

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8-12-2021



Why the Church celebrates the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.....

‘God’s people celebrate that Mary, who from the first instant of her existence in the womb of her mother Anne, was “ by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved free from all stain of original sin.”’



Why is the 8 December a Solemnity? What is a Solemnity?

- A Solemnity is the highest ranking of a feast day.
- It honours an event in the life of Jesus or Mary
- It celebrates a Saint important to the whole Church or to the local community
- **Can you think of any events in the life of Jesus or Mary?**



Our Prayer for 8 December 2021.....

We bless ourselves as we make the Sign of the Cross:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

In ainm an Athair, agus an Mhic agus an Spiorad Naomh.

Amen.

Sign of the Cross

In the name of
the Father,
And of the
Son,
And of the
Holy Spirit.
Amen



We light our candle..

- When we light the candle we remember that Jesus is present with us.
- We also recall what Jesus said, “I am the Light of the world.”



The Church celebrates this Solemnity in Advent

- Instead of lighting a separate candle, if you have an Advent wreath you might light the two purple candles on the Advent wreath.
- These two candles we name as **the waiting in hope** candle and the **peace** candle



We take a moment...

- You might like to close your eyes or look at the candle or this image on the screen
- Just focus on your breath... quietly breathe in through your nose.....
- Gently breathe out through your mouth
- Repeat this slowly a few times..



Smaoinimid ar Muire, Máthair Dé....



A Mhuire na ngrás, A Mháthair Mhic
Dé,
Go gcuire tú, ar mo leas mé.
Go sábhála tú mé, ar gach uile olc;
Go sábhála tú mé idir anam is chorp.
Go sábhála tú mé ar muir is ar tír;
Go sábhála tú mé ar leac na bpian.
Garda na n-Aingeal ós mo chionn,
Dia romham agus Dia liom.

Anois canaimid, A Mhuire Mháthair (I nGrá Dé, 6 Rang 4)

A Mhuire Mháthair

A Mhuire Mháthair 'sé seo mo ghuí, go maire íosa, go deo im' chroí.

Ave Maria, mo ghrá Ave, is tusa mo mháthair, is máthair Dé.

A Mhuire Mháthair, I rith mo shaol, bí liom mar dhídean ar gach aon bhaol.

Ave Maria, mo ghrá Ave, is tusa mo mháthair, is máthair Dé.

A Mhuire Mháthair, tá lán de ghrás, go mbeidh tú taobh liom, ar uair mo bháis.

Ave Maria, mo ghrá Ave, is tusa mo mháthair, is máthair Dé



We stand to acclaim the Gospel

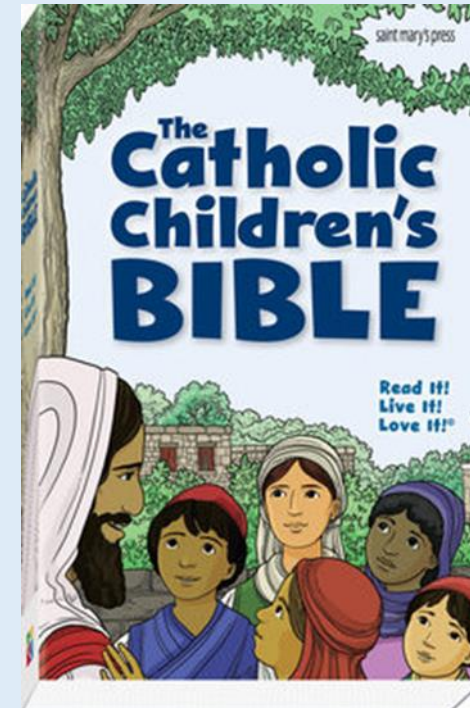
Teacher/Priest: A reading from the Gospel according to St Luke (Lk 1:26-38)

Response: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

(make the threefold sign of the cross i.e. With your **thumb** make the sign of the cross on your **forehead**, to think about God's word, make the cross on your **lips** to speak the word of God; make the sign of the cross on your **heart** to show you love the Word of God).

At the end of the Gospel the priest/teacher/reader will say. The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*



The message of the Gospel: The Annunciation

- God sent the Angel Gabriel to Mary to ask her to be the Mother of God.
- At first, Mary was disturbed and frightened.
- The Angel said “ Do not be afraid.”
- Mary trusted in God and said she would do what God asked. She said “ I am the handmaid of the Lord.”
- Then the Angel left her.



At the Visitation Mary said a lovely prayer of thanks. It is called *Magnificat* (*Grow in Love 6 4th Class upwards*)

Mary went to visit Elizabeth when she heard Elizabeth was pregnant.

Both Mary and Elizabeth were excited because they were both expecting babies.

You can read the story of the Visitation in St Luke's Gospel (Lk 1:39-56). You will read the Magnificat. You can sing it also. (*Grow in Love Fourth Class/P6*).

The Magnificat is Mary's song of thanksgiving to God for choosing her as Mother of his Son..

What was Elizabeth's baby called

What was Mary's baby called?



St Joseph

Joseph was very worried about all this but the angel came and told him not to worry.

Joseph had his role to play also. He was Jesus foster father. We read in St Matthew's Gospel how he minded and protected Mary and Jesus. From dangerous situations.

He loved them Mary and Jesus and watched out for them. He trusted in God.



When we pray the rosary we honour Mary

- Each decade of the rosary tells a story about the life of Jesus and/or Mary
- You can read the stories of the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious Mysteries in the Bible. You will also read there the stories of the Mysteries of Light.
- To say a decade of the Rosary you only need to say one Our Father, ten Hail Marys, and one Glory be to the Father.



Let us love Mary by praying to her. Say these prayers. The response is: Lord, graciously hear us.

- God chose Mary as the Mother of his Son. God wants all generations to call Mary blessed. Let us do that. **Lord hear us...**
- God did great things for Mary. Let us say thanks. **Lord hear us...**
- We ask God through the prayers of Mary to heal the sick, forgive our sins, bring peace to the world, bless all families. **Lord hear us....**

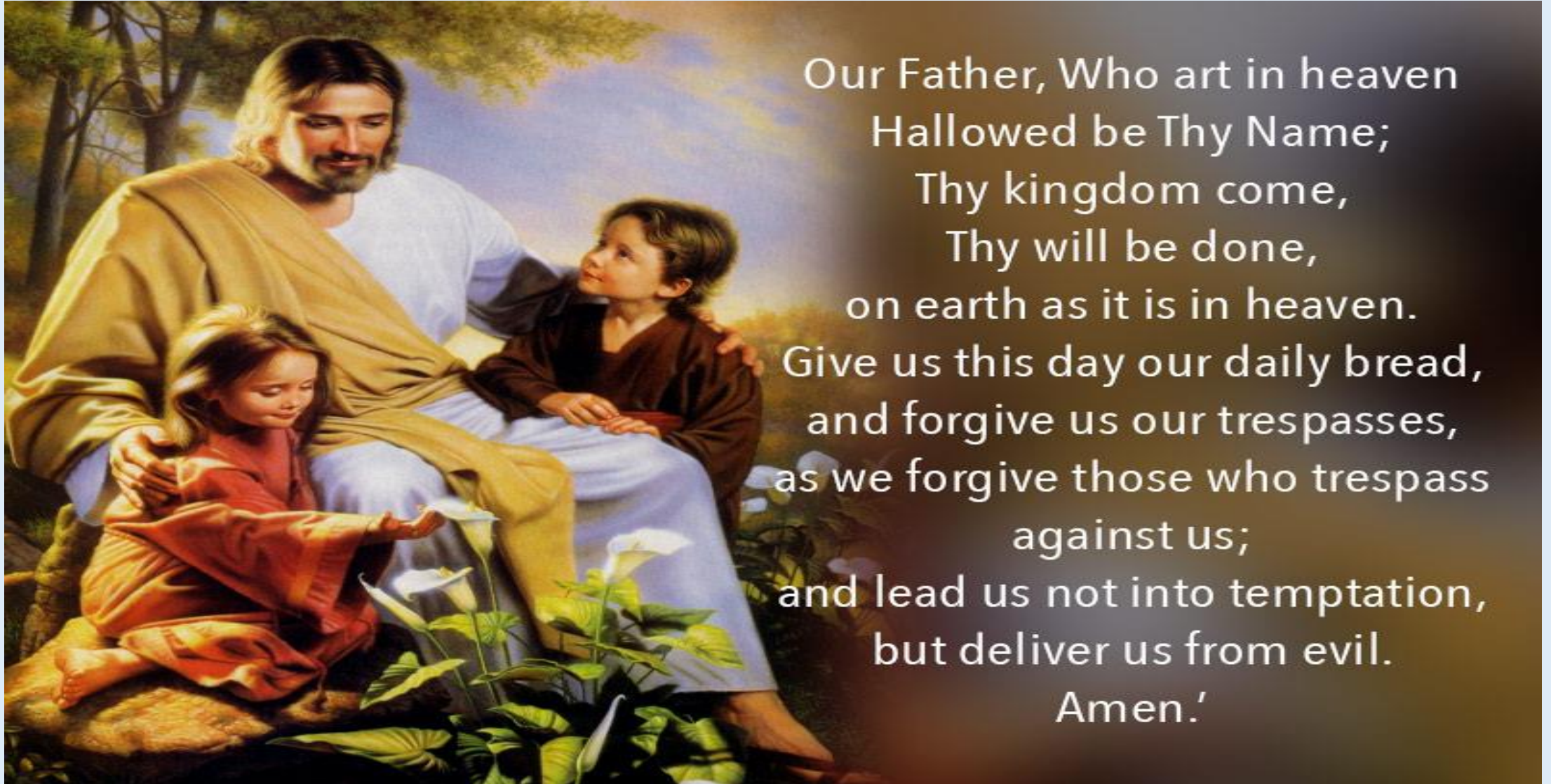


Is there any prayer you would like to add?

- Quietly in your heart
- With your speaking voice



We pray Our Father...



Our Father, Who art in heaven
Hallowed be Thy Name;
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.'

To conclude we pray...

“Lovely Lady dressed in blue,

Teach me how to pray.

God was just your little boy,

Tell me what to say.

Did you lift him up sometimes,
gently on your knee?

Did you sing to him the way

Mother does to me?



Continued..

Did you hold his hands at night?

Did you ever try telling stories of
the world

Oh, and did He cry?

Do you really think he cares if I tell
him things?

Little things that happen? And do
the Angel's wings?



Continued

Make a noise? And can he hear Me
if I speak low?

Does he understand me now?

Tell me –for you know?

Lovely Lady dressed in blue,
Teach me how to pray.

God was just your little boy,
And you know the way?

(Mary T. Thayer)



We read this prayer together. It is the prayer of Mary engraved on the miraculous medal.

“O Mary,
conceived
without sin,
pray for us who
have recourse
to You.”



Our Lady of the
Miraculous
Medal,
pray for us.

go raibh
maith agat

