

July 2

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Although the Magnificat is sung every day at Vespers, a feast commemorating Mary's encounter with Elizabeth was only established in 1389, inspired by the Franciscans' devotion to the earthly life of Christ.

White

2 Cl. (Duplex 2 Cl.)

INTROIT: *Sedulius*

Salve, sancta Parens, enixa puerpera Regem :
qui cælum terramque regit in sæcula sæculo-
rum. Ps. 44:2: Eructavit cor meum verbum
bonum : dico ego opera mea Regi. V. Gloria.

*Hail, O holy Mother, who gavest birth to the King
who governeth heaven and earth, for ever and ever.
Ps. 44:2: My heart hath uttered a good word :
I speak my works to the King. V. Glory.*

COLLECT

Famulis tuis, quæsumus, Domine, cælestis gra-
tiæ munus impertire : ut, quibus beatæ Virginis
partus exstitit salutis exordium, Visitationis ejus
votiva solemnitas pacis tribuat incrementum.
Per Dominum.

*Impart to thy servants, O Lord, we beseech thee, the
gift of heavenly grace; that, as the motherhood of the
blessed Virgin was the beginning of our salvation, so
the solemn festival of her Visitation may obtain for
us an increase of peace. Through our Lord.*

LESSON: *Cant. 2:8-14*

Lectio libri Sapientiæ.

Ecce iste venit saliens in montibus, transiliens
colles : similis est dilectus meus capreæ, hinnu-
loque cervorum. En ipse stat post parietem
nostrum, respiciens per fenestras, prospiciens
per cancellos. En dilectus meus loquitur mihi :
Surge, propera, amica mea, columba mea, for-
mosa mea, et veni. Jam enim hiems transiit,
imber abiit et recessit. Flores apparuerunt in
terra nostra, tempus putationis advenit, vox
turturis audita est in terra nostra : ficus protulit
grossos suos, vineæ florentes dederunt odorem
suum. Surge, amica mea, speciosa mea, et veni :
columba mea in foraminibus petreæ, in caverna
maceriæ, ostende mihi faciem tuam : sonet vox
tua in auribus meis : vox enim tua dulcis, et
facies tua decora.

A lesson from the Book of Wisdom.

*Behold, he cometh, leaping upon the mountains,
skipping over the hills : my beloved is like a roe, or a
young hart. Behold, he standeth behind our wall :
looking through the windows, looking through the
lattices. Behold, my beloved speaketh to me: Arise,
make haste, my love, my dove, my beautiful one, and
come. For winter is now past, the rain is over and
gone. The flowers have appeared in our land, the time
of pruning is come; the voice of the turtle is heard in
our land; the fig-tree hath put forth her green figs, the
vines in flower yield their sweet smell. Arise, my love,
my beautiful one, and come : my dove in the clefts of
the rock, in the hollow places of the wall, show me
thy face, let thy voice sound in my ears : for thy voice
is sweet, and thy face comely.*

GRADUAL

Benedicta et venerabilis es, Virgo Maria, quæ sine tactu pudoris inventa es Mater Salvatoris. *¶* Virgo Dei Genitrix, quem totus non capit orbis, in tua se clausit viscera factus homo.

Thou art blessed and venerable, O Virgin Mary; who, without any violation of purity, wert found the mother of our Saviour. ¶ O Virgin Mother of God, he whom the whole world is unable to contain, being made man, enclosed himself in thy womb.

ALLELUIA

Felix es, sacra Virgo Maria, et omni laude dignissima : quia ex te ortus est sol justitiæ, Christus Deus noster.

Thou art happy, O holy Virgin Mary, and most worthy of all praise : because from thee arose the sun of justice, Christ our God.

ad libitum: SEQUENCE

Celebremus in hac die,
Festum domus Zachariæ
Laudibus lætitiæ.

*Let us celebrate on this day
The feast in the house of Zacharias
With praises of joy.*

Contemplemur ibi gestum
Et de festo fiat festum
Jam domus Ecclesiæ.

*Let us contemplate what had been done there,
And from that feast shall happen a feast
Now in the house of the Church.*

Thema jam solemnitatis
Copiosæ caritatis
Gratia recolitur;

*As a subject for this feast
We consider the grace
Of rich charity,*

Quam Elisabeth beata
Senectute fecundata
Suscepisse scribitur.

*Which had received, as it is written,
Blessed Elizabeth,
Made fertile in her old age.*

Orbis totus gratuletur,
Toto corde veneretur
Dulcis visitatio,

*All the world shall rejoice,
And venerate with the whole heart
This sweet visit,*

Compassivi cordis benignitas,
Excessiva status humilitas
Sacra consolatio.

*The kindness of a compassionate heart,
The great humility of her station,
The holy comfort.*

In introitu Mariæ
Prolem, matrem, prophetiæ
Spiritus illuminat.

*At the entry of Mary
The spirit of prophecy
Enlightens child and mother.*

Confortata genitum
Roborata debitum
Felix parens terminat.

*The happy mother, comforted and
Strengthened, gives birth to
The [after her barrenness] long-due son.*

Ergo festi hanc auctricem
Lauda Dei genitricem,
Sion, ex præcordiis.

*Therefore, Sion, praise the reason for this feast,
The Mother of God,
Out of thy whole heart.*

Quidquid dicas de benigna,
minus est a laude digna
Debitis præconiis.

*Whatever thou mayest say about the kind lady
In the songs we owe to her
Is less than sufficient.*

Visitatrix in montanis
Visitatrix in his planis,
Sis matris Ecclesiæ.

*O visitor in the mountains,
Be also a visitor in these plains
For the mother Church.*

Medicina Christiana,
Quod non valet vis humana,
Fiat dono gratiæ.

*Through the gift of Grace,
Which human power cannot achieve,
May she become Christian medicine.*

Benedicta mulierum,
Sidus maris, lumen verum,
Mæstum consolare clerum
Populum irradiat.

*Thou blessed amongst women,
Star of the see, true light
Comfort the mourning clergy,
Enlighten the people.*

Benedicto ventris tui
Fructu dona nobis frui,
Sicque simus semper sui
In perenni gloria. Amen.

*Grant, that we may enjoy
The blessed fruit of thy womb.
That we may always be his
In everlasting glory. Amen.*

GOSPEL: *Lk. 1:39-47*

Sequentia Sancti Evangelii secundum Lucam.

*Continuation of the holy Gospel according to
St Luke.*

In illo tempore : Exsurgens Maria, abiit in montana cum festinatione, in civitatem Juda. Et intravit in domum Zachariæ : et salutavit Elisabeth. Et factum est, ut audivit salutationem Mariæ Elisabeth, exsultavit infans in utero ejus, et repleta est Spiritu Sancto Elisabeth, et exclamavit voce magna, et dixit : Benedicta tu inter mulieres, et benedictus fructus ventris tui. Et unde hoc mihi, ut veniat mater Domini mei ad me? Ecce enim ut facta est vox salutationis tuæ in auribus meis, exsultavit in gaudio infans in utero meo. Et beata quæ credidisti, quoniam perficientur ea quæ dicta sunt tibi a Domino. Et ait Maria : Magnificat anima mea Dominum, et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo salutari meo.

At that time: Mary rising up, went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda. And she entered into the house of Zachary, and saluted Elizabeth. And it came to pass that when Elizabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the infant leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost : and she cried out with a loud voice, and said: Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb. And whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed art thou that hast believed, because those things shall be accomplished that were spoken to thee by the Lord. And Mary said: My soul doth magnify the Lord; and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

OFFERTORY

Beata es, Virgo Maria, quæ omnium portasti Creatorem : genuisti qui te fecit, et in æternum permanes Virgo.

Blessed art thou, O Virgin Mary, who didst bear the Creator of all : thou didst bring forth him who made thee, and thou remainest a Virgin forever.

SECRET

Unigeniti tui, Domine, nobis succurrat humanitas : ut, qui natus de Virgine, matris integritatem non minuit, sed sacrauit, in Visitationis ejus solemnibus nostris nos piaculis exuens, oblationem nostram tibi faciat acceptam Jesus Christus Dominus noster. Qui tecum vivit.

May the humanity of thine only-begotten Son be our help, O Lord : that Jesus Christ our Lord, who, when born of the Virgin, did not lessen but did consecrate his Mother's virginity, may on this festival on her Visitation cleanse us from our sins, and make our offering acceptable in thy sight. Who liveth.

PREFACE

Of Our Lady

Vere dignum et justum est, æquum et salutare, nos tibi semper, et ubique gratias agere : Domine sancte, Pater omnipotens, æterne Deus : et te in Visitatione beatæ Mariæ semper Virginis collaudare, benedicere, et prædicare. Quæ et Unigenitum tuum Sancti Spiritus obumbratione concepit : et virginitatis gloria permanente, lumen æternum mundo effudit, Jesum Christum, Dominum nostrum. Per quem majestatem tuam laudant Angeli, adorant Dominationes, tremunt Potestates. Cæli, cælorumque Virtutes, ac beata Seraphim, socia exultatione concelebrant. Cum quibus et nostras voces, ut admitti jubeas, deprecamur, supplici confessione dicentes :

It is truly meet and just, right and salutary, that we should always, and in all places, give thanks to thee, O holy Lord, Father almighty, eternal God; and on the Visitation of the blessed Mary, ever a Virgin, should praise and bless and proclaim thee. For she conceived thine only-begotten Son by the overshadowing of the Holy Ghost; and, losing not the glory of her virginity, gave to the world the everlasting light, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through whom the Angels praise thy majesty, the Dominions adore, the Powers tremble. The Heavens, and the Virtues of the heavens, and the blessed Seraphim, do celebrate with united joy. In union with whom we beseech thee, that thou wouldst command our voices also to be admitted, with suppliant confession, saying:

COMMUNION

Beata viscera Mariæ Virginis, quæ portaverunt æterni Patris filium.

Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, which bore the Son of the eternal Father.

POST-COMMUNION

Sumpsimus, Domine, celebritatis annuæ votiva sacramenta : præsta, quæsumus; ut et temporalis vitæ nobis remedia præbeant, et æternæ. Per Dominum

We have received, O Lord, thy sacraments in celebration of this yearly festival; grant, we beseech thee, that it may bestow upon us remedies both for this present life and for the life to come. Through our Lord.