unworthy,” said St. Augustine, “to receive the Son of God directly from the hands of the Father, he gave his son to Mary for the world to receive him from her.”

The Son of God became flesh for our salvation but only in Mary and through Mary.

God the Holy Spirit formed Jesus Christ in Mary but only after having asked her consent through one of the chief ministers of his court. [. . .]

God the Holy Spirit, who does not produce any divine person, became fruitful through Mary whom he espoused. It was with her, in her and of her that he produced his masterpiece, God made-flesh, and that he produces every day until the end of the world the members of the body of this adorable Head. For this reason, the more he finds Mary his dear and inseparable spouse in a soul, the more powerful and effective he be-

comes in producing Jesus Christ in that soul and that soul in Jesus Christ.

This does not mean that the Blessed Virgin confers on the Holy Spirit a fruitfulness which he does not already possess. Being God, he has the ability to produce just like the Father and the Son, although he does not use this power and so does not produce another divine person. But it does mean that the Holy Spirit chose to make use of our Blessed Lady, although he had no absolute need of her, in order to become actively fruitful in producing Jesus Christ and his members in her and by her. This is a mystery of grace unknown even to many of the most learned and spiritual of Christians.

## RESPONSORY

Lk. 1, 28

**R/.** Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary: you bore the Creator of the World.

**\*** You gave life to him who made you, and remain a virgin forever.

**V/.** Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

**\*** You gave life to him who made you and remain a virgin forever.

## Morning Prayer

### CANTICLE OF ZECHARIAH

**Ant.** The gate of heaven was closed because of Eve; it has been reopened by Mary, the Mother of the Lord.

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

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O God, you chose that by the message of an angel your Word should take flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Grant that we who believe that she is the Mother of God may receive the help of her prayers. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

## Vespers

### CANTICLE OF MARY

**Ant.** Blessed are you, O Mary, for you believed; in you, the word of the Lord is fulfilled.

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## RITE OF FUNERALS FOR MEMBERS OF THE MONTFORTIAN FAMILY

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All follows the ritual indicated in the Order of Christian Funerals, Part I, Chapter 3.

### 1. BEFORE THE PROCESSION TO THE CHURCH

During the Reception of the Body, before the procession into the church, one of the following prayers may be used in place of those suggested in the Order of Christian Funerals:

#### For a deceased Brother or Priest

O God, you are the reward of your servants;  
look with kindness upon our brother **N.**  
who worked (as a priest) to spread the Gospel,  
under the guidance of the Virgin Mary  
and following the example of St Louis de Montfort;  
clothe him now in a wedding garment,  
and welcome him to your table in the Kingdom of Heaven.  
We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

God our Father,  
we pray to you for our brother **N.**  
who dedicated his life (as a priest)  
to the proclamation of the Gospel;  
now that he has fought the good fight,  
has run the race, and has kept the faith,

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grant him the reward of his labours in the heavenly Jerusalem,  
in communion with the Virgin Mary, the Apostles, and all your  
saints.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Father,

in baptism you joined our brother **N.**

to the mystery of Christ.

Through the intercession of the Virgin Mary

who taught and sustained him

in faith and in apostolic charity,

grant that he may share in the fullness of eternal life.

We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

God and Father of mercy,

open the gates of your kingdom to **N.** our brother (and priest),

whom you mystically joined to the death and resurrection of  
your Son through the washing of baptism.

You consecrated him by the anointing of the Spirit

for the proclamation of the Gospel.

Grant that he may behold the light of your face forever,

in company with the Virgin Mary and all the Saints

through Christ our Lord.

O God,

you call all who have shared the death of Christ through bap-  
tism to share also in his resurrection and joy.

Open the doors of your heavenly home to **N.** our brother,

who consecrated himself to you in our religious family;

through the prayers of the Virgin Mary,

grant that he may drink forever from the fountain of life,

and ever behold the light of your face,

through Christ our Lord.

**For a deceased Sister**

O God of faithfulness,

you hasten to make yourself known to those who desire you.  
Under the guidance of the Virgin Mary and following the  
example of St. Louis de Montfort and Blessed Marie Louise,  
our sister N. sought the ways of wisdom.  
Welcome her now to the banquet of Christ Wisdom,  
to whom she dedicated her life  
in service to her neighbor,  
through the same Christ our Lord.

O God,  
you call all who have shared the death of Christ through  
baptism to share also in his resurrection and joy.  
Open the doors of your heavenly home to N. our sister,  
who consecrated herself to you in our religious family;  
through the prayers of the Virgin Mary,  
grant that she may drink forever from the fountain of life,  
and ever behold the light of your face,  
Through Christ our Lord.

Lord Jesus,  
you unite your life with ours through the mystery of Baptism,  
sign and sacrament of your death and resurrection.  
Grant that our sister N.,  
who consecrated herself in the service of your Church,  
may share in the blessings of your house  
where the light of your face shines forever,  
you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
forever and ever.

## 2. THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

According to custom, the deceased is placed in the church according to their usual place in the liturgical assembly: non-ordained brothers and sisters face the altar, priests and deacons face the assembly. The Paschal Candle is placed at the head of the bier. This is a symbol of the light of the Risen Christ who



illuminates all the baptised, and in whom the deceased trusted and hoped. An open Gospel Book (or a Lectionary) may be placed on the coffin. This is a symbol of the Word of Life, which has guided the life and work of the deceased.

For priests, for religious in the order of deacons, for a religious brother or sister, one of the pertinent Mass formularies from the Roman Missal is used.

Biblical texts for the Liturgy of the Word should be chosen from the Lectionary (Ritual Masses: for the Dead) or from the Order of Christian Funerals. Three readings may be used, taking the first from the Old Testament. During Easter season, the first reading should also be taken from the New Testament.

After the proclamation of the Gospel, a homily should be given which reflects the biblical texts and prayers used during the Mass. A eulogy of the deceased, commenting on his or her life and works, may be given most fittingly after the post-communion prayer and before the final commendation.

## **A. Prayer of the Faithful**

### **Invitation to Prayer**

Brothers and sisters, with faith in Christ our Saviour, who lives forever to intercede on our behalf, let us offer our prayers to God.

*or*

Brothers and sisters, secure in the knowledge that none of the baptised live or die for themselves, since they are eternally united to Christ in his Church, let us offer our prayers to our heavenly Father.

The following prayer, or another similar one, may be sung or said:

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*R/. Hear us, O Lord, God of Life.*

### Intercessions

The most suitable of the following prayers should be chosen; it is recommended that they are prepared in advance to be appropriate to the situation.

1. For the Holy Church – that she may preach with apostolic boldness the Paschal Mystery of Christ, who was crucified and rose again for the life of the world: let us pray to the Lord:

#### For a Priest or a Brother

- 2/A. For **N.** our brother, that the seed of the resurrection, received at Baptism and nourished by the Eucharist, may bear fruit in the fullness of glory: let us pray to the Lord:

For **N.** our brother, may the Lord accept from the hands of our brother **N.** that offering which he made throughout his life in service of the Gospel: let us pray to the Lord:

(For a priest) For **N.** our brother, may he receive in the heavenly sanctuary the rewards of the priestly ministry which he fulfilled in service of the People of God: let us pray to the Lord:

(For a priest) For **N.** our brother, may he now share fully in the grace of those holy mysteries which he preached and celebrated among us during his priestly ministry: let us pray to Lord:

- 2/B May the apostolic labours endured by our brother **N.** during his life as a missionary in ..... receive an eternal blessing in the heavenly Jerusalem: let us pray to the Lord:

## For a Sister

- 2/A. For **N.** our sister, that the seed of the resurrection, received at Baptism and nourished by the Eucharist, may bear fruit in the fullness of glory: let us pray to the Lord:

For **N.** our sister, may Christ recognise in her a disciple of Wisdom, and receive her into the communion of his household: let us pray to the Lord:

May Christ Wisdom, whose path our sister **N.** followed on earth, grant her the unsearchable riches of the divine mysteries in heaven: let us pray to the Lord:

For **N.** our sister, since she walked in this world as a daughter of the Wisdom who comes from on high, may she be seated with joy at the banquet of the Kingdom: let us pray to the Lord:

- 2/B May the time dedicated by **N.** our sister to the education of the young (the service of the poor; the care of the sick...) find eternal blessing in the heavenly Jerusalem: let us pray to the Lord:

3. For all deceased members of the Montfortian family: may the Lord reunite them in the joyful communion of the Saints, in the company of the Virgin Mary, of St. Louis de Montfort and Blessed Marie Louise: let us pray to the Lord:
4. For all our deceased relatives, friends and benefactors: that remembering their goodness to us, we may learn to live for the sake of the new heavens and the new earth which God prepares for those who love him: let us pray to the Lord:

5. For all those who work for the healing of body and soul – may the Lord reward their service of Jesus present in those who suffer: let us pray to the Lord:

For the young – may the hearts of young people, called by the Lord to the consecrated life, always be ready to respond and be generous in service: let us pray to the Lord.

6. For ourselves – that, receiving the traditions passed on to us by those who have gone before us in faith, we may let ourselves be led by the Spirit of God along the paths of true Wisdom: let us pray to the Lord:

### Concluding Prayer

O God, source of true life,  
hear the prayers which in faith we offer you  
in the name of Jesus your Son,  
made flesh from the Virgin.  
Grant us our blessed hope  
which is to live eternally with you,  
through him who lives and reigns forever and ever.

or

Father of infinite goodness,  
hear the prayers of this family gathered in your name.  
Grant that our faith in the death and resurrection of your Son,  
may shine forth in a life open to hope  
in the new heavens and the new earth you have promised.  
We make our prayer through Christ the Lord.

### B. Final Commendation and Committal

The meaning of the rite does not signify a kind of purification of the deceased; that is what the eucharistic sacrifice accomplishes. Rather, it stands as a farewell by which the Christian community together pays respect to one of its members before

the body is removed or buried. Death always has involved an element of separation, but Christians, as Christ's members, are one in him, and not even death can part them from each other. The priest's opening words are to introduce and explain this rite, a few moments of silence are to follow, then the sprinkling with holy water and the incensation, then a song of farewell. Not only is it useful for all to sing this song, composed of a pertinent text set to a suitable melody, but all should have the sense of its being the high point of the entire rite. (Order of Christian Funerals, 1969. Praenotanda §.10)

For the Final Commendation and Committal, either the Order of Christian Funerals, or the adapted rite which follows here, may be used.

After the Post-communion prayer, a eulogy of the deceased, with comments on his or her life and work may be given.

The Presider, with the ministers holding the holy water and incense alongside him, turns to the assembly, and addresses them in these or in similar words.

### For a Deceased Priest or Brother

We have celebrated the Eucharist for our brother **N.**, who has fallen asleep in the Lord. Let us now take our leave of him before we entrust his body to the earth, to await the glorious day of the resurrection, when the Lord Jesus will come on the clouds of heaven to awaken all those who sleep in the dust, and to gather all the redeemed into the Kingdom of his Father.

Remembering the gifts which the Lord granted him, the good he has worked in the Church, the moments of joy and sadness in his life, and his sharing in the vocation of service to the gospel after the example of St. Louis de Montfort and Blessed Marie Louise, let us now entrust him to the Father of mercies with all faith. Let us also beseech the Virgin Mary, who taught him the sincere love of Christ her Son, that she may

take him by the hand, and lead him to the throne of the crucified and risen Lamb, from whom gush the inexhaustible living waters of the Spirit.

All pray in silence for a few moments.

#### For a Deceased Sister

We have celebrated the Eucharist for our sister **N.**, who has fallen asleep in the Lord. Let us now take our leave of her before we entrust her body to the earth, to await the glorious day of the resurrection, when the Lord Jesus will come on the clouds of heaven to awaken all those who sleep in the dust, and to gather all the redeemed into the Kingdom of his Father.

Remembering the gifts which the Lord granted her, the good she has worked in the service of her sisters and brothers, the moments of joy and sadness in her life, and her chosen vocation of consecration to Christ after the example of St. Louis de Montfort and Blessed Marie Louise, let us now entrust her to the Father of mercies with all faith. May the Virgin Mary, who like a mother has guided her in her search for Wisdom, now lead her into the wedding feast of eternal Wisdom.

All pray in silence for a few moments.

The Song of Farewell is then begun. During or after this song, the coffin is sprinkled with holy water and incensed.

The Presider concludes with one of the following prayers:

#### For a Priest

God, our Creator and our Father,  
by the cross of your Son you free us from death  
and in the breath of your Spirit you give us eternal life.  
Welcome our brother **N.** into the Kingdom of heaven.

You consecrated him as a minister of the Gospel  
and dispenser of the sacred mysteries,  
give him now the place which you have prepared for him  
since the foundation of the world;  
pardon his sins,  
let him drink from the springs of life,  
clothe him in the light which never fades,  
grant him the inheritance you promised,  
make him part of the choir of Saints,  
so that, in company with the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
he may sing of your mercy forever.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### For a Brother

God, our Creator and our Father,  
by the cross of your Son you free us from death  
and in the breath of your Spirit you give us eternal life.  
Welcome our brother **N.** into the Kingdom of heaven.  
You inspired him in this life  
to follow the gospel way of blessedness,  
give him now the place which you have prepared for him  
since the foundation of the world;  
pardon his sins,  
let him drink from the springs of life,  
clothe him in the light which never fades,  
grant him the inheritance you promised,  
make him part of the choir of Saints,  
so that, in company with the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
he may sing of your mercy forever.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### For a Sister

God, our Creator and our Father,  
by the cross of your Son you free us from death  
and in the breath of your Spirit you give us eternal life.  
Welcome our sister **N.** into the Kingdom of heaven.

You inspired her in this life  
to follow the paths of gospel wisdom;  
now open to her the doors of the heavenly marriage feast.  
Pardon her sins,  
and keep before your eyes her acts of love.  
Let her drink from the springs of life,  
clothe her in the light which never fades,  
grant her the inheritance you promised,  
make her part of the choir of Saints,  
so that, in communion with Mary, blessed among women,  
she may sing of your mercy forever.  
Through Christ our Lord.

At the conclusion of the prayer, the coffin is carried from the church for burial. One or more of the following antiphons may be sung with verses from the psalms (see the Order of Christian Funerals).

May the angels lead you into Paradise;  
may the martyrs come to welcome you  
and take you to the holy city,  
the new and eternal Jerusalem.

or

May choirs of angels welcome you,  
and lead you to the bosom of Abraham,  
and where Lazarus is poor no longer  
may you find eternal rest.

or

I am the Resurrection and the Life.  
If anyone believes in me, even though they die, they shall live;  
and whoever lives and believes in me  
will never die.



### 3. AT THE CEMETERY

The Rite follows either the Order of Christian Funerals, or the adaptation suggested here.

When the procession arrives at the entrance to the cemetery, or while the coffin is lowered into the grave, or at another opportune moment, the following prayer may be said:

As we now commit to its resting place the body of our brother/sister **N.** whom God has called to himself, let us profess our faith that Christ, the first-born from the dead, will transform our mortal bodies into the image of his glorious body: may the Lord Jesus receive his/her soul into eternal rest and raise up his/her body again on the last day.

After this, the one presiding may invite those present to recite the Creed. Some or all of the following intercessions may then be used.

For the Deceased Brother/Sister

Brothers and sisters, let us pray to God, the Father of mercy, for this our brother/sister, as we say together:

*R/. Hear us as we pray to you, O Lord.*

- Lord, you sealed this brother/sister of ours for eternal life in the font at baptism; absolve him/her from all his/her sins: **R/.**
- Grant that our brother/sister, whom you anointed at Confirmation, may rejoice in the love of the Spirit: **R/.**
- You nourished our brother/sister with the Body and Blood of your Son at the eucharistic table, grant him/her a place in the eternal Paschal feast: **R/.**
- Grant to our brother/sister, who laboured for the proclamation of the Gospel, the reward you have promised to your faithful servants: **R/.**

- Welcome into the communion of Saints this brother/sister of ours, who carried in his/her heart the seal of love for the Mother of your Son: **R/**.

### **For All the Deceased**

Let us pray also to God the Father for all our brothers and sisters, who have died in the peace of Christ:

**R/**. *Hear us as we pray to you, O Lord.*

- in your mercy, forgive them their sins: **R/**.
- in your goodness, remember their good works: **R/**.
- in your kindness, open to them the gates of the heavenly sanctuary: **R/**.
- in your love, grant them everlasting blessedness: **R/**.

### **For Ourselves**

Let us pray to God our Father for ourselves, still pilgrims in this world:

**R/**. *Hear us as we pray to you, O Lord.*

- may your presence be with us in every hour of our lives: **R/**.
- confirm us in a generous response of holy service: **R/**.
- purify our faith from every worldly weakness: **R/**.
- renew in us the hope which springs from the cross: **R/**.
- strengthen us in active charity: **R/**.
- lift up our hearts in the desire for heaven: **R/**.

**The one who presides concludes with the following prayer, or with one chosen from the selection given at no.1:**

O God, whose days are without end  
and whose mercies beyond counting,  
keep us mindful  
that life is short and the hour of death unknown.  
Let your Spirit guide our days on earth

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in the ways of holiness and justice,  
that we may serve you  
in union with the whole Church,  
sure in faith, strong in hope, united in love.  
And when our earthly journey is ended,  
lead us rejoicing together with all our beloved departed ones  
into your kingdom,  
where you live and reign forever and ever.

**V/.** Eternal rest grant unto him/her, O Lord.

**R/.** And let perpetual light shine upon him/her.

**The Salve Regina may be sung or recited.**

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## PRAYERS

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### 1. PRAYERS OF SAINT LOUIS-MARIE DE MONTFORT

#### **MONTFORT'S PRAYER TO OBTAIN THE GIFT OF DIVINE WISDOM**

O God of my Fathers, Lord of mercy,  
Spirit of truth, I a mere worm  
of the earth, prostrate before your divine Majesty,  
acknowledging the great need that I have  
of your divine Wisdom  
which I have lost by my sins,  
and trusting in the unfailing promise you have made  
to all those who ask you with confidence.  
I come before you today and beg this grace of you  
with all possible earnestness and the deepest humility.  
Send us, O Lord,  
this Wisdom ever near your throne,  
to strengthen our weakness, to enlighten our minds,  
to inflame our hearts;  
to speak and act,  
to work and suffer in union with you,  
to direct our footsteps and to fill our souls  
with the virtues of Jesus Christ  
and the gifts of the Holy Spirit,  
for Wisdom alone contains all good.  
O Father of Mercy, O God of all consolation,  
grant us, we beseech you, this infinite  
treasure of your divine Wisdom,  
through the merciful heart of Mary,  
through the Precious Blood of your dear Son,  
and through your intense desire

to bestow your gifts on your poor creatures;  
hear and grant our prayers.  
Amen.

## PRAYER FOR MISSIONARIES

1. *Memento, Domine!* Remember, Lord, your Congregation which you have possessed from all eternity. You have made it your own from the beginning, when your mind dwelt on it before time began. You made it your own from the beginning, when you held it in your hand as you created the world out of nothing. You made it your own when you took it to your heart while your dear Son, dying on the cross, bedewed it with his blood, consecrated it by his death and entrusted it to his holy Mother's keeping.
2. Give free rein then, O Lord, to your merciful intent and raise up men of your right hand whom you revealed through the prophetic insight of some of your greatest servants - Francis of Paola, Vincent Ferrer, Catherine of Sienna and so many others during the last century and even in our day.
3. *Memento.* Ever keep this Congregation in mind, Almighty God, and by the power of your right arm which has lost nothing of its strength, make it a living reality and lead it to perfection. *Give new signs and work new wonders. Make our hand and right arm glorious (cf. Sir. 36, 6):* Great God, who can change lifeless stones into sons of Abraham, say but one word and it will be enough to send good workers to gather in your harvest, and missionaries worthy of the name to work in your Church.
4. *Memento.* God of all goodness, remember your mercy of times past and, in that same mercy, be ever mindful of this Congregation. Remember the promises you made to us, time and again, through your prophets and through your divine Son, that you would grant our just petitions. Remember also the prayers of your servants in past ages. May their longings, their tearful pleadings, and the blood which they shed

for your sake be ever in your sight and become a powerful claim on your mercy. But above all, bear in mind your dear Son. Look upon the face of your anointed one. The agony he suffered, the shame he endured, the loving complaint he uttered in the Garden of Olives. "Of what use is my death to you?", his cruel death and the blood he shed, all these cry out to you for mercy, so that, by this Congregation, his kingdom may bring down the empire of his enemies and rise upon its ruins.

5. *Memento.* Remember, Lord, your Congregation, when you come to dispense your justice. *It is time to act, O Lord, they have rejected your law (Ps. 119, 126).* It is indeed time to fulfil your promise. Your divine commandments are broken, your Gospel is thrown aside, torrents of iniquity flood the whole earth carrying away even your servants. The whole land is desolate, ungodliness reigns supreme, your sanctuary is desecrated and the abomination of desolation has even contaminated the holy place. God of Justice, God of Vengeance, will you let everything, then, go the same way? Will everything come to the same end as Sodom and Gomorrah? Will you never break your silence? Will you tolerate all this for ever? Is it not true that your will must be done on earth as it is in heaven? Is it not true that your kingdom must come? Did you not give to some souls, dear to you, a vision of the future renewal of the Church? Are not the Jews to be converted to the truth and is this not what the Church is waiting for? All the blessed in heaven cry out for justice to be done and the faithful on earth join in with them and cry out: *Amen, Come, Lord (Rev. 22.20).* All creatures, even the most insensitive, lie groaning under the burden of Babylon's countless sins and plead with you to come and renew all things. (cf. Rom 8, 22).
6. Lord Jesus, remember your Congregation. Give your mother this new company so that you may renew all things through her and bring the era of grace to a close through Mary just as you began it through her. *Give children and servants to*

*your Mother, otherwise let me die (cf. Gen. 30, 1).* To this end, increase the number of those who call her Mother and serve her. If this is not to be so, let me die. It is for your Mother's sake that I make this request. It is she who gave you birth and nurtured you. Remembering this, how can you refuse me? Remember whose Son you are, and grant my plea. Remember what she means to you and what you mean to her, and fulfill my holy desires.

It is no personal favour that I ask, but something which concerns your glory alone, something you can and, I make bold to say, you must grant since not only are you true God having all power in heaven and on earth, but you are also the most dutiful of sons with an infinite love for your Mother.

7. What, then, am I asking for? *Liberos*: priests who are free with the freedom that comes from you, detached from everything, without father, mother, brothers, sisters or relatives and friends as the world and the flesh understand them, without worldly possessions to encumber or distract them, and devoid of all self-interest.
8. *Liberos*: men who are free but still in bondage to your love and your will; men after your own heart who, without taint or impediment of self-love, will carry out your will to the full and, like David of old, lay low all your enemies, with the Cross for their staff and the Rosary for their sling.
9. *Liberos*: men as free as the clouds that sail high above the earth, filled with the dew of heaven, and moving, without hindrance, according to the inspiration of the Spirit. They are included among those whom the prophet had in mind when he asked *What men are these who move like clouds in the sky, wherever the Spirit leads them?* (Is. 60, 8; Ez. 1, 12)
10. *Liberos*: free men. Men always available, always ready to obey you when those in authority speak. Always with the words of Samuel on their lips: here I am; (1 K. 3, 16), *Here I am* always ready to be on the move and to suffer with you

and for you, just as the Apostles were: *let us go and die along with him (Jn. 11, 16).*

11. *Liberos*: true children of Mary whom she conceived by her love, whom she nurtured, reared, and upheld and enriched with her graces.
12. *Liberos*: true servants of the Blessed Virgin who, like a Dominic of old, will range far and wide, with the holy Gospel issuing from their mouths like a bright and burning flame, and the Rosary in their hands, and bay like your watchdogs, burn like fire and dispel the darkness of the world like a sun. Their inspiration will be their authentic devotion to Mary which will be interior and devoid of all hypocrisy, exterior but not critical, prudent and well-informed, tender without indifference, constant without fickleness, holy without presumption. In this way, they will crush the head of the serpent wherever they go and ensure that the curse you have laid upon it of old will be fulfilled to the letter: *I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed and he shall bruise your head (Gn. 3, 15).*
13. True it is, indeed, great God, as you yourself have foretold, that the devil will lie in wait to attack the heel of this mysterious woman, that is, the little company of her children who will come towards the end of time. There will be great enmity between the blessed posterity of Mary and the accursed issue of Satan, the only enmity which you have instigated. The children of Belial will wage war against the children of your blessed Mother and afflict them with persecutions which will have no other outcome than to make more manifest, in a striking manner, the power of your grace, their courage and virtue, and the reality of your Mother's authority. It cannot be otherwise since, from the beginning of time, you have appointed this humble Virgin to crush this proud spirit under her heel: *Her descendant will crush your head (Gn. 3,15).*



14. *Give children to your Mother, otherwise, I would be better dead.* Would it not be better for me to be dead, Lord, than to see you offended daily so deliberately and with such impunity and, daily, to stand, myself, in ever-increasing danger of being swept away by the ever-swelling flood of iniquity? I would rather die a thousand deaths than endure such a fate. Send me your help from heaven or let me die. Were it not for the hope that I have that, sooner or later, the interests of your glory will prevail and that you will hear this poor sinner's prayer, as you have heard so many others. (*Ps. 34, 7*) I would make mine the ultimate plea of your prophet: *take away my life (1 K. 19, 4)*. Yet, my trust in you is so great that I am inspired to cry out like another of your prophets. *I shall not die but I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord (Ps. 118, 7)*. This I will do until the time comes when I can say with Simeon: *Now, O Lord, you let your servant depart in peace because my eyes have seen your salvation (Lk. 2, 29-30)*.
15. *Memento.* Holy Spirit, be ever mindful that it is you who, with Mary as your faithful spouse, are to bring forth and fashion the children of God. In her and with her, you brought forth the Head of the Church and, in the same way, you will bring all his members into being. Within the Trinity, none of the divine persons is begotten by you. Outside the Trinity, you are the begetter of all the children of God. All the saints who have ever existed or will exist until the end of time, will be the outcome of your love working through Mary.
16. The reign especially attributed to God the Father lasted until the Flood and ended in a deluge of water. The reign of Jesus Christ ended in a deluge of blood, but your reign, Spirit of the Father and the Son, is still unended and will come to a close with a deluge of fire, love and justice.
17. When will it happen, this fiery deluge of pure love with which you are to set the whole world ablaze and which is to

come, so gently yet so forcefully, that all nations, Moslems, idolaters and even Jews, will be caught up in its flames and be converted? *None can escape from the heat it gives, so let its flames rise (Ps. 18, 7).* Rather let this divine fire which Jesus Christ came to bring on earth be enkindled before the all-consuming fire of your anger comes down and reduces the whole world to ashes. *When you breathe your Spirit into them, they are restored and the face of the earth is renewed (Ps. 104, 30).* Send this all-consuming Spirit upon the earth to create priests who burn with this same fire and whose ministry will renew the face of the earth and reform your Church.

18. *Remember your Congregation* It is to be a congregation, a gathering, a selection, a picked handful of predestined men to be chosen by you from among those who are in the world. *I have chosen you from amidst the world (Jn. 15, 29).* You are to select from all these fierce wolves a flock of peaceful sheep; from all these ugly crows, a flight of pure doves and royal eagles; from all these buzzing hornets, a swarm of honey-bees; from all these slow-moving tortoises, a herd of nimble deer; from all these timid hares, a pride of bold lions. *Lord, gather us in from every nation (Ps. 106, 47).* Bring us together and unite us and may all the glory be given to your holy and mighty name!
  
19. You revealed the coming of this noble company to one of your prophets who concealed the secret of this revelation under the cloak of obscure but divinely inspired words: *Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished; your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy. The Lord gives the command; great is the company of those who bore the tidings: "The kings of the armies, they flee, they flee!" The women at home divide the spoil, though they stay among the sheepfolds – the wings of a dove covered with silver, its pinions with green gold. When the Almighty scattered kings there, snow fell on Zal-*

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*mon. O mighty mountain, mountain of Bashan! Why do you look with envy at the mount that God desired for his abode, where the Lord will reside forever? (Ps. 68, 10-16)*

20. What is meant, Lord, by this abundant rain that you have stored up for your languishing heritage, if not these holy missionaries, Mary's children, whom you are to gather together and set apart from the rest of men for the good of your Church, at present so weakened and besmirched by the crimes of her children?
21. And who are these creatures and these poor folk who will dwell in the heritage you have given them and there feed on the divine sweetness you have prepared for them? They are none other than the poor missionaries, entirely dependent on Providence, who will feast to their heart's content on the spiritual delights you provide for them. They are none other than those mysterious animals described by Ezechiel who will have the kindly nature of a man - witness their selfless and beneficent love of their neighbour; the face and boldness of a lion - witness their holy anger, their burning and prudent zeal against the devil and the children of Babylon; the strength of an ox - witness their apostolic labours and their self-mortification; the soaring flight of an eagle - witness the height of their contemplation. Such will be the missionaries you have in mind for your Church. They will look kindly on their fellowmen, fearlessly on your enemies, impartially on themselves and, when they look on you, they will be carried away in contemplation.
22. These followers of the Apostles will preach with great power and effect. So powerful will their impact be that they will stir the minds and hearts of all who hear them. It is to them that you will give your word, the very words of your own mouth and wisdom: *For I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict (Lk. 21, 15).*

23. It is among these men so dear to you, that you, Holy Spirit, as the greatest gift that Jesus Christ, the beloved Son, has made to men, will be pleased to dwell since, in all the missions they undertake, their sole aim will be to give glory to you for the spoils they have won from your enemies.

24. The silver wings of the dove will be theirs because of their total dependence on Providence and their devotion to Mary. They shall be covered with silver like the wings of a dove, by the purity of the doctrine they teach and their irreproachable life. For them the silvered pinions of the dove will be the perfect love they have for their neighbour which enables them to bear with shortcomings, and their great love for Jesus Christ which enables them to carry his cross.

25. You alone, King of heaven and King of Kings, will set these men apart like kings and make them purer than the snows on Zalmon, the mountain of God, where all good things grow in abundance, this strong and compact mountain where God delights to dwell, and dwell forever.

Lord, God of truth, who is symbolised by this mysterious mountain of which so many marvels are told, if not Mary, your beloved spouse, whose beginnings are established on the heights: *On the holy mountain stands the city he founded (Ps. 87, 1). The mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills (Is. 2, 2).*

Blessed, a thousandfold blessed, are those priests whom you have chosen with such care to dwell with you on this divine mountain of all delights. There they will become kings for eternity by their contempt of the world and their nearness to God, and purer than snow by their union with Mary, your beautiful, pure and immaculate spouse. They will be enriched by the dew of heaven above and the fat of the earth beneath, and all the blessings of time and eternity which Mary possesses in such abundance will be theirs.

From the summit of this mountain, they will, like Moses of old, address their ardent prayers to heaven, turning them into

the weapons which will overcome or convert their enemies. This is the mountain on which Jesus Christ, who dwells there forever, will teach them in his own words the meaning of the eight beatitudes.

It is on this mountain that they will be transfigured as he was on Mount Thabor; that they will die with him as he died on Calvary, and from it, they will ascend to heaven as he did from the Mount of Olives.

26. *Be mindful of this, your Congregation*, for it is you alone who must, by your grace, make it a living reality. If man is the first to put his hand to the work, nothing will come of it. If he contributes anything of his own to what you are doing, the entire undertaking will be warped and come down in ruins.

Your own Congregation: it is your work, great God. Make your divine purpose a reality. Muster your chosen men from every corner of your dominions. Call them and gather them together. Mobilise them and make of them an army to fight against your enemies.

27. Look, Lord God of hosts, the captains of war are forming companies, each with its full complement of soldiers; and potentates have recruited vast armies. The ship-owners have whole fleets at their disposal, and the merchants are thronging to the markets and fairs. What a motley assembly of ungodly men! Thieves, drunkards and profligates gather together every day under the flimsiest pretexts in order to oppose you! Blow a whistle, beat a drum, show the blunt point of a sword, promise a withered laurel branch as a reward, offer a piece of gold or silver; in short, a whiff of fame, a worthless reward, a vile beastly pleasure, and, in the twinkling of an eye, along come the thieves, soldiers rally by battalions, and merchants flock together. Gambling dens and market places are crammed full and the whole of land and sea is covered with an innumerable multitude of reprobates. These people, although at variance among themselves for reasons of distance, temperament or personal in-

terest, are nevertheless all unanimously resolved to wage war to the death against you, under the banner and leadership of the devil.

28. How is it, then, great God, that although it is so glorious, so satisfying and so profitable to serve you, hardly anyone will support your cause? Scarcely one soldier lines up under your standard. Scarcely anyone fired with zeal for your glory will stand up and cry out, like St. Michael in the midst of his fellow-angels: *Who is like to God?* Let me then raise the cry of alarm: The House of God is on fire! Souls are perishing in the flames! The sanctuary itself is ablaze! Help! Help! Good people! Help our brother who is being murdered. Help our children who are being massacred. Help our kind father who is being done to death!
29. *If anyone has the Lord's cause at heart, let him stand side by side with me (Ex. 32, 26).* Let all those worthy priests who are to be found throughout the world, those still in the fight and those who have withdrawn to deserts and secluded places, let them, I say, come and join us. In unity there is strength. With the cross as our standard, let us form a strongly disciplined army drawn up in lines of battle. Let us make a concerted attack on the enemies of God who have already sounded the call to arms: *They have sounded the alarm, vented their anger and become a mighty army. Let us break their bonds asunder and throw away their yoke. He who dwells in heaven will laugh them to scorn. (cf. Ps. 2).*
30. *Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered (Ps. 68, 1).* Arise, Lord. Why is it you appear to be like one asleep? (Ps. 44, 23) Arise in your might, your mercy and your justice and create this bodyguard of hand-picked men who will protect your house, defend your glory and save the souls that are yours. Thus, there will be but one sheepfold and one shepherd, *and all will make your temple resound with their praise of your glory! (Ps. 29, 9)* Amen.

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**CONSECRATION OF OURSELVES TO JESUS CHRIST  
THE INCARNATE WISDOM  
BY THE HANDS OF MARY**

*(Love of Eternal Wisdom #223-227)*

Eternal and incarnate Wisdom, most lovable and adorable Jesus, true God and true man, only Son of the eternal Father and of Mary always Virgin.

I adore you profoundly, dwelling in the splendour of your Father from all eternity and in the virginal womb of Mary, your most worthy Mother, at the time of your incarnation.

I thank you for having emptied yourself in assuming the condition of a slave to set me free from the cruel slavery of the evil one.

I praise and glorify you for having willingly chosen to obey Mary, your holy Mother, in all things, so that through her I may be a faithful slave of love.

But I must confess that I have not kept the vows and promises which I made to you so solemnly at my baptism. I have not fulfilled my obligations, and I do not deserve to be called your child or even your loving slave. Since I cannot lay claim to anything except what merits your rejection and displeasure, I dare no longer approach the holiness of your majesty on my own.

That is why I turn to the intercession and the mercy of your holy Mother, whom you yourself have given me to mediate with you. Through her I hope to obtain from you contrition and pardon for my sins, and that Wisdom whom I desire to dwell in me always.

I turn to you, then, Mary immaculate, living tabernacle of God, in whom eternal Wisdom willed to receive the adoration of both men and angels.

I greet you as Queen of heaven and earth, for all that is under God has been made subject to your sovereignty.

I call upon you, the unfailing refuge of sinners, confident in your mercy that has never forsaken anyone. Grant my desire

for divine Wisdom and, in support of my petition, accept the promises and the offering of myself which I now make, conscious of my unworthiness.

I, an unfaithful sinner, renew and ratify today through you my baptismal promises. I renounce for ever Satan, his empty promises, and his evil designs, and I give myself completely to Jesus Christ, the incarnate Wisdom, to carry my cross after him for the rest of my life, and to be more faithful to him than I have been till now.

This day, with the whole court of heaven as witness, I choose you, Mary, as my Mother and Queen. I surrender and consecrate myself to you, body and soul, with all that I possess, both spiritual and material, even including the spiritual value of all my actions, past, present, and to come. I give you the full right to dispose of me and all that belongs to me, without any reservations, in whatever way you please, for the greater glory of God in time and throughout eternity.

Accept, gracious Virgin, this little offering of my slavery to honour and imitate the obedience which eternal Wisdom willingly chose to have towards you, his Mother. I wish to acknowledge the authority which both of you have over this little worm and pitiful sinner. By it I wish also to thank God for the privileges bestowed on you by the Blessed Trinity.

I solemnly declare that for the future I will try to honour and obey you in all things as your true slave of love.

O admirable Mother, present me to your dear Son as his slave now and for always, so that he who redeemed me through you, will now receive me through you.

Mother of mercy, grant me the favour of obtaining the true Wisdom of God, and so make me one of those whom you love, teach and guide, whom you nourish and protect as your children and slaves.

Virgin most faithful, make me in everything so committed a disciple, imitator, and slave of Jesus, your Son, incarnate Wisdom, that I may become, through your intercession and example, fully mature with the fullness which Jesus possessed on earth, and with the fullness of his glory in heaven. Amen.



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## SHORT FORMULAE

1. Totus tuus ego sum et omnia mea tua sunt,  
O Virgo super omnia benedicta.
2. I am all yours  
and all that I have belongs to you,  
O my sweet Jesus,  
through Mary, your holy Mother.
3. I am all yours, Mary, holy Virgin,  
All that I have is yours, Mary, pure Virgin,  
Be my guide in all that I do, Mary, our Mother.
4. Today through you O Mary, I renew and ratify my baptismal promises. I renounce for ever Satan, his empty promises, and his evil designs, and I give myself completely to Jesus Christ, the incarnate Wisdom, to carry my cross after him for the rest of my life, and to be more faithful to him than I have been till now.  
This day, with the whole court of heaven as witness, I choose you, Mary, as my Mother and Queen. I surrender and consecrate myself to you, body and soul, with all that I possess, both spiritual and material, including the spiritual value of all my actions, past, present, and to come. I give you the full right to dispose of me and all that belongs to me, without exception, in whatever way you please, for the greater glory of God in time and in eternity.

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## THE ROSARY ACCORDING TO A METHOD OF ST. LOUIS-MARIE DE MONTFORT

### INTRODUCTION

I unite with all the saints in Heaven, with all the just on earth and with all the faithful here present. I unite with you, O my Jesus, in order to praise worthily your holy Mother and to praise you in her and through her. I renounce all the distractions I may have during this rosary which I wish to say with modesty, attention, and devotion, just as if it were to be the last of my life.

We offer you, O Most Holy Trinity, this Creed in honor of all the mysteries of our faith; this Our Father and these three Hail Marys in honor of the unity of your Essence and the Trinity of your Persons. We ask of you a lively faith, a firm hope and an ardent charity. Amen.

*Creed, 1 Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father, etc.*

### Joyful Mysteries

#### INCARNATION

We offer you, O Lord Jesus, this first decade in honour of your Incarnation. We ask of you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother a profound humility.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Incarnation come down into our souls. Amen.

#### THE VISITATION

We offer you, O Lord Jesus, this second decade in honour of the Visitation of your holy Mother to her cousin Elizabeth. We

ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, true love of our neighbor.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Visitation come down into our souls. Amen.

## THE NATIVITY

We offer you, O Lord Jesus, this third decade in honour of your holy Birth. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, detachment from the things of this world, love of poverty and of the poor.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Nativity come down into our souls. Amen.

## THE PRESENTATION

We offer you, O Lord Jesus, this fourth decade in honour of your presentation in the temple by the hands of Mary. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, purity of body and mind.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Presentation come down into our souls. Amen.

## THE FINDING OF JESUS

We offer you, O Lord Jesus, this fifth decade in honour of Mary's finding you in the temple among the learned men after she had lost you. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, the gift of wisdom.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Finding of Jesus come down into our souls. Amen.

## Sorrowful Mysteries

### THE AGONY IN THE GARDEN

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this sixth decade in honour of your intense agony in the garden of Olives. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercessions of your holy Mother, sorrow for our sins. *1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Agony in the Garden come down into our souls. Amen.

### THE SCOURGING

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this seventh decade in honour of your cruel Scourging. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, mortification of our senses.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Scourging come down into our souls. Amen.

### THE CROWNING WITH THORNS

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this eighth decade in honour of your being crowned with Thorns. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, rejection of the false values of this world.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Crowning with Thorns come down into our souls. Amen.

### THE CARRYING OF THE CROSS

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this ninth decade in honour of

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your carrying the Cross. We ask by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, patience in carrying our cross after You all the days of our lives.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Carrying of the Cross come down into our souls. Amen.

## THE CRUCIFIXION OF JESUS

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this tenth decade in honour of your Crucifixion and death on Mount Calvary. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, conversion of sinners and perseverance of the just.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Crucifixion come down into our souls. Amen.

## Glorious Mysteries

### THE RESURRECTION

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this eleventh decade in honour of your glorious Resurrection. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, ardent love of God and fervor in your service.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Resurrection come down into our souls. Amen.

### THE ASCENSION

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this twelfth decade in honour of your triumphant Ascension. We ask you by this mystery and

through the intercession of your holy Mother, firm hope and a longing for heaven.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Ascension come down into our souls. Amen.

## THE PENTECOST

We offer you, O Holy Spirit, this thirteenth decade in honour of the mystery of the Pentecost. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, descent of the Holy Spirit into our hearts.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Pentecost come down into our souls. Amen.

## THE ASSUMPTION

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this fourteenth decade in honour of the Resurrection and Assumption of your holy Mother into heaven. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, a tender devotion to so good a mother.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Assumption come down into our souls. Amen.

## THE CORONATION OF MARY

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this fifteenth decade in honour of the Crowning in glory of your holy Mother in Heaven. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, perseverance in grace and a crown of glory hereafter.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

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May the grace of the mystery of the Coronation come down into our souls. Amen.

### **The Mysteries of Light**

*These new mysteries were added to the traditional Rosary by Pope John Paul II in the Apostolic Letter, The Rosary of the Virgin Mary, in October 2002.*

### **THE BAPTISM OF JESUS IN THE JORDAN**

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this first decade in honour of your Baptism in the Jordan. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, great fidelity to the promises of our own baptism.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan come down into our souls. Amen.

### **THE MIRACLE AT CANA**

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this second decade in honour of the revelation of your glory at the presence at the marriage feast in Cana. We ask of you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, an attentiveness to the many signs of your presence among us.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Miracle at Cana come down into our souls. Amen.

### **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE KINGDOM**

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this third decade in honour of your Proclamation of the Kingdom of Heaven and your call to conversion. We ask of you by this mystery and through the in-

tercession of your holy Mother, belief in the good news of the reign of God among us.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Proclamation of the Kingdom come down into our souls. Amen..

## THE TRANSFIGURATION

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this fourth decade in honour of your Transfiguration on Mt Tabor. We ask you through this mystery and by the intercession of your holy Mother, that the glory of God shine forth in our lives.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Transfiguration come down into our souls. Amen.

## THE INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST

We offer you, Lord Jesus, this fifth decade in honour of your Institution of the Eucharist. We ask you by this mystery and through the intercession of your holy Mother, that we become what we receive.

*1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, Glory be to the Father.*

May the grace of the mystery of the Institution of the Eucharist come down into our souls. Amen.

## PRAYER

Hail Mary, well-beloved daughter of the eternal Father, admirable Mother of the Son, most faithful spouse of the Holy Spirit, glorious temple of the Blessed Trinity. Hail, sovereign Queen to whom everyone is subject in heaven and on earth. Hail sure Refuge of sinners, our Lady of mercy, who has never



repelled anyone. Sinner as I am, I cast myself at your feet and beg you to obtain from Jesus, your dear Son, contrition and pardon for all my sins and the gift of divine wisdom. I consecrate myself to you with all that I have. I choose you today as my Mother and Mistress; treat me then as the weakest of your children and the most submissive of your servants. Hear, O Queen, the prayers of a heart that desires to love and serve you faithfully. Let it not be said that of all who have ever had recourse to you, I was the first to be unheeded. O my hope, my life, my faithful and immaculate Virgin Mary, hear me, protect me, strengthen me, instruct me, save me. Amen.

### LITTLE CROWN OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

*In the name of the Father . . .*

**V.** Virgin most holy, accept my praise.

**R.** And give me strength against your foes.

*Our Father.*

*Hail Mary. . .*

You are indeed blessed, Virgin Mary, in having brought forth the Creator of the universe. You gave birth to the one who made you, while ever remaining a virgin.

**V.** Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

**R.** Rejoice forever and ever.

*Hail Mary. . .*

Virgin holy and immaculate, no tongue can praise you worthily. For you bore in your womb the God whom the very heavens cannot contain.

**V.** Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

**R.** Rejoice forever and ever.

*Hail Mary. . .*

You are all beautiful, O Mary, and free from every stain of sin.

**V.** Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Hail Mary. . .*

The gifts bestowed on you, Virgin Mary, outnumber the stars of heaven.

V. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Glory be to the Father. . .*

*Our Father. . .*

*Hail Mary. . .*

Queen of the whole world, we praise you. Lead us to the joys of heaven.

V. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Hail Mary. . .*

Treasury of all God's graces, we praise you. Grant us a share in your heavenly gifts.

V. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Hail Mary. . .*

Mediatrice between God and humanity, we praise you. Through your intercession may the Almighty look favourably upon us.

V. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Hail Mary. . .*

Victor over heresies and all that is evil, we praise you. Guide us lovingly in the way of truth.

V. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Glory be to the Father. . .*

*Our Father. . .*

*Hail Mary. . .*

Refuge of sinners, we praise you. Reconcile us with Almighty God.

V. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Our Father. . .*

*Hail Mary. . .*

Mother of orphans, we praise you. Make us beloved children of our Father.

V. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Our Father. . .*

*Hail Mary. . .*

Joy of those who serve the Lord, we praise you. Lead us with you to the happiness of heaven.

V. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Our Father. . .*

*Hail Mary. . .*

Advocate ever near us in life and in death, we praise you. Lead us with you to the kingdom of God.

V. Rejoice, O Virgin Mary.

R. Rejoice forever and ever.

*Glory be to the Father. . .*

## PRAYER

Hail Mary, beloved Daughter of God the Father.

Hail Mary, admirable Mother of God the Son.

Hail Mary, faithful Spouse of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, august Temple of the Most Holy Trinity.

Hail Mary, my mistress and my mother, the Queen of my

heart; my life, my sweetness and my hope, my heart and my soul! I belong to you entirely, and all that I possess is yours, Virgin blessed above all. May your soul be in me to glorify God; may your spirit be in me to rejoice in God.

Virgin most faithful, set your seal upon my heart, so that in you and through you I may be found faithful to God.

Grant, gracious Mother, that I may be numbered among those whom you love and instruct, whom you guide, cherish, and protect as your children.

O Queen of heaven, I renounce from this moment anything in me that does not belong to you.

O daughter of the King of kings, whose principal glory is within, do not allow me to be distracted by things that are visible and transitory; grant, rather that through God's abundant grace, I may always be intent on the life within me, where I may find in God my delight, my treasure, my honor, my glory and my rest. Thus, through the Holy Spirit, your faithful spouse, and through you, his faithful spouse, Jesus Christ, your beloved Son may be perfectly formed in our hearts for the greater glory of God our Father, forever and ever. Amen.

## 2. PRAYERS RECOMMENDED BY SAINT LOUISE-MARIE DE MONTFORT

### **Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

**V.** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful

**R.** And enkindle in them the fire of your love.

**V.** Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

**R.** And you will renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray:

God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit has instructed the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Spirit, we may be truly wise and always rejoice in his consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Veni Creator**

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator blest,  
and in our souls take up Thy rest;  
come with Thy grace and heavenly aid  
to fill the hearts which Thou hast made.  
O comforter, to Thee we cry,  
Thou heav'nly gift of God Most High,  
Thou fount of life and fire of love,  
and sweet anointing from above.

O finger of the hand divine,  
The sevenfold gifts of grace are thine;  
True promise of the Father thou,  
Who dost the tongue with power endow.

Thy light to every sense impart,  
and shed thy love in every heart;  
thine own unfailing might supply  
to strengthen our infirmity.

Drive far away our ghostly foe,  
and thine abiding peace bestow;  
if thou be our preventing Guide,  
no evil can our steps betide.

Praise we the Father and the Son  
and Holy Spirit with them One;  
and may the Son on us bestow

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the gifts that from the Spirit flow.

Veni, Creator Spiritus,  
mentes tuorum visita,  
imple superna gratia  
quae tu creasti pectora.

Qui diceris Paraclitus,  
altissimi donum Dei,  
fons vivus, ignis, caritas,  
et spiritalis unctio.

Tu, septiformis munere,  
digitus paternae dexteræ,  
Tu rite promissum Patris,  
sermone ditans guttura.

Accende lumen sensibus:  
infunde amorem cordibus:  
infirmi nostri corporis  
virtute firmans perpeti.

Hostem repellas longius,  
pacemque dones protinus:  
ductore sic te praevio  
vitemus omne noxium.

Per te sciamus da Patrem,  
noscamus atque Filium;  
Teque utriusque Spiritum  
credamus omni tempore.

Deo Patri sit Gloria,  
et Filio qui a mortis  
Surrexit, ac Paraclito,  
in saeculorum saecula.  
Amen

## Litany of the Holy Spirit

God, the Father in heaven, *have mercy on us*  
God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
God the Holy Spirit,  
Holy Trinity, one God,  
Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son,  
Spirit of eternal truth,  
Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
Spirit of counsel and fortitude,  
Spirit of knowledge and piety,  
Spirit of fear of the Lord,  
Spirit of grace and prayer,  
Spirit of love and power,  
Spirit who in the beginning moved over the waters,  
Spirit by whose inspiration the prophets spoke,  
Spirit who overshadowed Mary,  
Spirit who descended upon the Son of God at his baptism,  
Spirit who appeared over the disciples at Pentecost,  
Spirit by whom we are all born to the spiritual life,  
Spirit dwelling in us as in a shrine,  
Spirit guiding the Church,  
Spirit converting sinners,  
Spirit making the faithful but one heart and mind,  
Spirit giving your children true liberty,  
Spirit enlightening us with your heavenly inspirations,  
Spirit strengthening us to fulfil the law of God,  
Spirit teaching us to pray and praying with us,  
Spirit filling our hearts with love, peace and joy,  
Spirit granting us patience and kindness,  
Spirit adorning our souls with generosity and faithfulness,  
Spirit enriching us with gentleness and self-restraint,  
Spirit by whom the waters of grace spring up in our hearts,  
Spirit by whom we are no longer slaves of sin but children and heirs of God,  
Spirit by whom we persevere in holiness till the end,

**V.** Send forth your Spirit and there will be a new creation.

**R.** And you will renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray:

O God who by the light of the Holy Spirit,  
did instruct the hearts of your faithful,  
grant that by that same Holy Spirit,  
we may truly be wise, and ever rejoice in your consolation.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus**

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, hear us.

God the Father of Heaven,

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

God the Holy Spirit,

Holy Trinity, one God,

Jesus, Son of the living God,

Jesus, splendor of the Father,

Jesus, brightness of eternal light,

Jesus, king of glory,

Jesus, sun of justice,

Jesus, son of the Virgin Mary,

Jesus, most amiable,

Jesus, most admirable,

Jesus, mighty God,

Jesus, father of the world to come,

Jesus, angel of great counsel,

Jesus, most powerful,

Jesus, most patient,

Jesus, most obedient,

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, graciously hear us.

have mercy on us.



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Jesus, meek and humble of heart,  
Jesus, lover of chastity,  
Jesus, lover of humanity,  
Jesus, God of peace,  
Jesus, author of life,  
Jesus, example of virtues,  
Jesus, zealous lover of souls,  
Jesus, our God,  
Jesus, our refuge,  
Jesus, father of the poor,  
Jesus, treasure of the faithful,  
Jesus, good shepherd,  
Jesus, true light,  
Jesus, eternal wisdom,  
Jesus, infinite goodness,  
Jesus, our way and our life,  
Jesus, joy of angels,  
Jesus, king of the patriarchs,  
Jesus, master of the apostles,  
Jesus, teacher of the evangelists,  
Jesus, strength of martyrs,  
Jesus, light of confessors,  
Jesus, purity of virgins,  
Jesus, crown of saints,

Be merciful, *spare us, O Jesus.*  
Be merciful, *graciously hear us, O Jesus.*  
From all evil, *deliver us, O Jesus.*  
From all sin, *deliver us, O Jesus.*  
From your wrath,  
From the snares of the devil,  
From everlasting death,  
From the neglect of your inspirations,  
By the mystery of your holy Incarnation,  
By your nativity,  
By your infancy,  
By your most divine life,  
By your labors,

By your agony and passion,  
By your cross and abandonment,  
By your sufferings,  
By your death and burial,  
By your resurrection,  
By your ascension,  
By your institution of the most Holy Eucharist,  
By your joys,  
By your glory,

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*spare us, O Jesus.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*graciously hear us, O Jesus.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*have mercy on us, O Jesus.*

**V.** Jesus, hear us.

**R.** Jesus, graciously hear us.

Let us pray:

O Lord Jesus Christ, you have said,  
“Ask and you shall receive, seek, and you shall find, knock,  
and it shall be opened to you.” Grant, we beg of you, to us who  
ask it, the gift of your most divine love, that we may ever love  
you with our whole heart, in word and deed, and never cease  
praising you: you who live and reign for ever and ever, Amen.

### **Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus**

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, hear us.

God the Father of Heaven,

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

God the Holy Spirit,

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, graciously hear us.

have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, one God,  
Heart of Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father,  
Heart of Jesus, formed by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the  
Virgin Mother,  
Heart of Jesus, substantially united to the Word of God,  
Heart of Jesus, of Infinite Majesty,  
Heart of Jesus, Sacred Temple of God,  
Heart of Jesus, Tabernacle of the Most High,  
Heart of Jesus, House of God and Gate of Heaven,  
Heart of Jesus, burning furnace of charity,  
Heart of Jesus, abode of justice and love,  
Heart of Jesus, full of goodness and love,  
Heart of Jesus, abyss of all virtues,  
Heart of Jesus, most worthy of all praise,  
Heart of Jesus, king and center of all hearts,  
Heart of Jesus, in whom are all the treasures of wisdom and  
knowledge,  
Heart of Jesus, in whom the Father was well pleased,  
Heart of Jesus, of whose fullness we have all received,  
Heart of Jesus, desire of the everlasting hills,  
Heart of Jesus, patient and most merciful,  
Heart of Jesus, enriching all who invoke you,  
Heart of Jesus, fountain of life and holiness,  
Heart of Jesus, propitiation for our sins,  
Heart of Jesus, loaded down with opprobrium,  
Heart of Jesus, bruised for our offenses,  
Heart of Jesus, obedient to death,  
Heart of Jesus, pierced with a lance,  
Heart of Jesus, source of all consolation,  
Heart of Jesus, our life and resurrection,  
Heart of Jesus, our peace and reconciliation,  
Heart of Jesus, victim for our sins,  
Heart of Jesus, salvation of those who trust in you,  
Heart of Jesus, hope of those who die in you,  
Heart of Jesus, delight of all the Saints,

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*spare us, O Jesus.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*graciously hear us, O Jesus.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*have mercy on us, O Jesus.*

V. Jesus, meek and humble of heart

R. Make our hearts like yours.

Let us pray:

Almighty and eternal God, look upon the Heart of your most beloved Son and upon the praises and satisfaction which he offers you in the name of sinners. To those who implore your mercy, in your great goodness, grant forgiveness in the name of the same Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you forever and ever. Amen.

### **Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

God the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

God the Holy Spirit,

Holy Trinity, one God,

Holy Mary,

*pray for us,*

Holy Mother of God,

Holy Virgin of virgins,

Mother of Christ,

Mother full of grace,

Mother most pure,

Mother most chaste,

Mother most admirable,

Model of all mothers,

Mother of good counsel,

Mother of our Maker,

Mother of our Saviour,  
Virgin most wise,  
Virgin powerful in the sight of God,  
Virgin merciful to us sinners,  
Virgin most faithful,  
Mirror of sanctity,  
Seat of wisdom,  
Cause of our joy,  
Temple of the Spirit,  
Honour of your people,  
Devoted handmaid of the Lord,  
Mystical rose,  
Tower of David,  
Tower of ivory,  
House of gold,  
Ark of the covenant,  
Gate of heaven,  
Star of hope,  
Health of the sick,  
Refuge of sinners,  
Comfort of the afflicted,  
Help of Christians,  
Queen of angels,  
Queen of patriarchs,  
Queen of prophets,  
Queen of apostles,  
Queen of martyrs,  
Queen of confessors,  
Queen of virgins,  
Queen of all saints,  
Queen conceived in holiness,  
Queen raised up to glory,  
Queen of the rosary,  
Queen of the family,  
Queen of peace,

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*spare us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*graciously hear us, O Lord.*

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,  
*have mercy on us, O Lord.*

**V.** Pray for us, most holy Mother of God.

**R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Lord God, give your people the joy of continual health in mind and body. With the prayers of the Blessed Virgin to help us, guide us through the difficulties of this life to eternal happiness in the life to come. Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

### 3. TRADITIONAL PRAYERS

#### **The Angelus**

**V.** The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

**R.** And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

*Hail Mary. . .*

**V.** Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

**R.** Be it done unto me according to your word.

*Hail Mary. . .*

**V.** And the Word was made Flesh.

**R.** And dwelt among us.

*Hail Mary. . .*

**V.** Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

**R.** That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

#### **Regina Caeli**

*(during Easter time)*

**V.** Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

**R.** For he whom you did merit to bear, alleluia,

**V.** Has risen as he said, alleluia.

**R.** Pray for us to God, alleluia,

**V.** Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia,

**R.** For the Lord is truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray:

O God who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of your Son our Lord Jesus Christ, grant, we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Regina Caeli (Latin)**

**V.** Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.

**R.** Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia,

**V.** Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.

**R.** Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

**V.** Gaude et laetare, Virgo Maria, alleluia,

**R.** Quia surrexit Dominus vere, alleluia.

Oremus:

Deus, qui per resurrectionem Filii tui Domini nostri Iesu Christi mundum laetificare dignatus es: praesta, quaesumus, ut per eius Genetricem Virginem Mariam perpetuae capiamus gaudia vitae. Per eundem Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen.

### **Sub tuum praesidium**

We take refuge under your protection,  
holy Mother of God:

Do not despise our prayers  
in time of necessity:



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but always free us  
from all dangers,  
O blessed and glorious Virgin.

**O Jesus Living in Mary**  
*(P. Olier)*

O Jesus living in Mary,  
come and live in your servants,  
in the spirit of your holiness,  
in the fullness of your power,  
in the perfection of your ways,  
in the truth of your virtues,  
in the fellowship of your mysteries;  
rule over every adverse power  
in your Spirit for the glory of the Father.

**The Memorare** *(St. Bernard)*

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
that never was it known that anyone who fled to  
your protection, implored your help or sought  
your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with  
this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of  
virgins, my Mother. To you I come; before you  
I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the  
Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in  
your mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

**Alma Redemptoris Mater**

Loving Mother of the Redeemer,  
Gate of Heaven, Star of the Sea,  
assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again.

To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator  
yet remained a virgin after as before.

You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting,  
have pity on us poor sinners.

**V.** The Angel of the Lord announced unto Mary.

**R.** And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, O Lord, your grace into our hearts: that as we have known the incarnation of your Son Jesus Christ by the message of an Angel, so too by His passion and cross may we be brought to the glory of His resurrection. Amen.

### **Hail, O Queen of Heaven (Ave Regina Caelorum)**

Hail, O Queen of Heaven.  
Hail, O Lady of Angels  
Hail, thou root, hail thou gate  
From whom unto the world, a light has risen:

Rejoice, O glorious Virgin,  
Lovely beyond all others,  
Farewell, most beautiful maiden,  
And pray for us to Christ.

**V.** Allow me to praise thee, O sacred Virgin.

**R.** Against thy enemies give me strength.

Let us pray:

Grant unto us, O merciful God, a defense against our weakness, that we who remember the holy Mother of God, by the help of her intercession, may rise from our iniquities, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Hail, Holy Queen**

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Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To you we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, your eyes of mercy toward us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, Who by the working of the Holy Spirit didst prepare both body and soul of the glorious Virgin Mother Mary, that she might become a worthy dwelling for your Son, grant that we who rejoice in her memory, may, by her loving intercession, be delivered from present evils and from lasting death, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Salve Regina**

Salve, Regina, mater misericordiae, vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve. Ad te clamamus exsules filii Hevae. Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes in hac lacrimarum valle. Eia, ergo, advocata nostra, illos tuos misericordes oculos ad nos converte. Et Iesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui, nobis post hoc exilium ostende.

V. Ora pro nobis, sancta Dei Genetrix.

R. Ut digni efficiamur promissionibus Christi.

## **Ave Maris Stella**

Hail, O Star of the ocean,  
God's own Mother blest,  
ever sinless Virgin,  
gate of heav'nly rest.

Taking that sweet Ave,  
which from Gabriel came,  
peace confirm within us,  
changing Eve's name.

Break the sinners' fetters,  
make our blindness day,  
Chase all evils from us,  
for all blessings pray.

Show yourself a Mother,  
may the Word divine  
born for us your Infant  
hear our prayers through yours.

Virgin all excelling,  
mildest of the mild,  
free from guilt preserve us  
meek and undefiled.

Keep our life all spotless,  
make our way secure  
till we find in Jesus,  
joy for evermore.

Praise to God the Father,  
honour to the Son,  
in the Holy Spirit,

be the glory one. Amen.

### Litany of Saint Louis Marie de Montfort

God the Father in Heaven, *have mercy on us*  
 God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
 God the Holy Spirit,  
 Blessed Trinity, one God,

Holy Mary, *pray for us*  
 St. Louis Marie de Montfort,  
 Faithful disciple of Christ, Incarnate Wisdom,  
 Passionate lover of the Cross,  
 Loving slave of Jesus in Mary,  
 Apostle of the Holy Rosary,  
 Marvel of poverty and trust in Providence,  
 Model of perfect obedience,  
 Man of solitude and prayer,  
 Wonder of self-denial,  
 Valiant fighter for the glory of God and the salvation of  
 humanity,  
 Doctor of perfect devotion to the Blessed Virgin,  
 Father of the poor,  
 Friend of the infirm and the sick,  
 Founder of Religious Congregations,  
 Model of priests and missionaries,  
 Powerful advocate with Jesus and Mary,

Obtain for us true Wisdom, *St. Louis Marie de Montfort*  
 Obtain for us the spirit of faith,  
 Obtain for us the spirit of prayer,  
 Obtain for us the spirit of humility,  
 Obtain for us the love of the cross,  
 Obtain for us true devotion to Mary,  
 Obtain for us love of the Church,  
 Obtain for us devotion to the Vicar of Christ,

Obtain for us courage in trials,  
Obtain for us love for the hidden life,  
Obtain for us zeal for the conversion of sinners,  
Obtain for us the grace of perseverance,  
Obtain for us the grace of a happy death.

**V.** Saint Louis Marie de Montfort,  
**R.** Intercede for us.

Let us pray:

O God, you inspired Saint Louis Marie with a fervent desire to preach Christ's gospel to your people. By his prayers on our behalf, and under the guidance of the Virgin Mary, may we always be docile to the Spirit and tireless apostles of your kingdom committed to the service of our needy brothers and sisters. We offer our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Litany of Blessed Marie Louise of Jesus**

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Holy Mary, Servant of the Lord, <i>Intercede for us with the Lord</i>	
Holy Mary, Mother of Divine Wisdom,	
Holy virgins, vowed to God alone,	
Holy women, witnesses of mercy,	
Blessed Marie-Louise of Jesus,	
Disciple of Wisdom Incarnate,	
Friend of the wisdom of the Cross,	
Expert in the wisdom of the Gospel,	
Mother of the little ones and the poor,	
Companion of the weak and those counted as the least,	
Sister of the sick and the suffering,	
Consoler of the excluded,	
Witness of charity toward all,	
Model of humble service of neighbor,	
Wise virgin with lamp alight,	

Patient educator,  
 You who contemplate the face of the Eternal,  
     *Obtain for us the desire for Wisdom.*  
 You who sing the mercies of God,  
     *Obtain for us a sincere conversion.*  
 You who taste the tree of life,  
     *Obtain for us a hunger for the Word of God.*  
 You who radiate with divine charity,  
     *Obtain for us pure love.*  
 You who are with the Mother of the Lord,  
     *Obtain for us a childlike love for Mary.*  
 You who live the communion of saints,  
     *Obtain for us charity for all.*  
 You who are seated at the wedding of the Lamb,  
     *Obtain for us the joy of the Reign of Heaven.*

Let us pray:

O God, in your providential design,  
 you willed that the virgin, Blessed Marie Louise of Jesus,  
 formed in the school of the Mother of the Lord,  
 should become a disciple of your Wisdom.  
 Grant that by following her example,  
 we may reveal your love to the poor  
 and bring to all the joyful message  
 of the wisdom of the gospel.  
 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. Amen.

### **Litany of Providence**

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, hear us.	Christ, graciously hear us.
God, the Father of Heaven,	<i>have mercy on us</i>
God, the Son, Redeemer of the world,	

God, the Holy Spirit

Holy Trinity, one God,

Providence of God, worthy of the love of angels and of men,

*come to our aid*

Providence of God, you who proceeds from the Heart of Jesus,

Providence of God, you that governs all things with moderation,

Providence of God, our hope of salvation,

Providence of God, consolation of the soul during its earthly pilgrimage,

Providence of God, way to Heaven,

Providence of God, our faithful guide in all dangers,

Providence of God, worthy dispenser of all graces,

Providence of God, treasure hidden in a field where all may pass,

Providence of God, support of the just,

Providence of God, hope of abandoned sinners,

Providence of God, recourse in all our needs,

Providence of God, who stills the tempest,

Providence of God, where the heart finds rest,

Providence of God, refuge of afflicted souls,

Providence of God, effectual remedy for all evils,

Providence of God, you who feeds the hungry,

Providence of God, fountain of spiritual refreshments,

Providence of God, help of the poor,

Providence of God, protector of the widow and the orphan,

Providence of God, most benign, that does not despise, nor hate,  
nor abandon any of your creatures,

Providence of God, divine attribute, infinitely deserving of our  
homage and adoration,

Providence of God, most mild, you who constrains no one and  
orders all things with gentleness,

Providence of God, most powerful, whose decrees can be neither  
altered or revoked,

Providence of God, whose judgments are inscrutable and whose  
ways are mysterious,

Providence of God, ever righteous and all just,

Providence of God, who grants relief to those who labour and  
are burdened,

Providence of God, that draws good from evil,



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Providence of God, who puts down the mighty and exalts the humble,

Providence of God, who delivers the just man from prison and breaks his bond,

Providence of God, who fills the hungry with good things, and sends the rich away empty,

Providence of God, inexhaustible source of goodness,

Providence of God, treasurer forever open to the needy,

Providence of God, who prevents despair in adversity,

Providence of God, who moderates joy in prosperity,

Providence of God, who prepared the womb of a Virgin as a worthy dwelling place for Our Lord, Jesus Christ,

Providence of God, you who ordered the life and death of our Saviour for our salvation,

V. We adore, O Lord, your Providence.

R. And we abandon ourselves to all your holy designs.

Let us pray:

O Eternal God, who does not disdain to look upon us and with loving care to conduct us, unworthy though we be, in the ways of your Providence, grant us the grace to abandon ourselves so entirely to your Holy Providence, in the changing fortunes of this life, that we may attain to the unchanging bliss of Heaven, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

### **Prayer for the Montfortian Family**

God of goodness and mercy,

remember the Family

which you raised up for the service of the Church

in response to the prayer of St. Louis Marie and

Blessed Marie Louise.

Keep us faithful to our Montfortian vocation,

united in love for one another, in work and in prayer.  
Renew your signs and work new wonders:  
grant that we may always experience your abiding support,  
send missionaries to your Church.  
Remember all those  
the power of your Spirit has moved to proclaim  
the gospel throughout the world.  
Remember those who are good to us, our families,  
our friends and our benefactors.  
Remember us, O Lord,  
give light and wisdom to each of us,  
and, at the end of our life on earth,  
grant that we may see you face to face  
with Mary our Mother  
and all our brothers and sisters who have gone before us.  
Amen.

## **Prayers for Vocations to the Montfortian Family**

### **THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH**

#### **I. INVOCATIONS AND INTERCESSIONS, FOR THE OFFICE OF MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER.**

*(When the first Monday of the month is not a solemnity or a feast, outside of Advent, Christmas, Lent or Paschal Time.)*

#### **To the Father.**

God is faithful and always carries out his plan of mercy. Let us call on his name with faith that he may raise up people ready to spread his Kingdom on earth.

*O God, renew the wonders of your mercy.*

Father, you care for your heritage and nourish it with an abundant rain,

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- choose and gather together many missionaries for the good of your church.

God of Compassion, you foresee the needs of the poor and sustain them with your word of eternal life,

- raise up new apostles who will announce the Gospel with great wisdom.

Eternal Wisdom, you chose the Virgin Mary as the holy mountain of your glory,

- draw those you call to your service to dwell on your holy mountain to be transformed into the likeness of Christ.

God of love, by the grace of the Spirit you give us the joy of responding to your call,

- send workers to preach the Gospel in word and in deed so that all may glorify your Name.

Merciful God, at the end of their lives you reward your faithful servants,

- gather into your house the missionaries who come to you in company with the Virgin Mary.

Our Father **and the prayer of the day.**

### **Alternate Version**

Merciful God, you want all to be part of your Kingdom,

- raise up true and faithful messengers and witnesses to your infinite goodness.

Master of the harvest, you sow your divine word in our hearts,

- send new workers to your harvest to fulfill your plan of mercy.

Eternal God, you chose the Virgin Mary to give to the world the Word made flesh,

- through her intercession, form those you call to carry the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

God of life, in the crucified and risen Christ you have opened wide the gates of your Kingdom,

- receive into your arms the ministers of your Gospel who have died confessing your mercy.

Our Father **and the prayer of the day.**

### **To Christ**

Let us pray with confidence to Christ our Lord, the power and the wisdom of God, that he might remember our congregations and answer our prayers. Together let us pray:

*Lord Jesus, remember us.*

You who were sent by the Father, and chose the Apostles to continue your mission in the world,

- grant that many young people may choose the apostolic life in evangelical poverty.

Lamb of God, who, by your death on the cross, showed your infinite love for us,

- raise up men and women who will show their love for you by following the way of the Cross.

Lord of all, who looks with love upon people of every race and language,

- gather together from every corner of your kingdom those chosen ones you wish to send forth in your name.

Eternal Wisdom, who deigned to become incarnate in the womb of the Blessed Virgin,

- show to all those you call to follow you the happiness of welcoming you into their hearts.

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Lord of Glory, who in baptism, planted in us the seed of eternal life,

- welcome into your eternal Passover feast, all those who in this life worked for the spread of your Reign.

Our Father **and the prayer of the day.**

### **Alternative Version**

Jesus, Son of God, who dedicated your life to fulfilling the will of the Father,

- raise up men and women after your own heart, dedicated to you in love and docile to your will.

Jesus, Son of Mary, who left us your own mother as a precious heritage,

- give all those you call to serve you your own filial love for her.

Jesus, our brother, who shared in the difficulties and sufferings of humanity,

- grant that your example may inspire us to carry the burdens of our brothers and sisters.

Jesus, source of life, who called the Apostles to leave all in order to follow you,

- grant that your call may find an effective echo in the hearts of the young.

Jesus, who by your passion and cross overcame sin and death,

- lead our deceased brothers and sisters to the springs of immortality.

Our Father **and the prayer of the day.**

## **II. INTENTIONS TO BE ADDED TO THE PRAYERS OF INVOCATION AND INTERCESSION**

(On the first Monday of the month **during Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter, and whenever the day coincides with a Solemnity or Feast, an intention should be added after the last invocation at Morning Prayer and before the last intercession at**

Evening Prayer. The first form is used if the prayer is addressed to the Father; the second form if it is addressed to Christ).

1. Faithful God, you keep your promises to those who place their trust in you,
  - bless and nourish our congregations and grant them growth.

Eternal God, who chose the Blessed Virgin to give your Word made flesh to the world,

- through her, form all those you call to carry the Gospel to the ends of the earth.

2. Jesus, Lord of the harvest, who chose the Apostles to continue your mission,
  - grant that many young people may choose the apostolic life in evangelical poverty.

Eternal Wisdom, who chose to be incarnate in the womb of the Blessed Virgin,

- reveal to those you call to follow you, the joy of welcoming you into their hearts.

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## COMMUNITY LIFE

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### WELCOME TO OR FROM A LOCAL COMMUNITY

There are many ways in which we can be with those who are joining our communities - or leaving them to work in another place - and to sustain them by our prayers. Some suggestions are given for prayers to be said, perhaps after a community meeting or at the end of a rosary or after a welcoming or farewell meal.

### RECEPTION INTO A COMMUNITY

God of goodness and love,  
we thank you for the coming of N. among us.  
May we support each other,  
following the example of Christ your Son,  
so that our living together in harmony  
may be a sign of your divine love  
and a witness of the Wisdom that saves us.  
Through Christ our Lord.

God our Father,  
you have brought us together  
under the guidance of the Virgin Mary  
to show the great richness of Christ Wisdom,  
crucified for the salvation of all.  
Listen to our prayers for N.  
and give him (her) the blessing to serve you  
with commitment in this community.  
With your help, may we walk together in apostolic poverty,  
putting our trust and hope in you,

and living in joy and zeal for your kingdom.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## DEPARTURE FROM A COMMUNITY

God of goodness and providence,  
hear our prayer for **N**.  
as we thank you for his (her) presence among us.  
We pray that you accompany him (her) with your blessing so  
that his (her) new ministry in the community of \_\_\_\_\_  
may bear much fruit.

**Or**

God our Father,  
you want us to model ourselves on the heart of your Son  
and be completely dedicated to you in love  
and obedience to your will.  
We pray for **N**.  
and thank you for his (her) presence among us.  
Give him (her) peace and generosity  
in the new service you ask  
and the protection of Mary,  
whom you have given to us as mother  
and mistress of our life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**The departure of Missionaries.**

O God, you have called us to announce  
the mystery of the cross and resurrection of your Son,  
born of the Virgin through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Listen to our prayer for **NN**.  
Grant them the wisdom that touches hearts.  
Enlighten their steps with the light of Easter,  
that they may bear the fruit of authentic gospel renewal  
for the good of the Church of \_\_\_\_\_ to which they go,



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for the glory of your holy and merciful name .  
Through Christ our Lord.

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## CANTIQUES

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