

FEAST OF THE HOLY NAME OF MARY

Introduction

Creator God of all, as we come to pray to you today, we come not only with our own hearts but also with the heart of our world. We also come to pray to you with your heart, for in your heartbeat, the source and center of your love, we find the heartbeat of all humanity.

Hymn: *O Chosen One* or *Hail Mary* (Carey Landry)



O Chosen One! O Chosen One!
Woman of Peace, Woman of Hope,
Bearer of Life for us all;
O Chosen One! O Chosen One!
Gifted and graced, blessed by our God,
Holy are you!

O Mother of Peace,
bring a new peace to our lives.
Help us to be makers of peace,
bearers of peace to our world.

O Mother of Sorrows, comfort
us all in our pain.
Help us to comfort all those who mourn,
to be with them in their need.

Reflection:

Voice One: According to biblical tradition, to honor someone's name is to honor that person. Marie-Rose Durocher passed on to us a special devotion towards the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.

And so we approach God in the name of Jesus and we honor Mary, God's faithful servant, Mother of Jesus and of the Church, our Mother.

Voice Two: Mother Marie-Rose took Mary as her model and strove, like Mary, to say "YES" to God's will made known to her in the various circumstances of her life.

Following her example, let us ask Mary to fill us with her faith and her love.

All: **Teach us, Mary, to recognize God's voice.
Teach us to say "YES" as you did.**

Voice Three: All the humility, availability, listening, and obedience that the human heart can hold were already made visible for ever in Mary's "**FIAT.**"
Loving God, grant that Mary's "**YES**" may always be on our lips and in our hearts- even when, and indeed especially when, in our anguish and confusion, we ask, "How can this come about"?
Loving Creator God, may ours be the joy of saying, "Let what you have said be done unto us."

All: **Teach us, Mary, to recognize God's voice.
Teach us to say "YES" as you did.**

Prayer:



**Holy Virgin Mary,
to a world obsessed by wealth
you teach generosity.
To a world of ostentation and falsehood
you show your transparency.
To a world which scorns and defiles
you offer your purity.
To a world of violence and of hatred
you put forward your tenderness.**

**Holy Virgin Mary,
each day you must have found new
ways of saying "YES" to God.
Each day you must have begun again
to discover God in your life,
so often in completely unexpected ways.
Teach us each day
not to be an already printed page but
a completely blank page,
a page on which the Spirit of God outlines
all the marvels God does in us.**

Cardinal Etchegaray

Reading from the Word of God:

Because she sought only God, Mary was precious and honored in God's sight. She is our model, a way leading us to Jesus.

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! God is with you". Mary was greatly troubled at these words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be

called the Son of the Most High. Our Great God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.”

(Luke 1: 26-33)

**Response: My soul magnifies the Lord:
God’s love endures forever.**

- V. Shout and sing for joy, O daughter of Zion, For your God is in your midst.
- V. God exults with joy over you, God renews you in love.

Intercessions:

Lector: Our mission, united with that of Mary, is to participate in the building of the reign of God. With a great desire to reveal the Good News brought by Jesus, we pray:

- For young people as they search out the meaning of their lives, for children who have too little to eat and those in broken families,

Response: Mary, our Mother, protect them.

- For all who are sick or elderly, for those who are lonely and anxious, for all those who are unemployed,

Response: Mary, our Mother, comfort them.

- For the members of our families, for our employees, all volunteers, and all those who share in our mission,

Response: Mary, our Mother, be their inspiration.

- For all refugees, for all victims of war, and for the victims of catastrophes,

Response: Mary, our Mother, be with them and help them.

- For our congregation as we strive to live our mission in fidelity to the calls of the Spirit,

Response: Mary, our Mother, transform our way of looking at things and enlarge our hearts.

All: Mary, our Mother, you who said “**YES**” to God throughout your whole life, you who gave your life over to the service of **love**, teach us true freedom so that we too may be able to say “**YES**” to all God’s calls.

Blessed be the Holy Name of Mary forever!

Our Father: (alternating)

Creator God of all,
You who are here and everywhere,

May your name resound
so strongly throughout the world that we will recognize
your presence among us.

May your reign of love and of joy
come and energize your Church, driving out
anguish, suffering, and sin.

May your will, made known in Christ,
be visible also in our work for justice and peace.

Give us this day our daily bread;
give us the love we need and the strength
to accept your Good News and spread it to others.

Forgive us our trespasses
as we try to forgive the faults
of those who hurt us, who ignore us,
or who don't know how to love us as we'd like.

And sustain us when we face
the temptations of rejection, of passivity, of
taking the easy way out, of escape.

But deliver us from evil
which can so easily envelop us or our world. Amen.

Prayer: Loving God,
give us a spirit of praise, like the spirit of Mary, a spirit
which knows how to marvel at your love and which finds its
joy in its daily "YES" to you.

Blessing: May the love and peace of our gracious and ever-
loving God be with us always!
May the face of God shine upon us. Blest be the
Holy Name of Mary, now and forever! Amen!

Hymn: *Je mets ma confiance:* in French
or in English (found in "A Pilgrimage of the Heart")

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