

**CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF FAITH
THROUGH THE TEACHING OF VATICAN II**

*Holy Hour for October 2012
Dogmatic Constitution on the Church
Lumen Gentium, 21 November 1964*



'The Role of The Blessed Virgin Mary In The Plan Of Salvation.'

As the Blessed Sacrament is exposed during this series of Holy Hours to mark the YEAR OF FAITH let us sing each time the hymn that bears these words from St Paul 'We Walk By Faith And Not By Sight'

'WE WALK BY FAITH AND NOT BY SIGHT'

Celebration For Everyone No 789/ Laudate No 284

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God, who willed that at the message of an angel your Word should take flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary, grant that we, who pray to you and believe her to be truly the Mother of God, may be helped by her interceding before you.

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

Reader 1:

'The sacred writings of the Old and new Testaments, as well as venerable tradition, show the role of the Mother of the Saviour in the plan of salvation in an ever clearer light and call our attention to it. The books of the Old Testament describe the history of salvation, by which the coming of Christ into the world was slowly prepared. The earliest documents, as they are read in the Church and are understood in the light of a further and full revelation, bring the figure of a woman, Mother of the Redeemer, into a gradually clearer light. Considered in this light, she is already prophetically foreshadowed in the promise of victory over the serpent which was given to our first parents after their fall into sin (cf. Gen. 3:15). Likewise she is the virgin who shall conceive and bear a son, whose name shall be called Emmanuel. She stands out among the poor and humble of the Lord, who confidently hope for and receive salvation from him. After a long period of waiting the times are fulfilled in her, the exalted Daughter of Sion and the new plan of salvation is established, when the Son of God has taken human nature from her, that he might in the mysteries of his flesh free humanity from sin.

*(from the Documents of the II Vatican Council.
Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium) No 55)*

A PAUSE FOR QUIET REFLECTION

Reader 2

FIRST READING

SONG OF SONGS 2:8-14 (*Lectionary I, pg 85*)

'SEE HOW MY BELOVED COMES LEAPING OVER THE MOUNTAINS'

12 MINUTE SILENT ADORATION

To conclude this time of adoration and reflection we sing:

HOLY VIRGIN BY GOD'S DECREE

Celebration For Everyone No 263/ Liturgical Hymns Old & New No 343/ Laudate No 366

Other suitable hymns may be used highlighting the theme of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation.

Reader 1:

'Enriched from the first instant of her conception with the splendour of an entirely unique holiness, the virgin of Nazareth is hailed by the heralding angel, by divine command, as 'full of grace' and to the heavenly messenger she replies: 'Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to thy word' (Lk. 1:38). Thus the daughter of Adam, Mary, consenting to the word of God, became the mother of Jesus. Committing herself, whole-heartedly and impeded by no sin to God's saving will, she devoted herself totally, as the handmaid of the Lord, to the person and work of her Son...In the public life of Jesus Mary appears prominently; at the very beginning...at the marriage feast at Cana...she brought about by her intercession the beginning of miracles of Jesus the Messiah. In the course of her Son's preaching she received the words whereby, in extolling a kingdom beyond the concerns and ties of flesh and blood, he declared blessed those who heard and kept the word of God. Thus the Blessed Virgin advanced in her pilgrimage of faith...'

*(from the Documents of the II Vatican Council.
Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium) Nos 56,58)*

A PAUSE FOR QUIET REFLECTION

Reader 2

SECOND READING

APOCALYPSE 11:19;12:1-6,10 (*Lectionary II, pg 1435*)

‘A GREAT SIGN APPEARED IN HEAVEN.’

12 MINUTE SILENT ADORATION

To conclude this time of adoration and reflection we sing:

SING OF MARY, PURE AND LOWLY

Celebration For Everyone No 652/ Liturgical Hymns Old & New No 622/ Laudate No 341

Other suitable hymns may be used highlighting the theme of Mary’s role in God’s plan of salvation.

Reader 1:

‘The motherhood of Mary in the order of grace continues uninterruptedly from the consent which she loyally gave at the Annunciation and which she sustained without wavering beneath the cross, until the eternal fulfilment of all the elect. Taken up to heaven she did not lay aside this saving office but by her manifold intercession continues to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation. By her maternal charity, she cares for the brethren of her Son, who still journey on earth surrounded by dangers and difficulties, until they are led into their blessed home. Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the title of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix. This, however, is so understood that it neither takes away from nor adds anything to the dignity and efficacy of Christ the one Mediator.’

*(from the Documents of the II Vatican Council.
Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium) No 62)*

A PAUSE FOR QUIET REFLECTION

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 1:26-38 (*Lectionary II, pg 1443*)

‘YOU ARE TO CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON.’

12 MINUTE SILENT ADORATION

To conclude this time of adoration and reflection we sing:

MY SOUL IS FILLED WITH JOY

Liturgical Hymns Old & New No 489/ Laudate No 339

Other suitable hymns may be used highlighting the theme of Mary’s role in God’s plan of salvation.

Leader:

In humility of heart, let us pray to God who cares for everyone.

Response to each prayer: Lord, strengthen the faith of your people

Reader 2:

- Keep alive in your Church the strength of faith and the joy of believing. We pray to the Lord
- Mary was your faithful handmaid and brought forth your Incarnate Word; through her intercession may all the baptised show forth Christ to the world in their devoted service of him. We pray to the Lord
- You called Mary to be the Mother in the house of Jesus and Joseph, through her prayers help all mothers to make their homes places of love and holiness. We pray to the Lord
- You gave Mary the strength to stand beneath the cross and made her radiant with joy in the resurrection, raise up the sorrowful and transform their lives with hope. We pray to the Lord
- You have looked on the Virgin Mary and made her the mother of mercy, may those who are in danger, those who are suffering in mind and heart, and those caught up by warfare, violence and inhumanity experience the depth of her love. We pray to the Lord
- You exalted the Virgin Mary and crowned her queen of heaven, may those who have died enter your Kingdom and rejoice with Mary and your Saints for ever. We pray to the Lord

BENEDICTION PRAYERS AND HYMNS NOW FOLLOW

O LADY, FULL OF GOD’S OWN GRACE

Celebration For Everyone 538 /Liturgical Hymns Old & New No 257/ Laudate No 703

Supplement sheet
October Holy Hour

WE WALK BY FAITH, AND NOT BY SIGHT

Author: Henry Alford (1810-1871)

We walk by faith, and not by sight:
no gracious words we hear
of Him Who spoke as none e'er spoke,
but we believe Him near.

We may not touch His hands and side,
nor follow where He trod;
but in His promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief,
and may our faith abound;
to call on You when You are near,
and seek where You are found.

That, when our life of faith is done
in realms of clearer light
we may behold You as You are
in full and endless sight.

We walk by faith, and not by sight:
no gracious words we hear
of Him Who spoke as none e'er spoke,
but we believe Him near.