

A DOSE OF GOD TODAY

Eucharist | Prayers | Readings | Reflections

"What an honor this is, that the mother of my Lord shall visit me?" (Lk. 1: 43, LAB)

Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth provides a positive energy of affirmation and encouragement for the both of them. Affirmation, because both Mary and Elizabeth witnessed God's promise came to fruition. Encouragement, because they needed each other who both experienced God's marvelous works in human faculties which only the two of them could understand.

Mary's presence during this time of Elizabeth's life is Mary's way of sharing the joy of Elizabeth and her gesture of support to her pregnant relative. For the Lord removed the bitter experience of Elizabeth and healed her from the pain of disgrace. Thus, her presence showed that she is with Elizabeth and committed to accompany her in this journey.

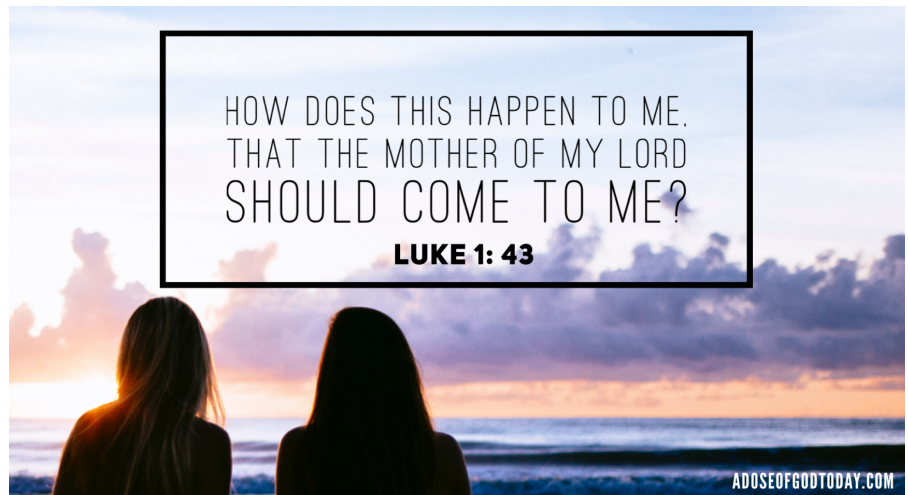
However, God used this encounter between these two blessed women as a privilege locus to highlight the special role of Mary in the economy of salvation. And Elizabeth recognized that, saying: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

Thus, the Church, the Christian faithful, continues to honor Mary with utmost gratitude for saying "Yes" to the will of

God, for which we benefited from. For through her, God commenced his plan of renewing the face of the earth and gathering us all into his Kingdom.

See, what difference presence can do to others! And so, what about calling a family member or a relative or a friend? What about letting them know that you care about them, and that they can count on you? The time is now! Seize it!

Gibo Dandoy, CSsR



The Gift of Presence

INTRODUCTION

A Blessed evening/morning, brothers and sisters. With grateful hearts, we are gathered here as a Church to thank and praise our God. This seventh day of our Misa de Aguinaldo calls us to be grateful to the many gifts God has given us. May this Eucharistic Celebration in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, make us generous and kind to our brothers and sisters in need. Let us now all stand and sing our entrance hymn.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The LORD and Ruler will be coming soon, and his name will be called Emmanuel, because he will be God-with-us. (cf Is 8:10)

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

PENITENTIAL ACT

Gloria is sung or recited.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, Almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, only Begotten son, Lord God, lamb of God, son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you

alone are the holy one, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT

Let us pray. (pause)

Merciful LORD, hear the prayers of your people, who celebrate the coming of your Son in human flesh, that when he comes again in glory we may gain the prize of eternal life.

We ask this through our LORD Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING

**A Reading from the Book of Song of Songs
(2:8-14)**

Hark! my lover—here he comes
springing across the mountains,
leaping across the hills.
My lover is like a gazelle
or a young stag.
Here he stands behind our wall,
gazing through the windows,
peering through the lattices.
My lover speaks; he says to me,
“Arise, my beloved, my dove, my beautiful
one, and come!
“For see, the winter is past,
the rains are over and gone.
The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of pruning the vines has come,
and the song of the dove is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines, in bloom, give forth fragrance.
Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one,
and come!

"O my dove in the clefts of the rock,
in the secret recesses of the cliff,
Let me see you, let me hear your voice,
For your voice is sweet, and you are lovely."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21

EXULT, YOU JUST, IN THE LORD! SING TO HIM A NEW SONG.

Give thanks to the LORD on the harp; with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises. Sing to him a new song; pluck the strings skillfully, with shouts of gladness. **(R.)**

But the plan of the LORD stands forever; the design of his heart, through all generations. Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he has chosen for his own inheritance. **(R.)**

Our soul waits for the LORD, who is our help and our shield, For in him our hearts rejoice; in his holy name we trust. **(R.)**

ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia. O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God! Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke (1:39-45)

Mary set out in those days and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Homily

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

P: Merciful LORD, you have been present with us since the very beginning. Your abiding and faithful love calls us always to come closer to you. As we express now our prayers, assure us of your generosity.

LORD, LISTEN TO OUR PRAYERS.

1. For Pope Francis, the bishops, priests, deacons, religious and lay leaders that they may always enrich the Church through the gift of their presence. We pray.
2. For our country, that our leaders may always be present among the people, in all their struggles and difficulties and come to their aid. We pray.
3. For our families, relatives and friends that they may be filled with the grace of God and bless them with peace and love. We pray.
4. For all of us gathered today on this sixth day of Misa de Aguinaldo, that we may always be welcoming of God's presence through our encounters with one another. We pray.
5. For all our beloved dead that the Lord may embrace them and grant them eternal rest. We pray.

P: Father, we have now expressed the desires of our hearts, listen and grant these humble petitions and bring us always closer to your loving presence. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

LORD, accept from your Church these gifts which in your mercy you have given us to offer and which by your power you transform into the sacrament of our salvation.

Grant this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PREFACE II OF ADVENT

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

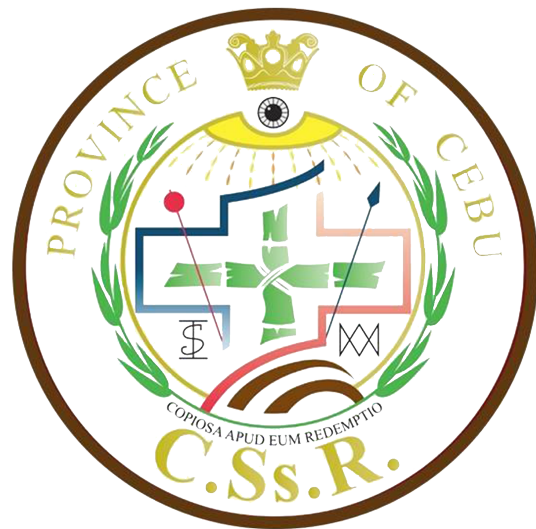
Blessed are you who have believed, that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled. (Lk 1:45)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. (pause)

LORD, may the divine mysteries we have shared, keep your people safe from harm, so that, ever faithful to your service, we may enjoy salvation of mind and body.

Grant this in the name of Jesus our LORD. Amen.



**#RedemptoristMissionaries
#PlentifulRedemption**

FINAL BLESSING

Bow down for the blessing.

May God, who through the childbearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary willed in his great kindness to redeem the human race, be pleased to enrich you with his blessing.

R. Amen.

May you know always and everywhere the protection of her, through whom you have been found worthy to receive the author of life.

R. Amen.

May you, who have devoutly gathered on this day, carry away with you the gifts of spiritual joys and heavenly rewards.

R. Amen.

And may the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.

Go in peace.