

8th December

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Dogma of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady was defined by Bl. Pope Pius IX, but this feast is much older; it became common during the Middle Ages and was fixed for the universal Church on this day, nine months before Our Lady's Birth on September 8th, in the 15th century.

White

1 Cl. (Duplex 1 Cl.)

INTROIT: Is. 61:10

Gaudens gaudebo in Domino, et exsultabit anima mea in Deo meo : quia induit me vestimentis salutis, et indumento justitiæ circumdedit me, quasi sponsam ornatam monilibus suis. Ps. 29:2: Exaltabo te, Domine, quoniam suscepisti me : nec delectasti inimicos meos super me. V. Gloria.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, and my soul shall be joyful in my God : for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, and with the robe of justice he hath covered me, as a bride adorned with her jewels. Ps. 29:2: I will extol thee, O Lord, for thou hast upheld me : and hast not made my enemies to rejoice over me. V. Glory.

COLLECT

Deus, qui per Immaculatam Virginis Conceptionem dignum Filio tuo habitaculum præparasti : quæsumus, ut qui ex morte ejusdem Filii tui prævisa, eam ab omni labe præservasti, nos quoque mundos ejus intercessionem ad te pervenire concedas. Per eundem Dominum.

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin didst prepare a fitting habitation for thy Son; grant, we beseech thee, that as thou preservedst her from all stain through the death foreseen of the same thy Son, so we too may through her intercession be purified and come to thee. Through the same.

LESSON: Prov. 8:22-35

Lectio libri Sapientiæ.

Dominus possedit me in initio viarum suarum, antequam quidquam faceret a principio. Ab æterno ordinata sum, et ex antiquis, antequam terra fieret. Nondum erant abyssi, et ego jam concepta eram; necdum montes gravi mole constiterant : ante colles ego parturiebar : adhuc terram non fecerat, et flumina, et cardines orbis terræ. Quando præparabat cælos, aderam : quando certa lege et gyra vallabat abyssos : quando æthera firmabat sursum, et librabat fontes aquarum : quando circumdabat mari terminum suum, et legem ponebat aquis, ne transirent fines suos; quando appendebat fundamenta terræ. Cum eo eram cuncta componens : et delectabar per singulos dies, ludens coram eo omni tempore, ludens in orbe

A lesson from the Book of Wisdom.

The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his ways, before he made anything, from the beginning. I was set up from eternity, and of old, before the earth was made. The depth were not as yet, and I was already conceived; neither had the fountains of waters as yet sprung out; the mountains with their huge bulk had not as yet been established, before the hills I was brought forth. He had not yet made the earth, nor the rivers, nor the poles of the world. When he prepared the heavens, I was present; when with a certain law and compass he enclosed the depths; when he established the sky above, and poised the fountains of waters; when he compassed the sea with its bounds, and set a law to the waters that they should not pass their limits; when he balanced the foundations of the earth; I was with him, forming all things, and was

terrarum, et deliciae meae esse cum filiis hominum. Nunc ergo filii, audite me : beati qui custodiunt vias meas. Audite disciplinam, et estote sapientes, et nolite abjicere eam. Beatus homo qui audit me, et qui vigilat ad fores meas quotidie, et observat ad postes ostii mei. Qui me invenerit, inveniet vitam, et hauriet salutem a Domino.

delighted every day, playing before him at all times, playing in the world, and my delights were to be with the children of men. Now, therefore, ye children, hear me: blessed art they that keep my ways. Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not. Blessed is the man that heareth me, and that watcheth daily at my gates and waiteth at the posts of my doors. He that shall find me shall find life, and shall have salvation from the Lord.

GRADUAL: *Judith 13:23*

Benedicta es tu, Virgo Maria, a Domino Deo excelso, praem omnibus mulieribus super terram. *Ps.* Tu gloria Jerusalem, tu laetitia Israel, tu honorificentia populi nostri.

*Blessed art thou, O Virgin Mary, by the Lord the most high God, above all women upon the earth. *Ps.* Thou art the glory of Jerusalem, thou art the joy of Israel, thou art the honour of our people.*

ALLELUIA: *Cant. 4:7*

Tota pulchra es, Maria : et macula originalis non est in te.

Thou art all fair, O Mary, and the stain of original sin is not in thee.

ad libitum: SEQUENCE

Dies iste celebretur,
In quo pie recensetur
Mariae conceptio.

*This day shall be celebrated,
On which we piously remember
The Conception of Mary.*

Virgo mater generatur,
Concipitur et creatur,
Recta vena veniae.

*The virgin mother is made,
Conceived and created.
A true conduit of forgiveness.*

Adae vetus exilium
Et Joachim opprobrium
Hinc habent remedia.

*Adam's ancient exile
And Joachim's shame
Hence have remedies.*

Hoc Prophetae praeviderunt,
Patriarchae praesenserunt,
Inspirante gratia.

*This the prophets have foreseen
The Patriarchs forefelt
Through the inspiration of Grace.*

Virga florem conceptura,
Stella solem paritura,
Hodie concipitur.

*The rod that is to conceive a flower,
The star that is to give birth to the Sun,
Is today conceived.*

Flos de virga processurus
Sol de stella nasciturus,
Christus intellegitur.

*As the flower that shall come from the rod,
As the sun to be born from the star,
Christ is understood.*

O quam felix et praecleara,
Nobis grata, Deo cara,
Fuit haec conceptio.

*O how happy and famous,
Welcome to us, dear to God
Was this conception.*

Terminatur miseria,
Datur misericordia,
Luctus cedit gaudio.

*Misery is ended,
Mercy is given,
Mourning maketh way for joy.*

Nova mater novam prolem,
Nova stella novum solem,
Nova profert gratia.

*Through new grace,
The new mothers bringeth forth a new child,
The new star a new sun.*

Genitorem genitura,
Creatorem creatura,
Patrem parit filia.

*She shall give birth to the progenitor,
The creature to the creator,
The daughter to the father.*

O mirandam novitatem,
Novam quoque dignitatem,
Ditat matris castitatem
Fili conceptio.

*O wonderful novelty
And new dignity,
The conception of a son maketh rich
The mother's chastity.*

Gaude, Virgo gratiosa,
Virga flore speciosa,
Mater prole generosa,
Plene plena gaudio.

*Rejoice, Virgin full of Grace,
Thou rod with a beautiful flower,
The mother noble through the child,
Fully full of joy.*

Quod præcessit in figura,
Nube latet sub obscura,
Hoc declarat genitura,
Semel matris virgo pura,
Pariendi vertat jura,
Fusa mirante natura,
Deitatis pluvia.

*What had happened before in an image,
Being hidden under a dark cloud,
This explaineth she who shall give birth,
At the same time a mother and a pure virgin,
Turneth around the laws of childbirth,
Who is, to the astonishment of nature,
Joined together with the rain of the Godhead.*

Triste fuit in Eva væ,
Sed ex Eva formans Ave,
Versa vice, sed non prave,
Intus zelans in conclave,
Verbum bonum et suave.
Nobis mater virgo fave,
Tua frui gratia.

*In Eve the 'væ' [woe] was sad,
But, forming 'Ave' From 'Eva',
Turning it round, but not perverting,
By mightily acting inside in the chamber
The good and sweet word,
Be graceful to us, mother and virgin,
That we may enjoy thy grace.*

Omnis homo sine mora,
Laude plena solvens ora,
Istam colas, ipsam ora,
Omni die, omni hora,
Sit mens supplex, vox sonora,
Sic supplica, sic implora,
Hujus patrocinia.

*Any man, without delay,
Shall release the mouth full of praise,
Venerate her, ask her,
Every day, every hour.
Be our mouth praying, our voice resounding,
So ask her, so implore,
For her protection.*

Tu spes certa miserorum,
Vere mater orphanorum,
Tu levamen oppresorum,
Medicamen infirmorum,
Omnibus es omnia.

*Thou certain hope of the miserable,
The true mother of the orphans.
Thou art the relief for the oppressed,
The medicine for the sick,
Art everything to everyone.*

Te rogamus voto pari,
Laude digna singulari,
Ut errantes in hoc mari,
Nos in portu salutari,
Tua sistat gratia.

*Thee we ask of one accord,
Worthy of singular Praise,
That thy grace may place us,
Erring in this Sea
In the port of salvation.*

GOSPEL: *Lk. 1:26-28*

Sequentia sancti Evangelii secundum Lucam.

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

In illo tempore : Missus est Angelus Gabriel a Deo in civitatem Galilææ, cui nomen Nazareth, ad Virginem desponsatam viro, cui nomen erat Joseph, de domo David, et nomen Virginis Maria. Et ingressus Angelus ad eam, dixit : Ave gratia plena : Dominus tecum : benedicta tu in mulieribus.

At that time: The Angel Gabriel was sent from God into a city of Galilee, called Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the Angel being come in, said unto her: Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women.

OFFERTORY: *Lk. 1:28*

Ave Maria, gratia plena : Dominus tecum : benedicta tu in mulieribus, alleluia.

Hail; Mary, full of grace : the Lord is with thee : blessed art thou among women, alleluia.

SECRET

Salutarem hostiam, quam in solemnitate Immaculatæ Conceptionis beatæ Virginis Mariæ tibi Domine offerimus, suscipe et præsta : ut sicut illam, tua gratia præveniente, ab omni labe immunem profiteamur; ita ejus intercessione a culpis omnibus liberemur. Per Dominum.

Receive, O Lord, the saving victim which we offer to thee in the festival of the Immaculate Conception of the blessed Virgin Mary : and grant that, even as we proclaim her to have been preserved by thy grace from every stain, so may we be delivered, by her intercession, from all our sins. Through our Lord.

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 immaculata conceptione 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,

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 for the immaculate conception 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

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 :

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

Gloriosa dicta sunt de te, Maria : quia fecit tibi magna qui potens est.

Glorious things are told of thee, O Mary, for he who is mighty hath done great things unto thee.

POST-COMMUNION

Sacramenta quæ sumpsimus, Domine Deus noster, illius in nobis culpæ vulnera reparent; a qua Immaculatam beatæ Mariæ Conceptionem singulariter præservasti. Per Dominum.

May the sacraments which we have received, O Lord our God, heal in us the wounds of that sin from which thou didst by a singular privilege preserve the Immaculate Conception of the blessed Mary. Through our Lord.