



*My soul
proclaims the
greatness of the
Lord...*

We gather...

Blessed is she who believed for God has done great things for her.
Mary, Mother of Jesus, be with us as we pray.

We listen, reflect and respond...

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Luke 1:46-55 (NRSV)



Mary, in fact, is one of our race, a true daughter of Eve - though free of that mother's sin - and truly our sister, who as a poor and humble woman fully shared our lot.

Pope Paul VI, *Marialis Cultis* 1974

We ask...

O God, as Mary proclaimed, your mercy extends from generation to generation. May we act, like Mary, to extend your mercy and your loving kindness to all whom we encounter.

As we face the darkness of our world, give us resolve to create a more compassionate society...

Mary, Queen of Apostles, inspire and intercede for us.

As we strive to use the resources of our earth with equity and justice...

As we cry out against the suffering inflicted by violence and greed...

As we guide the young toward a vision of justice...

As we endeavor to match our deeds to our aspirations and best intentions...

As we cope with frustration and cynicism in our quest for peace and justice...

We are sent forth...

Faithful God, in Mary you have given us the image of the perfect disciple who received the word of God and act upon it. Like Mary, may we know you dwelling within us; with her, may we bring you forth in our world. We ask this through her intercession, your mother and ours. Amen.

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*...and my spirit
exults in God my
saviour.*