

HOLY HALF HOUR FOR SEPTEMBER 2017

Mary – The Handmaid of The Lord

Hymn : Jesus my Lord, my God (No.221)

Introduction :

Lord Jesus Christ present in the Most Blessed Sacrament we adore you. We thank you for bringing us to this moment into your presence and for all the blessings you shower on us. We thank you especially for the gift of Mary, our Mother who chose to willingly say yes to God's plan for her. Let us during this half hour meditate on the scene of the Annunciation when Mary was in prayer – using all her senses to speak to God. It is in prayer that she comes to know the divine will as she says 'I am the handmaid of the Lord'.

Like our dear Mother let us listen attentively in prayer with all our senses to God speaking to each of us. We open ourselves in prayer to His Divine will and ponder it in our heart. Like Mary we may not fully understand, and yet trusting in God, may be able to say... Here I am Lord, I come to do your will. (SILENCE)

Hymn : Here I am, Lord (No.172)

Scripture Reading :St.Luke 1:26-38 (To be proclaimed from the Bible) Silence 5 minutes

Reflection :

- Like Mary, we too are called, set apart for the living God. We are to make a place for Him within ourselves and within the world. We are to bear His message through a lifestyle that radiates His love. (Pause)
- Like Mary, as we lose ourselves in Him, He reveals Himself as a God who can, does and will act in our very, real, human experiences. He wants us to live life to its fullest. (Pause)
- Like Mary, our Yes, to God is a Yes to a relationship with Him. It leads to a conversion to holiness. It introduces to us a new and dynamic way of living with God, and in God. As we lose ourselves in Him, we find ourselves again, made new and completed. (Pause)
- Like Mary, we choose to be the 'handmaid' of the Lord. It is a very humble position. It is a life of service to do anything that our master asks of us.... Big tasks, little tasks, insignificant tasks, easy tasks, difficult tasks...(Pause)

Hymn : Gentle woman (No.131)

Prayer of the Faithful :

As we are preparing to celebrate the birthday of our dear Mother we ask her to intercede for us.
May we imitate her every virtue as we learn to say Yes to God...

Response : I'll say Yes, Yes, Yes (2) I'll say Yes Lord (2) I'll say Yes, Yes, Yes.

For accepting the call to holiness... ®
For guiding the faithful to the right path...®
For teaching the children and youth about God's love... ®
For reaching out in love and service...®
For speaking loving words at all times... ®
For responding to the poor and needy... ®
For spending time with the old, sick, suffering and those in pain... ®
For finding solace in God in times of suffering and pain...®
For imitating the virtues of humility and obedience like Mary... ®
For trusting in God in every circumstance... ®

We make these prayers through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn : Have Thine own way Lord (No.164)

Hymn: O Sacrament most holy – no. 301

*Written by Charmaine Moraes
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