



31 December/01 January 2025
SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
NEW YEAR DAY



INTRODUCTION:

A new year begins today and we wish one another God's blessings, good health, happiness. On this day as we celebrate the feast of Mary, the Mother of God, we also include very earnestly and intently wishes and prayers for deep and lasting peace in a world beset with violence and strife, for Mary gave us Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Let our sense of justice and unity, of mutual forgiveness and acceptance create the atmosphere in which peace can grow in our hearts, in our homes, in the world.

READINGS:

First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 & 8
Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7
Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL:

Celebrant: As we begin a New Year, let us bring our prayers and needs to our heavenly Father with confidence.

Response: Lord, bless us and keep us.

That the Church may effectively proclaim to the world the divinity of Christ and the special role of our blessed Mother (**pause**), we pray to the Lord...

That Church leaders may be strengthened by God's grace to lead as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year, as they face the challenges of the New Year (**pause**), we pray to the Lord...

That the leaders of nations will seek equality and peace for all people as they enact just laws (**pause**), we pray to the Lord...

That the prayers of the Mother of God may strengthen all mothers to follow her example of welcoming new life despite fear, doubt, and uncertainty (**pause**), we pray to the Lord...

That the lonely and neglected may be encouraged by our prayers and concern for them (**pause**), we pray to the Lord...

That all who have died in faith may dwell in Christ's abundant love for eternity (**pause**), we pray to the Lord...

Celebrant: Father, as we begin this New Year, open our hearts and minds to the many blessings you offer, and give us joy in following your Son Jesus Christ, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.