

# Blessed Virgin Mary Mediator of all Graces

May 8  
Memorial

In this memorial Father Dehon's devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary is continued as expressed in the Spiritual Directory: "By her life as a victim, by her sacrifices and sufferings, Mary became the reparation and mediation between God and man. In the midst of unspeakable suffering, she adopted as her children all the souls redeemed by the death of her Son and thus won the right to their love, gratitude, fidelity and attachment. She would like to fill them all with that love with which her Heart was inflamed. Mary would like to lead them all to the Heart of her Son, king, lover, spouse of pure hearts. . . She seeks compassionate hearts, hearts that console our Lord with their love and their fidelity" (DSP 47).

Entrance Antiphon

Hebrews 4. 16

Let us confidently approach the throne of grace  
to receive mercy and favour and to find help in time of need.

COLLECT

Lord, our God,  
in your eternal wisdom and love  
you chose Mary to be the mother of Jesus,  
source of all grace.  
She shared in bringing about our redemption.  
May she obtain for us graces in abundance  
and lead us to the harbor of eternal salvation.  
(We ask this) through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

*How can I witness the evil that is to befall my people?*

A reading from the Book of Esther

In those days, Esther had an audience with the king. She fell at his feet and tearfully implored him to revoke the harm done by Haman the Agagite, and the plan he had devised against the Jews.

The king stretched forth the golden sceptre to Esther. So she rose and, standing in his presence, said: "If it pleases your majesty and seems proper to you, and if I have found favour with you and you love me, let a document be issued to revoke the letters which that schemer Haman, son of Hammedatha the Agagite, wrote for the destruction of the Jews in all the royal provinces. For how can I witness the evil that is to befall my people, and how can I behold the destruction of my race?"

King Ahasuerus then said to Queen Esther and to the Jew Mordecai: "Now that I have given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hanged him on the gibbet because he attacked the Jews, you in turn may write in the king's name what you see fit concerning the Jews and seal the letter with the royal signet ring."

For whatever is written in the name of the king and sealed with the royal signet ring cannot be revoked. And there was splendour and merriment for the Jews, exultation and triumph.

In each and every province and in each and every city, wherever the king's order arrived, there was merriment and exultation, banqueting and feasting for the Jews.

## **Word of the Lord**

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 68 (67), 2-3, 4-5, 6-7

**R/. Lord, let your face shed its light upon us**

O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help.

**R/. Lord, let your face shed its light upon us**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth.

**R/. Lord, let your face shed its light upon us**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
The earth has yielded its fruit  
for God, our God, has blessed us.

**R/. Lord, let your face shed its light upon us**

### Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Happy are you, O Holy Virgin Mary, Mother of Grace and Queen of Compassion.  
From you has come Christ, Our Mediator and our Saviour. Alleluia!

### Gospel Reading

John2, 1-11

*The mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."*

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

At that time, there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim.

Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it.

And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from (although the servers who had drawn the water knew), the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now."

Jesus did this in Cana in Galilee as the beginning of his signs and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

After this, he and his mother, his brothers, and his disciples went down to Capernaum and stayed there only a few days.

Gospel of the Lord

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, receive our prayerful peace offering  
and make it the sacrament of our redemption.  
Christ, our Mediator reconciled us with you.  
With Mary's help, may we always find a source of grace  
and blessing in his saving work.  
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

## PREFACE

*God established the Mother of his Son as our mother and advocate*

**V./** The Lord be with you.

**R./** And with your spirit.

**V./** Lift up your hearts.

**R./** We lift them up to the Lord.

**V./** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**R./** It is right and just.

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks  
through Christ our Lord,  
the one mediator and saviour of all.

In your love for us,  
You did great and wonderful things  
in Mary, his mother:  
You established her as our mother and advocate  
so that in her the afflicted might find solace,  
the sick health, the needy assistance,  
the sinner refuge,  
and all people mercy and grace.

Therefore, with all the saints and angels  
we praise you for ever saying: Holy, Holy...

Communion Antiphon

Rev 22,17

The spirit and the bride say, “Come!” Let him who hears answer, “Come!” Let him who is thirsty come forward ; let all who desire it accept the gift of life-giving water.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God,  
we have been refreshed at the fountain of salvation.  
May the power of this sacrament and the prayer of the Blessed Virgin  
unite us more closely to Christ the Mediator and help us to enter  
into the mystery of our redemption.  
(We ask this) through the same Christ our Lord.