

DevoMission: The Unity of Devotion and Mission

Evangelii Nuntiandi #82

May Mary be the Star of the evangelization ever renewed which the Church, docile to her Lord's command, must promote and accomplish, especially in these times which are difficult but full of hope!

Opening Hymn

Magnificat, Magnificat
Magnificat anima mea Dominum
Magnificat, Magnificat
Magnificat, anima mea!

Ecclesia in Asia #51

O Holy Mary, Daughter of the Most High God,
Virgin Mother of the Saviour and Mother of us all,
look tenderly upon the Church of your Son planted on Asian soil.
Be her guide and model
as she continues your Son's mission of love and service in Asia.

You fully and freely accepted the Father's call
to be the Mother of God;
teach us to empty our hearts
of all that is not of God,
that we too may be filled
with the Holy Spirit from on high.
You pondered the mysteries of God's will
in the silence of your heart;
help us on our journey
to discern the signs of God's powerful hand.
You went quickly to visit Elizabeth
and help in her days of waiting;
obtain for us the same spirit of zeal and service
in our evangelizing task.
You sang the praises of the Lord;

lead us in joyful proclamation of faith
in Christ our Saviour.
You had compassion on the needy
and spoke to your Son on their behalf;
teach us never to fear
to speak of the world to Jesus
and of Jesus to the world.
You stood at the foot of the Cross
as your Son breathed his last;
be with us as we seek to be one
in spirit and service with all who suffer.
You prayed with the disciples in the Upper Room;
help us to wait upon the Spirit
and to go wherever he leads us.

Protect the Church from all the powers
that threaten her.
Help her to be a true image
of the Most Holy Trinity.
Pray that through the Church's love and service
all the peoples of Asia may come
to know your Son
Jesus Christ, the only Saviour of the world,
and so taste the joy of life in all its
fullness.
O Mary, Mother of the New Creation
and Mother of Asia,
pray for us, your children, now and
always!

Hail Mary

Ecclesia in Africa #144

Prayer to Mary, Mother of the Church

O Mary, Mother of God
and Mother of the Church,
thanks to you, on the day of the
Annunciation,
at the dawn of the new era,
the whole human race with its cultures
rejoiced in recognizing itself
ready for the Gospel.
On the eve of a new Pentecost
for the Church in Africa, Madagascar
and the adjacent Islands,
the People of God with its Pastors

turns to you and with you fervently prays:
May the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
make of the cultures of Africa
places of communion in diversity,
fashioning the peoples
of this great Continent
into generous sons and daughters
of the Church
which is the Family of the Father,
the Brotherhood of the Son,
the Image of the Trinity,
the seed and beginning on earth
of the eternal Kingdom
which will come to its perfection
in the City that has God as its Builder:
the City of justice, love and peace.

Hail Mary

Ecclesia in Europe #125

Prayer to Mary, Mother of Hope

Mary, Mother of hope,
accompany us on our journey!
Teach us to proclaim the living God;
help us to bear witness to Jesus,
the one Saviour;
make us kindly towards our neighbours,
welcoming to the needy,
concerned for justice,
impassioned builders of a more just world;
intercede for us
as we carry out our work in history,
certain that the Father's plan will be
fulfilled.

Dawn of a new world,
show yourself the Mother of hope
and *watch over us!*
Watch over the Church in Europe:
may she be transparently open to the
Gospel;
may she be an authentic place
of communion;
may she carry out fully her mission
of proclaiming, celebrating and serving
the Gospel of hope
for the peace and joy of all.

Queen of Peace,
*Protect the men and women of the third
millennium!*
Watch over all Christians:
may they advance confidently
on the path of unity,
as a leaven of harmony for the continent.
Watch over young people:
the hope of the future,
may they respond with generosity
to the call of Jesus.
Watch over the leaders of nations:
may they be committed
to building a common house
which respects the dignity and rights
of every person.

Mary, give us Jesus!
Grant that we may follow him and love
him!
He is the hope of the Church,
of Europe and of all humanity!
He lives with us, in our midst, in his
Church!
With you we say:
“Come, Lord Jesus” (*Rev 22:20*).
May the hope of glory
which he has poured into our hearts
bear fruits of justice and peace!

Hail Mary

Ecclesia in America #11

How can we fail to emphasize the role
which belongs to the Virgin Mary in
relation to the pilgrim Church in America
journeying towards its encounter with the
Lord? Indeed, the Most Blessed Virgin “is
linked in a special way to the birth of the
Church in the history ... of the peoples of
America; through Mary they came to
encounter the Lord”.(18)

Throughout the continent, from the time of
the first evangelization, the presence of the
Mother of God has been strongly felt,
thanks to the efforts of the missionaries. In
their preaching, “the Gospel was
proclaimed by presenting the Virgin Mary

as its highest realization. From the beginning — invoked as Our Lady of Guadalupe — Mary, by her motherly and merciful figure, was a great sign of the closeness of the Father and of Jesus Christ, with whom she invites us to enter into communion”.(19)

The appearance of Mary to the native Juan Diego on the hill of Tepeyac in 1531 had a decisive effect on evangelization.(20) Its influence greatly overflows the boundaries of Mexico, spreading to the whole Continent. America, which historically has been, and still is, a melting-pot of peoples, has recognized in the *mestiza* face of the Virgin of Tepeyac, “in Blessed Mary of Guadalupe, an impressive example of a perfectly inculturated evangelization”.(21) Consequently, not only in Central and South America, but in North America as well, the Virgin of Guadalupe is venerated as Queen of all America.(22)

With the passage of time, pastors and faithful alike have grown increasingly conscious of the role of the Virgin Mary in the evangelization of America. In the prayer composed for the Special Assembly for America of the Synod of Bishops, Holy Mary of Guadalupe is invoked as “Patroness of all America and Star of the first and new evangelization”. In view of this, I welcome with joy the proposal of the Synod Fathers that the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother and Evangelizer of America, be celebrated throughout the continent on December 12.(23) It is my heartfelt hope that she, whose intercession was responsible for strengthening the faith of the first disciples (cf. *Jn* 2:11), will by her maternal intercession guide the Church in America, obtaining the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, as she once did for the early Church (cf. *Acts* 1:14), so that the new evangelization may yield a splendid flowering of Christian life.

Hail Mary

Evangelii Gaudium # 288

There is a Marian “style” to the Church’s work of evangelization. Whenever we look to Mary, we come to believe once again in the revolutionary nature of love and tenderness. In her we see that humility and tenderness are not virtues of the weak but of the strong who need not treat others poorly in order to feel important themselves. Contemplating Mary, we realize that she who praised God for “bringing down the mighty from their thrones” and “sending the rich away empty” (*Lk* 1:52-53) is also the one who brings a homely warmth to our pursuit of justice. She is also the one who carefully keeps “all these things, pondering them in her heart” (*Lk* 2:19). Mary is able to recognize the traces of God’s Spirit in events great and small. She constantly contemplates the mystery of God in our world, in human history and in our daily lives. She is the woman of prayer and work in Nazareth, and she is also Our Lady of Help, who sets out from her town “with haste” (*Lk* 1:39) to be of service to others. This interplay of justice and tenderness, of contemplation and concern for others, is what makes the ecclesial community look to Mary as a model of evangelization. We implore her maternal intercession that the Church may become a home for many peoples, a mother for all peoples, and that the way may be opened to the birth of a new world. It is the Risen Christ who tells us, with a power that fills us with confidence and unshakeable hope: “Behold, I make all things new” (*Rev* 21:5). With Mary we advance confidently towards the fulfilment of this promise, and to her we pray:

Gospel: Matthew 12: 47b -50

Someone told him, “Look, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.” But to the one who had told him this, Jesus replied, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?”

And pointing to his disciples, he said,
“Here are my mother and my brothers! For
whoever does the will of my Father in
heaven is my brother and sister and
mother.”

Prayer to Mary (*Evangelii Gaudium*)

*Mary, Virgin and Mother,
you who, moved by the Holy Spirit,
welcomed the word of life
in the depths of your humble faith:
as you gave yourself completely to the
Eternal One,
help us to say our own “yes”
to the urgent call, as pressing as ever,
to proclaim the good news of Jesus.*

*Filled with Christ’s presence,
you brought joy to John the Baptist,
making him exult in the womb of his
mother.
Brimming over with joy,
you sang of the great things done by God.
Standing at the foot of the cross
with unyielding faith,
you received the joyful comfort of the
resurrection,
and joined the disciples in awaiting the
Spirit
so that the evangelizing Church might be
born.*

*Obtain for us now a new ardour born of
the resurrection,
that we may bring to all the Gospel of life
which triumphs over death.
Give us a holy courage to seek new paths,
that the gift of unfading beauty
may reach every man and woman.*

*Virgin of listening and contemplation,
Mother of love, Bride of the eternal
wedding feast,
pray for the Church, whose pure icon you
are,
that she may never be closed in on herself
or lose her passion for establishing God’s
kingdom.*

*Star of the new evangelization,
help us to bear radiant witness to
communion,
service, ardent and generous faith,
justice and love of the poor,
that the joy of the Gospel
may reach to the ends of the earth,
illuminating even the fringes of our world.*

*Mother of the living Gospel,
wellspring of happiness for God’s little
ones,
pray for us.*

Amen. Alleluia!

Closing Hymn: Go Tell Everyone

God's spirit lives in my heart
He has called me and set me apart
This is what I have to do
What I have to do

Chorus:

He sent me to give the good news to the
poor
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no
more
Tell blind people that they can see,
And set the downtrodden free
And go tell everyone
The news that the kingdom of God has
come

Just as the Father sent me
So I'm sending out to be
My witnesses throughout the world
The whole of the world (chorus)

Don't worry what You have to say
Don't worry because on that day
God's spirit will speak in your heart
Will speak in your heart (chorus)