



8 March 2026
International Women's Day



Introduction:

Today, we gather to celebrate International Women's Day, embracing the theme 'Rights. Justice. Action. for ALL Women and Girls. 'As we reflect on the values of love, compassion, and generosity, let us recognize the immense contributions women make to our families, communities, and society, they give of themselves selflessly. May this Eucharistic celebration inspire us to give of ourselves, to serve, and to uplift one another. Let us honor the women in our lives and strive for a world where equality, justice, and peace prevail.

Readings:

First Reading: Exodus 17: 3-7
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 95: 1-2, 6-7, 8-9
Second Reading: Rom 5: 1-2, 5-8
Gospel: John 4: 5-42

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: Lord God, we thank You for the gift of women in our lives and communities, and we ask Your blessing upon them as we lift our prayers before You.

Response: Merciful Lord, hear our prayers

- We pray that the Holy Father, bishops, priests and religious may actively mentor, support, and lift up women in all fields—whether in ministry, the home, or the workplace. We pray to the Lord.
- We pray that the Church, may be a place where women are fully seen, valued, and empowered to fulfill their divine calling. We pray to the Lord.
- Compassionate God, we pray for women's health and well-being. May they gain access to quality healthcare, support, and care. Lord of wisdom, we pray for women's education and opportunities. May they gain knowledge, skills, and chances to succeed. We pray to the Lord.
- Lord, help women gain confidence and self-worth as they give their time, talents, and love to others, God of Creation, may women find empowerment in giving to their communities, gaining strength and purpose in the process. We pray to the Lord.
- Lord, may women gain gratitude and joy as they give love, care, and support to those around them. God of Love, may the world gain from women's contributions, and may they in turn gain respect, love, and fulfillment. We pray to the Lord.
- For our personal prayers we offer with faith, that God may bless us and strengthen us (silent pause), we pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Lord, hear our prayers and grant us the grace to give generously, that we may gain a deeper understanding of Your love and a stronger commitment to serving others. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen

Prepared by the Archdiocesan Women's Commission