

there must be
more to **life...**



*Discover
Jesus.*

The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 8 September, White

Invitation to Confession

We have done what was wrong in the Lord's sight and chosen what displeased him. Yet as a mother comforts her child, so shall the Lord himself comfort us. So let us come to him who knows our every deed and thought.

or

Born of a woman, born under the law, Christ has redeemed us from the curse of sin: let us come to him that he may heal us and set us free:

Kyrie Confession

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father;

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, who stooped to raise fallen humanity through the child-bearing of blessed Mary: grant that we, who have seen your glory revealed in our human nature and your love made perfect in our weakness, may daily be renewed in your image and conformed to the pattern of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Intercession

As we pray to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we say with Mary:

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

Holy is your name.

Your prophet of old foretold a day when a virgin would conceive and bear a son who would be called God-with-us. Help us to look forward to your deliverance and to seek the fullness of your kingdom.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

Holy is your name.

Your angel declared to Mary that she was to be the mother of the Saviour. Help [... and] every Christian person to be open to your word and obedient to your will.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

Holy is your name.

Mary rejoiced with Elizabeth and sang your praise, 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.'

Help us to live joyful lives that sing your praise.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

Holy is your name.

Mary bore a son of David's line, a king whose reign would never end. Bless [... and] all the nations of the world with Christ's gift of peace.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

Holy is your name.

The child Jesus grew in wisdom and stature in the home of Mary and Joseph. Strengthen our homes and families, and keep under your protection [... and] all those whom we love.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

Holy is your name.

At the foot of the cross of Christ stood his mother, and from the cross she received his lifeless body in her arms. Give comfort and healing to [... and] all who suffer and all who watch the suffering of those they love.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

Holy is your name.

The apostle John saw a vision of a woman in heaven, robed with the sun. Bring us with [... and] all those who have died in the faith of Christ to share the joy of heaven with Mary and all the saints.

Lord, have mercy on those who fear you.

Holy is your name.

Almighty and everlasting God, your handmaid Mary magnified your name and rejoiced in your saving love: trusting in that same love, we ask all these our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Introduction to the Peace

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9.6*

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

God our Father, your handmaid Mary fed your Son at her virgin breast. Nourish us at this table with the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Preface

And now we give you thanks because, by the power of the Holy Spirit, he took our nature upon him and was born of the Virgin Mary his mother, that being himself without sin, he might make us clean from all sin.

or

And now we give you thanks because in choosing the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son you have exalted the humble and meek. Your angel hailed her as most highly favoured; with all generations we call her blessed and with her we rejoice and magnify your holy name.

or

And now we give you thanks that he is your eternal Son, the King of glory. When he took our flesh to set us free he did not abhor the Virgin's womb. Seated at your right hand in glory, he will come to be our judge and to bring us with the saints to glory everlasting.

or

And now we give you thanks because he shared our life in human form from the warmth of Mary's womb to the stillness of the grave.

Extended Preface

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our salvation, almighty Father, ever-living God, to proclaim the wonders you have worked in all your saints, and on this feast of Mary, ever blessed, to echo her praise of your loving kindness.

For you have truly done great things and holy is your name, and your mercy is on those who fear you in every generation.

When you looked with favour on your lowly servant you remembered your promise of mercy and gave the world through her your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Through him the hosts of heaven adore you and rejoice in your presence for ever.

May our voices join with theirs in the triumphant hymn of praise:

or

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our salvation, almighty Father, ever-living God, to give you thanks and praise for the work of your grace in the Blessed Virgin Mary.

For by the overshadowing of your Holy Spirit she conceived and bore the Word made flesh.

At the cross she kept her vigil, and saw the saving work of your Son brought to its perfection.

She rejoiced in his resurrection, and joining her prayers with those of the apostles, was filled with the gift of your promised Spirit.

In her you show us the greatness of your love, and the wonderful purpose you intend for all your children.

Therefore we join our voice with hers, and all the company of heaven, as they sing with joy the hymn of your glory:

or

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who for love of our fallen race humbled himself, was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit, and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh you have caused his light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

In him we see our God made visible and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

Post Communion

God most high, whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh: we thank you that in this sacrament of our redemption you visit us with your Holy Spirit and overshadow us by your power; strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful path of obedience and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

or

May the love of the Holy Family surround you.

May the joy that was Mary's refresh you.

May the faithfulness that was Joseph's encourage you.

May the peace of the Christ-child fill your lives.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

or

May the Father, who has loved the eternal Son from before the foundation of the world, shed that love upon you his children.

Amen.

May Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace.

Amen.

May the Holy Spirit, by whose overshadowing Mary became the God-bearer, give you grace to carry the good news of Christ.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

or

When the Word became flesh earth was joined to heaven in the womb of Mary. May the love and obedience of Mary be your example.

Amen.

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts and homes.

Amen.

May you be filled with the joy of the Spirit and the gifts of your eternal home.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Short Passages of Scripture

Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.' *Luke 1.38*

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord. *Luke 1.45*

Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. *Luke 2.19*

Jesus said, 'Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it!' *Luke 11.28*

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Holy Cross Day, 14 September, Red

Invitation to Confession

God shows his love for us in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith. *cf Romans 5.8*

or

Christ himself carried up our sins in his body to the tree, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds we have been healed. *1 Peter 2.24*

Let us confess our sins.

Kyrie Confession

Lord Jesus, you came to reconcile us to one another and to the Father:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you heal the wounds of sin and division:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you intercede for us with your Father:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Collect

Almighty God, who in the passion of your blessed Son made an instrument of painful death to be for us the means of life and peace: grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Intercession

Let us pray to the Father through his Son, who suffered on the cross for the world's redemption. Fill with your Spirit Christ's broken body, the Church ... Give to Christian people everywhere a deep longing to take up the cross and to understand its mysterious glory.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

Lord, save us and help us.

Bless those who lead the Church's worship ... In the preaching of the word and the celebration of the sacraments, draw your people close to you.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

Lord, save us and help us.

Give your grace to those who preach your word to the nations ... Help us to witness to the faith we have received by our words and in our deeds, and daily conform us more and more to Christ, that we may glory in his cross.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

Lord, save us and help us.

Look in your mercy upon the world you loved so much that you sent your Son to suffer and to die ... Strengthen those who work to share the reconciliation won at such a cost upon the cross.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

Lord, save us and help us.

Bring healing by the wounds of Christ to all who are weighed down by pain and injustice ... Help the lonely and the betrayed, the suffering and the dying, to find strength in the companionship of Jesus, and in his passion to know their salvation.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

Lord, save us and help us.

Welcome into paradise all who have left this world in your friendship ... According to your promises, bring them with all your saints to share in the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection.

By the Saviour's cross and passion,

Lord, save us and help us.

Holy God, holy and strong, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Amen

Introduction to the Peace

Once we were far off, but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near through the shedding of Christ's blood, for he is our peace. *cf Ephesians 2.13,14*

or

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross. We meet in his name and share his peace.

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Merciful God, through the death of your beloved Son you transformed an instrument of shame into a sign of hope and glory. Receive all we bring before you this day, and renew us in the mystery of his love; through the same Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.

Preface

And now we give you thanks because, for our salvation, he was obedient even to death on the cross. The tree of shame was made the tree of glory; and where life was lost, there life has been restored.

or

And now we give you thanks because for our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

or

And now we give you thanks that through his suffering and death you have brought life to the whole world and moved our hearts to praise your glory. The power of the cross reveals your judgement on this world and the kingship of Christ crucified.

Extended Preface

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today we celebrate with songs of praise the cross, the victory-sign of Christ.

Once through the fruit of the forbidden tree we fell, now through this tree our Saviour cancels all our sin.

An instrument of shameful death has become for Christ a throne of glory.

The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement that has come upon the world and the triumph of Christ crucified.

And so, with choirs of angels and with all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join their unending hymn of praise:

Post Communion

Faithful God, whose Son bore our sins in his body on the tree and gave us this sacrament to show forth his death until he comes: give us grace to glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our hope, who reigns as Lord, now and for ever.

Blessing

Christ crucified draw you to himself, to find in him a sure ground for faith, a firm support for hope, and the assurance of sins forgiven; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Short Passages of Scripture

Jesus said, 'When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people to myself.' *John 12.32*

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. *Galatians 6.14*

Through Christ God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. *Colossians 1.20*

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Matthew, Apostle, 21 September, Red

Invitation to Confession

We run the race set before us, surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. Therefore let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which clings so closely, bringing them to Jesus in penitence and faith.

Hebrews 12.1

or

Jesus said to his apostles, 'You are my friends if you obey my commands.' *John 15.14*

Let us now confess our disobedience to him.

Kyrie Confession

You were sent to preach the good news of light in the darkness of the world:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You were sent to plant in our hearts the seed of eternal life:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You were sent to reconcile us to yourself by the shedding of your blood:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

or

Lord Jesus, in your love you invite us to be your friends:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, in your joy you choose us to go out and bear fruit:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, in your power you send us to be your faithful witnesses:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Collect

O almighty God, whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax-collector to be an apostle and evangelist: give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive love of riches that we may follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Introduction to Peace

We are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God, through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace to those who were far off and those who were near. *cf Ephesians 2.19,17*

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

Father, accept all we bring before you this day. Guide us with your love and feed us at your table as you nourish the faith of the Church by the preaching of your apostles. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

or

God our Father, keep us united in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *cf Acts 2.42*

Preface

And now we give you thanks because your Son Jesus Christ after his resurrection sent forth his apostles and evangelists to preach the gospel to all nations and to teach us the way of truth.

or

And now we give you thanks because you formed your Church on the apostles to stand firm for ever, as a sign on earth of your infinite holiness and the living gospel for all to hear.

Extended Preface

It is indeed right and good that we should give you thanks, praise and glory, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For after his resurrection he sent out his apostles and evangelists to preach the gospel to all nations and lead us in the way of truth.

Himself the chief cornerstone, he founded his Church upon the apostles firmly to stand for ever as a sign of your holiness upon earth and a living witness to all of the way that leads to heaven.

And so with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we lift our voices and join in their unending hymn of praise:

Post Communion

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost sent your Holy Spirit to the apostles with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame, filling them with joy and boldness to preach the gospel: by the power of the same Spirit strengthen us to witness to your truth and to draw everyone to the fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

or

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing

God, who has prepared for you a city with eternal foundations, bring you, with all the saints, to the eternal and triumphant joy of that city; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Short Passages of Scripture

Jesus said, 'I am with you always, to the end of the age.' *Matthew 28.20*

Do not be afraid: you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; you will see him, just as he told you. *Mark 16.6,7*

Jesus said to the disciples, 'Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.' *Mark 16.15*

Jesus said to his disciples, 'I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.' *John 14.13*

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Michael and All Angels, 29 September, White

Invitation to Confession

We have come to Mount Zion, the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to myriads of angels, to God, the judge of all, and to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant. *Hebrews 12.22-24*
Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Kyrie Confession

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Woe is me, for I am lost; I am a person of unclean lips.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Our guilt is taken away, and our sin is forgiven.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Collect

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Intercession

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Father in heaven, by his blood your Christ has ransomed us to you, and has made us a kingdom and priests to you our God. As the angels minister to you in heaven, strengthen your Church to serve you here on earth.

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, when the angels greeted the birth of your Son they sang for joy 'Glory to God and peace on earth'. Bless with Christ's peace the nations of the world.

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, your Son has promised to your children the care of the guardian angels who look upon your face. Protect by your mercy our neighbours, families and friends.

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, you give your angels charge over those who trust in you to guard them in all their ways. Be with those in trouble ..., rescue them and show them your salvation.

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, your angel declares 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.'

'Blessed indeed,' says the Spirit, 'for they may rest from their labours, for they take with them the record of their deeds.'

Enfold in your love [... and] all who come in faith to your judgement seat in heaven.

Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

Father in heaven, the angels sing by day and night around your throne: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.' With Michael, prince of the angels, who contends by our side, with Gabriel, your herald, who brings glad tidings, with Raphael, the protector, who ministers your healing, and with the whole company of heaven, we worship you, we give you glory, we sing your praise and exalt you for ever.

Amen.

Introduction to the Peace

Hear again the song of the angels: 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace.'

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

God of glory, as you appointed angels to minister in your presence, so may all our worship bring you worthy praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Preface

Through him the archangels sing your praise, the angels fulfil your commands, the cherubim and seraphim continually proclaim your holiness; the whole company of heaven glorifies your name and rejoices to do your will. Therefore we pray that our voices may be heard with theirs, for ever praising you and saying:

or

And now we give you thanks and praise your holy name because the splendour of your faithful angels and archangels shows us your greatness, which surpasses in goodness the whole of creation. So as the hosts of angels rejoice in your glory, we give you, their Creator, glory and worship. In adoration and joy we make their hymn of praise our own:

Extended Preface

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

You reveal your wise purpose for the salvation of the human race by assigning to the angels and archangels the ministry of your steadfast love and protection.

While they contemplate your glory, standing before you and singing your praise, they keep a faithful vigil for us, guarding us along the way that leads to life, and guiding us towards the kingdom of your light.

In joyful gladness we unite our voices with theirs and sing the ageless hymn of your praise:

Post Communion

Lord of heaven, in this Eucharist you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels and to the spirits of the saints made perfect: as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared their fellowship, so may we come to share their joy in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Blessing

God keep you in the fellowship of his saints; Christ protect you by the ministry of the angels; the Spirit make you holy in God's service; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

or

God bring you to the home that Christ prepares for all who love him.

Amen.

God give you the will to live each day in life eternal.

Amen.

God make you citizens of heaven, with the whole company of the redeemed.

Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Ending

Blessing and honour and thanksgiving and praise, more than we can utter, more than we can conceive, be to you, most holy and glorious Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, by all angels, all people, all creatures, for ever and ever.

Short Passages of Scripture

Mortals ate the bread of angels; the Lord sent them food in plenty. *Psalm 78.25*

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights. Praise him, all you his angels; praise him all his host. *Psalm 148.1,2*

And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' *Revelation 19.9*