



**NOVENA TO THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - QUEEN OF MOUNT CARMEL**

7 July – Day 1

THE ANNUNCIATION

COLLECTION PRAYER

Lord God, through the annunciation of an Angel,
You willed that your Son should become flesh
in the bosom of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
grant us that, believing that she is the true Mother of God,
we may have her as an intercessor before You.

We ask this 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.¹

LITURGY OF THE WORD: MASSES OF² THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – LECTIONARY, PP. 27-29.³

FIRST READING

Is 7:10-14; 8:10c⁴

«The virgin shall conceive»

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

‘Again, the Lord spoke to Ahaz saying: Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel: that is ‘*God is with us*’.”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 39 (40):7-8a.8b-9,10,11⁵
(R. cf. 8a.9a)⁶

Chorus: I come Lord to do your will.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.
Then I said, “Here I am;

In the scroll of the Book it is written of me
I delight to do your will, O my God;
your Law is within my heart.”

I have told the good news of deliverance in the great assembly;
see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.

I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,

I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness
from the great assembly.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 1:14ab

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us;
and we have seen his glory.

ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL

Lk 1:26-38

«You will conceive and give birth to a Son»

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.⁷

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "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 holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Mary then said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."

The Gospel of the Lord.

MEDITATION ON A CARMELITE TEXT

From the spiritual writings of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face⁸

PN 54, 3-5.

When an angel from Heaven bids you be the Mother
Of the God who is to reign for all eternity,
I see you prefer, O Mary, what a mystery!
The ineffable treasure of virginity.
O Immaculate Virgin, I understand how your soul
Is dearer to the Lord than his heavenly dwelling.
I understand how your soul, Humble and Sweet Valley,
Can contain Jesus, the Ocean of Love!...

Oh! I love you, Mary, saying you are the servant
Of the God whom you charm by your humility.
This hidden virtue makes you all-powerful.
It attracts the Holy Trinity into your heart.
Then the Spirit of Love covering you with his shadow,
The Son equal to the Father became incarnate in you,
There will be a great many of his sinner brothers,
Since he will be called: Jesus, your first-born!...

O beloved Mother, despite my littleness,
Like you I possess The All-Powerful within me.
But I don't tremble in seeing my weakness:
The treasures of a mother belong to her child,
And I am your child, O my dearest Mother.
Aren't your virtues and your love mine too?
So when the white Host comes into my heart,
Jesus, your Sweet Lamb, thinks he is resting in you!...

HOMILY

PRAYERS

OUR FATHER ...

FINAL PRAYER

Come to our aid, Lord,
through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother and Queen of Carmel,
so that, protected by her help,
we may reach the true mountain of salvation:
Jesus Christ Our Lord;
He who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.

NOVENA PRAYER

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Splendour and Glory of Carmel,
you look with special tenderness upon
those who wear your Holy Scapular.
Cover me with the mantle of your maternal protection,
for to you I consecrate myself today and forever.
Strengthen my weakness with your power.
Illuminate the darkness of my spirit with your wisdom.
Increase in me faith, hope, and charity.
Adorn my soul with numerous graces and virtues.
Assist me in life, comfort me in death with your presence,
and present me to the Most Holy Trinity as your devoted child,
so that I may praise you for all eternity.
Amen.

HAIL MARY ...

8 July – Day 2

THE VISITATION

COLLECTION PRAYER

Lord God, Redeemer of mankind, who
through the Blessed Virgin Mary, ark of the New Covenant,
brought salvation and joy to the house of Elizabeth,
grant that, obeying the inspiration⁹ of the Spirit,
we may bring Christ to our brothers and sisters
and glorify You with our praises and through the holiness of our lives.

We ask this 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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: MASSES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Lecionário, págs. 31-33.

FIRST READING

Sg 2:8-14

«My beloved comes, crossing the mountains»

A reading from the Song of Songs.

The voice of my beloved!
Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
bouncing over the hills.

My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Look, there he stands
behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.

My beloved speaks and says to me:
“Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;
for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.

The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,

and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.

O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,
in the covert of the cliff,
let me see your face,
let me hear your voice;
for your voice is sweet,
and your face is lovely.”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Is 12:2-4,5-6
(R. 6b)

Chorus: Rejoice and be glad,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel

Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing to the Lord, for He has done marvellous things;
proclaim them throughout the earth.
Sing songs of joy, inhabitants of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 1:45

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA
Blessed are you, O Holy Virgin Mary,
who believed in the word of the Lord.
ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL

Lk 1:39-45

«And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?»

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And

why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

MEDITATION ON A CARMELITE TEXT

From the spiritual writings of Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity

Heaven in Faith, 40

It seems to me that the Virgin’s attitude, during the months between the Annunciation and Christmas, is the model of interior souls, of beings that God chose to live within, at the bottom of the bottomless abyss. With what peace, with what recollection, Mary gave herself and lent herself to all things! How is it that even the most banal things were deified by her! Because, in everything, the Virgin remained the worshiper of God’s gift! This, however, did not prevent her from giving in to what was external, whenever it came to practicing charity. The Gospel tells us that Mary diligently travelled through the mountains of Judea to go to the house of her cousin Elizabeth. Never did the ineffable vision, which he contemplated in himself, diminish his external charity.¹⁰ Because, says a pious author, if contemplation "tends to the praise and eternity of its Lord, it possesses unity and will not lose it. Even if an order comes from Heaven, it turns to men, sympathizes with all their needs, bows to all miseries; it must weep and become fruitful. It illuminates like fire; and like fire, it burns, absorbs and devours, raising to Heaven what it has devoured. And, when it has done its work here below, rises and resumes, burning in its fire, the path to the top.”

HOMILY

PRAYERS

OUR FATHER ...

FINAL PRAYER

Come to our aid, Lord,
through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother and Queen of Carmel,
so that, protected by her help,
we may reach the true mountain of salvation:
Jesus Christ Our Lord;
He who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

NOVENA PRAYER

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Splendour and Glory of Carmel,
you look with special tenderness upon
those who wear your Holy Scapular.
Cover me with the mantle of your maternal protection,
for to you I consecrate myself today and forever.
Strengthen my weakness with your power.
Illuminate the darkness of my spirit with your wisdom.

Increase in me faith, hope, and charity.
Adorn my soul with numerous graces and virtues.
Assist me in life, comfort me in death with your presence,
and present me to the Most Holy Trinity as your devoted child,
so that I may praise you for all eternity.
Amen.

HAIL MARY ...

9 July – Day 3

THE MAGNIFICAT

COLLECTION PRAYER

Lord God, you chose the Blessed Virgin Mary,
exalted among the humble and the poor,
to be the Mother of our Saviour,
grant that, following her example,
we may offer You the homage of our sincere faith
and place all our hope in You.

We ask this 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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: MASSES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Lecionário, págs. 30, 218,
33.

FIRST READING

Zp 3:14-18

«The Lord, King of Israel, is in your midst»

A reading from the Prophet Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
Shout for joy, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
“Fear not, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak.
The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

1 Sam 2:1,4-7,8
(R. cf.1a)

Chorus: My heart rejoices in the Lord, my Saviour.
My heart exults in the Lord;
my strength is exalted in my God.
My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.

The bows of the mighty are broken, but the
feeble gird on strength.
Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those
who were hungry are satisfied.
The barren woman has given birth to many children, but she
who has many children is forlorn.

The Lord kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up. The
Lord makes poor and makes rich; it is the Lord
who humbles and exalts.

He raises up the poor from the dust; he lifts
the needy from the ash heap, to make them
sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honour.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 1:45

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA
Blessed are you, O Holy Virgin Mary,
who believed in the word of the Lord.
ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL

Lk 1:46-56

«My soul glorifies the Lord»

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

And Mary said:
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,

and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Mary remained with Elizabeth for about three months.
Then she returned home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

MEDITATION ON A CARMELITE TEXT

From the spiritual writings of Venerable Sister Maria Lucia of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart *My Path*, X, 25 April 25, 1985.

Clothed all of you, with the garment of humility, in your relationships with one another, because God resists the proud and gives His grace to the humble. This is what Our Lady also tells me in her beautiful song of the Magnificat. Being humble is recognizing the depth of my nothingness in the face of the immensity of God’s greatness, trusting in His love as a Father and in His mercy as a Saviour. It is to abandon myself in His arms, to let myself be led, to let myself be carried, to let myself be possessed and transformed by the action of His presence in me, of the communion in which each day He comes to me to transform me into Himself, to offer me with Himself to the Father – Host of love for the Praise of His Glory.¹¹

HOMILY

PRAYERS

OUR FATHER ...

FINAL PRAYER

Come to our aid, Lord,
through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother and Queen of Carmel,
so that, protected by her help,
we may reach the true mountain of salvation:
Jesus Christ Our Lord;
He who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

NOVENA PRAYER

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Splendour and Glory of Carmel,
you look with special tenderness upon
those who wear your Holy Scapular.
Cover me with the mantle of your maternal protection,
for to you I consecrate myself today and forever.
Strengthen my weakness with your power.
Illuminate the darkness of my spirit with your wisdom.

Increase in me faith, hope, and charity.
Adorn my soul with numerous graces and virtues.
Assist me in life, comfort me in death with your presence,
and present me to the Most Holy Trinity as your devoted child,
so that I may praise you for all eternity.
Amen.

HAIL MARY ...

10 July – Day 4

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

COLLECTION PRAYER

Lord our God, who, through the fruitful virginity of Mary Most Holy, gave eternal salvation to mankind, grant us to benefit from the power of her intercession, she who brought us the Author of life, Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: MASSES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Lecionário, págs. 40-42.

FIRST READING

Is 9:2-6

«A Son was given to us»

A reading from the Prophet of Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
for those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death,
a light has dawned.

You have multiplied their joy,
you have increased their gladness.
They rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing the spoils.

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named:
“Admirable Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 95 (96):1-2,3,11-13
(R. Lk 2:11)

Chorus: Our Saviour, Jesus Christ the Lord, was born.¹²

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

Proclaim his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvellous works among all the peoples.

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
let the field exult, and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy.

Before the Lord; for he is coming,
for he is coming to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with his truth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 2:10-11

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA
I bring you good news of great joy:
Our Saviour, Jesus Christ the Lord, has been born.¹³
ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL

Lk 2:1-14

«A Saviour has been born to you»

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a

manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying:

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

MEDITATION ON A CARMELITE TEXT

From the spiritual writings of Saint John of the Cross

Romance IX:3; Ascent 2:10

The time had already come / When he was born, / Just as he was married / He came down from
his thalamus, / Embracing his wife, / Who carried her in his arms; / Which the gracious Mother
/ In a nativity scene, / In the middle of some animals / That were there at the time.

The men sang songs / And the angels sang / Celebrating the espousals / Which between those
two there was: / God, however, in that crib / There he cried and moaned, / Which were jewels
that the wife / To the espousals brought, / And the Mother was amazed / At the exchange that
was seen there: / In God the man’s weeping / And in the man the joy, / Something that in one
and the other / seemed so foreign.

The most glorious Virgin Our Lady, being elevated in this high state from the beginning, never
had any form of creature engraved in her soul, nor was she moved by it, but was always moved
by the Holy Spirit.

HOMILY

PRAYERS

OUR FATHER ...

FINAL PRAYER

Come to our aid, Lord,
through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother and Queen of Carmel,
so that, protected by her help,
we may reach the true mountain of salvation:
Jesus Christ Our Lord;
He who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

NOVENA PRAYER

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Splendour and Glory of Carmel,
you look with special tenderness upon
those who wear your Holy Scapular.

Cover me with the mantle of your maternal protection,
for to you I consecrate myself today and forever.

Strengthen my weakness with your power.

Illuminate the darkness of my spirit with your wisdom.

Increase in me faith, hope, and charity.

Adorn my soul with numerous graces and virtues.

Assist me in life, comfort me in death with your presence,
and present me to the Most Holy Trinity as your devoted child,
so that I may praise you for all eternity.

Amen.

HAIL MARY ...

11 July – Day 5

THE PRESENTATION OF THE INFANT JESUS

COLLECTION PRAYER

We humbly beseech You O Lord,
that the Church,¹⁴ Virgin and Mother,
may faithfully keep the new covenant of love
and, following the example of Your humble Servant,
who presented to You in the temple the Author of the new Law,
may preserve her faith intact,
strengthen her hope in heavenly goods
and increase ever more her charity.

We ask this 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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: MASSES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Lecionário, págs. 183-184,
47-48.

FIRST READING

2 Cor 1:3-7

*«God comforts us in all our troubles,
So that we can comfort those who are troubled»*

A reading from the Second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Is 12:1-4,5-6
(R. 3)

Chorus: You will march joyfully to the springs of salvation.

I will give thanks to you, O Lord,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
and you comforted me.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
announce his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.

Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not fear,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might.

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done wonders;
announce them throughout the earth.
Shout aloud and sing for joy, O Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Is 11:1-2

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

The root of Jesse flourished: the Virgin Mary conceived Jesus, God and man.
God established peace, reconciling heaven and earth to himself.
ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL

Lk 2:27-35

«A sword will pierce your own soul»

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the infant-child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,
“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

MEDITATION ON A CARMELITE TEXT

From the spiritual writings of Saint Teresa of Jesus¹⁵

When you see my Mother carrying me in her arms, don't think that she enjoyed those joys without serious torment. Since Simeon said those words to him, my Father gave him clear light to see how much I would suffer. (CC 36) Those who followed Our Lord most closely were those who suffered the greatest hardships. Just look at what your glorious Mother passed through (7 M 4, 5).

Our Lord's pleasure in any service provided to His Mother is great (F 10, 5) We rejoice in being able to serve in some way the One who is Our Mother, Lady and Patroness. (F 29, 23) May our Lord, sisters, allow us to live life as true daughters of the Virgin Mary (F 16, 7). My daughters, let us resemble in some way the great humility of the Most Holy Virgin, whose habit we wear. It is an affront to say that we are her nuns, because, however much we may seem to have humiliated ourselves, we are far from being daughters of such a Mother (C 13, 3). Praise the Lord, because you are truly daughters of this Lady... Imitate her and consider how excellent this Lady must be, and the great benefit of having her as our patron saint (3 M 1, 3) See, my daughters, the obligation we have to serve God, those whom He allowed to persevere and remain forever in the house of God as daughters of the Virgin Mary! (F 27, 10) Each of those who come should know that this Primitive Rule of the Virgin Mary Our Lady begins in her again. (F 27, 11)

One day, the Lord said to me: "In your days you will see the Order of the Virgin very advanced" (CC 14). Now, my daughter, I can say the same as Saint Simeon, because I saw in the Order of Our Lady of Mount Carmel what I wanted. (Ct 385)

HOMILY

PRAYERS

OUR FATHER ...

FINAL PRAYER

Come to our aid, Lord,
through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother and Queen of Carmel,
so that, protected by her help,
we may reach the true mountain of salvation:
Jesus Christ Our Lord;
He who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
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NOVENA PRAYER

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Splendour and Glory of Carmel,
you look with special tenderness upon
those who wear your Holy Scapular.
Cover me with the mantle of your maternal protection,
for to you I consecrate myself today and forever.
Strengthen my weakness with your power.
Illuminate the darkness of my spirit with your wisdom.
Increase in me faith, hope, and charity.
Adorn my soul with numerous graces and virtues.
Assist me in life, comfort me in death with your presence,
and present me to the Most Holy Trinity as your devoted child,
so that I may praise you for all eternity.
Amen.

HAIL MARY ...

12 July – Day 6

MARY AT THE WEDDING AT CANA

COLLECTION PRAYER

Lord, Holy Father,
who in your wondrous providence
willed that the Blessed Virgin Mary
be present in the mysteries of our salvation,
grant that, obeying the words of the Mother of Christ,
we may do what your Son commanded us in the Gospel.

We ask this 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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: MASSES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Lecionário, págs. 55-57.

FIRST READING

Ex 19:3-8

«We will do everything the Lord has commanded»

A reading from the Book of Exodus.

In those days, Moses went up to God. The Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”

So Moses returned, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. The people all answered as one: “Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do.”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 118 (119):1-2,10,14-16
(R. 4)

Chorus: You have appointed your decrees in righteousness and in all faithfulness.

Happy are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord.
Happy are those who keep his decrees,
who seek him with their whole heart.

With my whole heart I seek you;
do not let me stray from your commandments.
I treasure your word in my heart,
so that I may not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O Lord;
teach me your statutes.
I delight more in following your decrees
than in all riches.

I will meditate on your precepts,
and fix my eyes on your ways.
I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 11:27

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

Blessed are those who hear the word of God and put it into practice:
Blessed is the Blessed Virgin Mary, who devotedly fulfilled the will of God.
ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL

Jn 2:1-11

«Do whatever He tells you»

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.

At that time, there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine ran out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had been turned into wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests had too much to drink. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

MEDITATION ON A CARMELITE TEXT

From the spiritual writings of Saint John of the Cross
Spiritual Canticle 2:8

Those who love discreetly do not worry about asking for what they need and desire, but rather present their needs so that the Beloved can do as they are served. This is how the blessed Virgin acted with her beloved Son at the wedding in Cana in Galilee: she did not directly ask Him for wine, but simply said: "They have no wine." (Jn 2:3)ⁱ
The reason for this is due to three things. The first: the Lord knows what is good for us more than we do ourselves. The second: the Beloved is filled with more compassion when he sees the need of those who love Him and their resignation. The third: the soul understands that she

protects herself more from her self-love and selfishness by presenting needs than asking for what she lacks. This is precisely what the soul does here when presenting her needs. It is as if she were saying: Go and tell my Beloved that if I get sick, give me my health, because only He is my health; if I suffer, my joy, because only He is my joy; if I die, my life, because only He is my life.¹⁶

HOMILY

PRAYERS

OUR FATHER ...

FINAL PRAYER

Come to our aid, Lord,
through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother and Queen of Carmel,
so that, protected by her help,
we may reach the true mountain of salvation:
Jesus Christ Our Lord;
He who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

NOVENA PRAYER

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Splendour and Glory of Carmel,
you look with special tenderness upon
those who wear your Holy Scapular.
Cover me with the mantle of your maternal protection,
for to you I consecrate myself today and forever.
Strengthen my weakness with your power.
Illuminate the darkness of my spirit with your wisdom.
Increase in me faith, hope, and charity.
Adorn my soul with numerous graces and virtues.
Assist me in life, comfort me in death with your presence,
and present me to the Most Holy Trinity as your devoted child,
so that I may praise you for all eternity.
Amen.

HAIL MARY ...

13 July – Day 7

MARY,¹⁷ THE DISCIPLE OF THE LORD

COLLECTION PRAYER

Lord our God,
who in the Blessed Virgin Mary gave us an example of the disciple who faithfully observes the words of life, open our hearts to hear the word of salvation, so that, by the power of the Holy Spirit, it may be ever more manifested to us and bear abundant fruit in our lives.

We ask this 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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: MASSES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Lecionário, págs. 61-63.

FIRST READING

Sir 51:13-18,20-22

~~18-24.27-30~~¹⁸

«Wisdom was the joy of my heart»

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

In my youth, before I went on my travels,
I sought wisdom openly in my prayer.
Before the temple I asked for her,
and I will search for her until the end.

From the first blossom to the ripening grape
my heart delighted in her;
my feet walked on the straight path:
from my youth I followed her steps.

I inclined my ear a little and received her,
and I found for myself abundant instruction.
I made great progress in her;
to Him who gives wisdom I will give glory.

For I resolved to live according to wisdom,
and I was zealous for the good,
and I shall never be put to shame.

I directed my soul to her,
and in purity I found her.
With her I gained understanding from the first;
Therefore I will never be forsaken.

My heart was stirred to seek her;
thus I have gained a prize possession.
The Lord gave me my tongue as a reward,
and I will praise him with it.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 18B (19B):7-10,14
(R. cf. Jn 6:63c)

Chorus: Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure,
making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold,
even the finest gold;
also sweeter than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.

Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 2:19

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA
Blessed be the Holy Virgin Mary,
who kept the word of God, meditating on it in her heart.
ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL

Lk 2:41-52

«The Mother of Jesus treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart»

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

Now every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went on a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished;

and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.” He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

The Gospel of the Lord.

MEDITATION ON A CARMELITE TEXT

From the spiritual writings of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and of the Holy Face¹⁹

PN 54, 13-15

In Jerusalem a bitter sadness
Comes to flood your heart like a vast ocean.
For three days, Jesus hides from your tenderness.
That is indeed exile in all its harshness!...

At last you find him and you are overcome with joy,
You say to the fair Child captivating the doctors:
“O my Son, why have you done this?
Your father and I have been weeping searching for you.”
And the Child God replies (O what a profound mystery!)
To his dearest Mother extending her arms to him:
“Why were you searching for me?
Didn’t you know I must be about My Father’s business?”

The Gospel tells me that, growing in wisdom,
Jesus remains submissive to Joseph and Mary,
And my heart reveals to me with what tenderness
He always obeyed his dear parents.
Now I understand the mystery of the temple,
The hidden words of my adorable King.
Mother, your sweet Child wants you to be the example²⁰
Of the soul searching for Him in the night of faith.

HOMILY

PRAYERS

OUR FATHER ...

FINAL PRAYER

Come to our aid, Lord,
through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother and Queen of Carmel,

so that, protected by her help,
we may reach the true mountain of salvation:
Jesus Christ Our Lord;
He who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

NOVENA PRAYER

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Splendour and Glory of Carmel,
you look with special tenderness upon
those who wear your Holy Scapular.
Cover me with the mantle of your maternal protection,
for to you I consecrate myself today and forever.
Strengthen my weakness with your power.
Illuminate the darkness of my spirit with your wisdom.
Increase in me faith, hope, and charity.
Adorn my soul with numerous graces and virtues.
Assist me in life, comfort me in death with your presence,
and present me to the Most Holy Trinity as your devoted child,
so that I may praise you for all eternity.
Amen.

HAIL MARY ...

14 July – Day 8

MARY AT THE FOOT OF THE HOLY CROSS

COLLECTION PRAYER

God of infinite mercy,
who, by the ineffable design of your providence,
completed the passion of Christ
with the countless sufferings of his members,
grant that, just as you willed that the sorrowful Mother
be with your Son dying on the foot of the cross,
we too, in imitation of the Virgin Mary,
may always assist, with our charity and comfort,
our suffering brothers and sisters.

We ask this 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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: MASSES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Lecionário, págs. 65-67.

FIRST READING

Rm 8:31-39

«He did not spare his own Son»

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Brothers: If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written:

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 17 (18):2-6,18-19
(R. cf. 7a)

Chorus: In my distress I called upon the Lord.

I love you, Lord my strength,
my fortress, and my deliverer,
my God, my rock in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

The cords of death encompassed me;
the torrents of perdition assailed me;
the cords of Sheol entangled me;
the snares of death confronted me.

In my distress I called upon the Lord;
to my God I cried for help.
From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry to him reached his ears.

They confronted me in the day of my calamity;
but the Lord was my support.
He brought me out into a safe place;
he delivered me, because he delighted in me.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 19:25

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

There was Mary, Queen of Heaven and Mistress of the world,
suffering near the cross of the Lord.

ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL

Jn 19:25-27

«Near the cross of Jesus stood his Mother»

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint John.

At that time, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

MEDITATION ON A CARMELITE TEXT

From the spiritual writings of Saint Teresa Benedita of the Cross
To stand by the Cross with you! (Good Friday 1938), Selected Works.

I was with you today at the foot of the Cross,
And I felt it as clearly as ever,
That right there you became our mother.

How faithful is the concern of an earthly mother
By fulfilling your son's last will!

But you were the Lord's servant,
Of God incarnate being and life,
Your entire being and life sealed in Him.

In this way, you welcomed your loved ones into your heart,
And, with the blood of your bitter sufferings,
For each soul you bought²¹ new life.

You know the weaknesses and wounds of all of us.
You also know the splendour of Heaven and the love of your Son,
Who wanted to shed eternal light on us.
And so, you carefully guide our steps.
For there is no price too high as you to lead us to Him.

But those you choose to follow you,
So that one day they surround you before the Eternal Throne,
They will have to remain with you.

At the foot of the Cross,
And with the blood of his bitter sufferings,
They will buy eternal light for beloved souls,
May the Son of God entrust them with an inheritance.

HOMILY

PRAYERS

OUR FATHER ...

FINAL PRAYER

Come to our aid, Lord,
through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother and Queen of Carmel,
so that, protected by her help,
we may reach the true mountain of salvation:
Jesus Christ Our Lord;
He who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

NOVENA PRAYER

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Splendour and Glory of Carmel,
you look with special tenderness upon
those who wear your Holy Scapular.
Cover me with the mantle of your maternal protection,
for to you I consecrate myself today and forever.
Strengthen my weakness with your power.
Illuminate the darkness of my spirit with your wisdom.
Increase in me faith, hope, and charity.
Adorn my soul with numerous graces and virtues.
Assist me in life, comfort me in death with your presence,
and present me to the Most Holy Trinity as your devoted child,
so that I may praise you for all eternity.
Amen.

HAIL MARY ...

15 July – Day 9

MARY AT PENTECOST

COLLECTION PRAYER

Lord our God,
who poured out the gifts of the Holy Spirit
upon the Virgin Mary, in prayer with the Apostles,
grant us, through her intercession,
that, filled with the same Spirit,
we may persevere united in prayer
and bring to our brothers and sisters everywhere
the joyful message of the salvation of mankind.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God forever and ever.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: MASSES OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – Lecionário, págs. 86-88.

FIRST READING

Acts 1:6-14

*«You will receive the strength of the Holy Spirit,
What will come upon you»*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the upper room where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus.²²

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 86 (87):1-3,5,6-7
(R. cf. 3)

Chorus: Great things are said of you, O city of God.

On the holy mount stands the city he founded;

the Lord loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Glorious things are spoken of you,
O city of God.
And of Zion it shall be said,
“This one and that one were born in it”;
for the Most High himself will establish it.

The Lord records, as he registers the peoples,
“This one was born there.”
Singers and dancers alike say,
“All my springs are in you.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 2:19

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA
Blessed be the Virgin Mary,
who kept the word of God, meditating on it in his heart.
ALLELUIA.

GOSPEL

Lk 8:19-21

*«My mother and my brothers
are those who hear the word of God and put it into practice»*

The Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Luke.

At that time, the mother and brothers of Jesus came to him, but they could not reach him because of the crowd. And he was told, “Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you.” But Jesus said to them, “My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and keep it.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

MEDITATION ON A CARMELITE TEXT

From the spiritual writings of Arnaldo Bostio

Prostrate before you, O most venerable foundress of the Carmelite family, we, all who dwell on the mountain, quench our hearts at your springs, simply recognizing ourselves as led by your guiding hand, aided by your help, illuminated by your light, transformed in you and our lives in yours.

Stay with us, O Lady Mary; obtain for us refuge in your bosom – it is vital that a mother dwells with her children, a teacher with her disciples, and a prioress with her nuns.

HOMILY

PRAYERS

OUR FATHER ...

FINAL PRAYER

Come to our aid, Lord,
through the powerful intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother and Queen of Carmel,
so that, protected by her help,
we may reach the true mountain of salvation:
Jesus Christ Our Lord;
He who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

NOVENA PRAYER

Most Holy Virgin Mary, Splendour and Glory of Carmel,
you look with special tenderness upon
those who wear your Holy Scapular.
Cover me with the mantle of your maternal protection,
for to you I consecrate myself today and forever.
Strengthen my weakness with your power.
Illuminate the darkness of my spirit with your wisdom.
Increase in me faith, hope, and charity.
Adorn my soul with numerous graces and virtues.
Assist me in life, comfort me in death with your presence,
and present me to the Most Holy Trinity as your devoted child,
so that I may praise you for all eternity.
Amen.

HAIL MARY ...

