

11 October
OUR LADY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Memoria

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The disciples joined constantly in prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus.

OPENING PRAYER

Merciful God,
your Son, on the Cross,
declared his Mother Mary to be our Mother also.
Inspired by her love,
may your Church continue to grow in holiness,
and bring the gospel to all nations.
We make our prayer.

FIRST READING

Gen. 3:9-15,20

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Mother of the living

After the man had eaten from the tree, the Lord God called to the man. 'Where are you?' he asked. 'I heard the sound of you in the garden,' he replied. 'I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.' 'Who told you that you were naked?' God asked. 'Have you been eating from the tree I forbade to eat?' The man replied, 'It was the woman you put with me; she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'Why did you do that?' The woman replied, 'The snake tempted me and I ate.'

Then the Lord God said to the snake, 'Because you have done this, accursed be you of all animals wild and tame. On your belly you will go and on dust you will feed as long as you live. I shall put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; it will bruise your head and you will strike its heel.'

The man named his wife 'Eve' because she was the mother of all those who live.

The Word of the Lord.

ALTERNATIVE FIRST READING

Acts 1:12-14

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They joined constantly in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus

After Jesus had been taken to heaven, the Apostles went back to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a short distance away, no more than a Sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. With one heart all these joined constantly in prayer, together with some women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps. 86 (87)

Response: *God is within the Church, it cannot be shaken.*

Or: *You are the highest honour of our people.*

1. On the holy mountain is his city,
cherished by the Lord.
The Lord prefers the gates of Sion
to all Jacob's dwellings.
Of you are told glorious things,
O city of God! /**R.**
2. 'Babylon and Egypt I will count
among those who know me;
Philistia, Tyre, and Ethiopia,
these will be her children,
and Sion shall be called "Mother",
for all shall be her children.' /**R.**
3. In his register of peoples he writes,
'These are her children',
and while they dance they will sing:
'In you all find their home.' /**R.**

Alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia. O happy Virgin, who brought forth the Lord, O blessed Mother of the Church, who cherish within us the Spirit of Christ your Son. Alleluia.

GOSPEL (1)

Jn. 19:25-34

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

'This is your son, This is your mother'

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother, 'Woman, this is your son.' Then to the disciple he said, 'This is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed and, so that the scripture should be completely fulfilled, he said, 'I am thirsty.' A jar full of sour wine stood there; so, putting a sponge soaked in the wine on a hyssop stick, they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the wine he said, 'It is fulfilled'; and bowing his head he gave up the spirit.

It was the Day of Preparation, and to avoid the bodies' remaining on the cross during that Sabbath - since that Sabbath was a day of special solemnity - the Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken away. Consequently the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with him and then of the other. When they came to Jesus, they saw he was already dead, and so instead of breaking his legs one of the soldiers pierced his side with a lance; and immediately there came out blood and water.

The Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL (2)

Lk. 1:26-38

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

'You see before you the Lord's servant'

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, you who enjoy God's favour! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Look! You are to conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I have no knowledge of man?' The angel answered, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. And I tell you this too: your cousin Elizabeth also, in her old age, has conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' Mary said, 'You see before you the Lord's servant, let it happen to me as you have said.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL (3)

Jn. 2:1-11

A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.'

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. And they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the feast had all been used, and the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, what do you want from me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. Then he said to them, 'Draw some out now and take it to the president of the feast.' They did this; the president tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from - though the servants who had drawn the water knew - the president of the feast called the bridegroom and said, 'Everyone serves good wine first and the worse wine when the guests are well wined; but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of Jesus' signs: it was at Cana in Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, accept our gifts
and change them into the perfect sacrifice of your Son,
with which Mary is associated as Mother of the Church.
May we be filled with a love like hers

and so become more closely united with her in the work of redemption.
Grant this through Christ our Lord.

PREFACE

Father, all powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
as we celebrate the feast of Mary Mother of the Church.

By receiving your Word into her immaculate heart,
she merited to conceive him in her womb,
and, giving birth to the Son through whom all things were made,
she nursed the beginnings of the Church.

Beside the Cross, she accepted God's loving design,
and welcomed all men and women as her children,
born to eternal life by the death of Christ.

While the Apostles awaited your promised Spirit,
she joined her ardent prayers to theirs,
and so became the model of the Church at prayer.

Now, in the glory of heaven,
she cares for the pilgrim Church with motherly love,
watching over its progress
until the glorious day of the Lord's coming.

And therefore,
with all the saints and angels we proclaim your glory
and join in their unending hymn of praise,
as we say:

Holy, holy, holy...

ANTIPHON AT COMMUNION

Cf. Jn. 2:1,11

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there. This was the first of Jesus' signs. He revealed his glory and his disciples believed in him.

Or

Jn. 19:26,27

Seeing his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother, 'Woman, this is your son.' Then to the disciple he said, 'This is your mother.'

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord,
having received your gift of the Eucharist,
we pray that with Mary's help,
all nations may be enlightened
by the teaching of the gospel,
and filled with the presence of the Spirit.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.