

Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favor with God.
Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.
He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,
and of his Kingdom there will be no end.”
But Mary said to the angel, “How can this be,
since I have no relations with a man?”
And the angel said to her in reply, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.
Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.
And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,
has also conceived a son in her old age,
and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;
for nothing will be impossible for God.”
Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word.”
Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Glorious things are spoken of you, O Mary,
for from you arose the sun of justice, Christ our God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the Sacrament we have received,
O Lord our God,
heal in us the wounds of that fault
from which in a singular way
you preserved Blessed Mary in her Immaculate Conception.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

The teaching of Mary's immaculate conception developed in the living tradition of the church as it reflected on the holiness necessary for the task to which she had been called. We should continue to reflect on Mary's holiness, too, for it was through her being prepared to receive the Son of God that the Second Person of the Trinity became incarnate. It was necessary that she be "full of grace," free from all stain of sin, so that all the world could encounter the Word in the flesh.

—Living Liturgy™, *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 2020*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON ISAIAH 61:10

I rejoice heartily in the Lord,
in my God is the joy of my soul;
for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation,
and wrapped me in a mantle of justice,
like a bride adorned with her jewels.

COLLECT

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin prepared a worthy dwelling for your Son,
grant, we pray,
that, as you preserved her from every stain
by virtue of the Death of your Son, which you foresaw,
so, through her intercession,
we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to your presence.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

READING I

L 689 · GENESIS 3:9–15, 20

A reading from the Book of Genesis

I will put enmity between your offspring and hers.

After the man, Adam, had eaten of the tree,

the LORD God called to the man and asked him, “Where are you?”

He answered, “I heard you in the garden;

but I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid myself.”

Then he asked, “Who told you that you were naked?”

You have eaten, then, from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat!”

The man replied, “The woman whom you put here with me—

she gave me fruit from the tree, and so I ate it.”

The LORD God then asked the woman, “Why did you do such a thing?”

The woman answered, “The serpent tricked me into it, so I ate it.”

Then the LORD God said to the serpent:

“Because you have done this, you shall be banned from all the animals

and from all the wild creatures;

on your belly shall you crawl, and dirt shall you eat

all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman,

and between your offspring and hers;

he will strike at your head, while you strike at his heel.”

The man called his wife Eve,

because she became the mother of all the living.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

PSALM 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4

℟. (1a) Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds.

Sing to the LORD a new song,

for he has done wondrous deeds;

His right hand has won victory for him,

his holy arm. **℟.**

The LORD has made his salvation known:

in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.

He has remembered his kindness and his faithfulness

toward the house of Israel. **℟.**

All the ends of the earth have seen

the salvation by our God.

Sing joyfully to the LORD, all you lands;

break into song; sing praise. **℟.****READING II**

EPHESIANS 1:3–6, 11–12

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world.

Brothers and sisters:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him.

In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved.

In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

see LUKE 1:28

℟. Alleluia, alleluia.**℣.** Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you;blessed are you among women. **℟.****GOSPEL READING**

LUKE 1:26–38

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.***Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.*

The angel Gabriel was sent from God

to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,

to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David,

and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said, “Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.”

But she was greatly troubled at what was said

and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.