

The Contemplative Mary

DAY 4: 10 July Monday 7:30 pm

Introduction:

Good evening to all! We welcome you to our Eucharistic celebration on the fourth day of our Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We thank the sponsoring group: the 5pm Sunday Mass Choir group.

As we are about to begin our celebration may I invite you now to turn off or turn to silent mode your mobile phones. *(Pause for a while)*

The gospel indicates the depth of her spirituality when Mary delivers what we now refer to as the *Magnificat*. This is a song of praise of the goodness and greatness of God.

This marks Mary as a contemplative of the highest order. She is one who lives in a high state of consciousness. The ideal contemplative is one who lives in a constant state of praise and thanks whilst still present in the moment.

Mary's sensitivity to and empathy for the hosts at the marriage feast at Cana underline her natural high state of spirituality. Maybe Mary, in responding to what she observes and discerns, is the first to say, and not for the first time, "*Not my will, but your will be done.*" In mothering her Divine and fully human son, did she in still this mode of thinking and acting in him who would one day, in his agony in the garden as his passion and death was imminent, remember his mother's lessons about, "*Only the Father's will. Only the Father's will. Only the Father's will.*"

Let us dispose ourselves to join in this Eucharistic celebration. Please stand and join in our entrance hymn.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 1:24-28

A Reading from the first book of Samuel

When Hanna

Had weaned Samuel, she took him up with her together with a three-year old bull, an ephah of flour and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the temple of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was with them. They slaughtered the bull and the child's mother came to Eli. She said, "If you please, my Lord. As you live, my Lord, I am the woman who stood here beside you praying to the Lord. This is the child I prayed for, and the Lord granted me what I asked him. Now make him over to the Lord for the whole of his life. He is made over to the Lord."

There she left for him, for the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Luke 1:46-55

Response: **The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant.**

My soul glorifies the Lord, My spirit rejoices in God,
my saviour.

Response: **The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant.**

He looks on his servant in her nothingness;
Henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The mighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! **Response**

Response: **The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly servant.**

His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.
He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud hearted..

Response: **The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly
servant.**

He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.
He fills the starving with good things sends the rich away
empty..

Response: **The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly
servant.**

He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy,
The mercy promised to our fathers, to Abraham and his sons
for ever.

Response: **The Lord has looked with favour on his lowly
servant.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, you declared yourself the
handmaid of the Lord, and now, exalted above the choirs of
angels, you are acclaimed by the Church as the Queen of
Heaven Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 2:1-10

There was a wedding at 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 the servers, “Fill the jars with water.” So, they filled them to the brim. Then Jesus 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 as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest: As Mary keen to listen to the word of God, let us hear the voice of God as we confidently entrust our needs and intention.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

1. **For our Church:** that through its members, the light of Jesus may reach out to all the nations of the world.

Let us pray to the Lord.

2. **For world peace:** that Christians everywhere may work to ensure that peaceful and just solutions are found where conflict and civil strife occur. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

3. **For all the young members of our community:** that we may value their gifts being young and fresh in the life of faith. Let us pray to the Lord.

4. **For all the sick members of our family and friends:** that they may learn to listen to the invitation of Christ to unite with him in his love and bear the pain for higher value.

Let us pray to the Lord.

5. **For all our departed loved ones and friends:** that they may inherit the kingdom of light and peace.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Let us pray our parish prayer.

Priest: Merciful God, hear the prayers we offer to you. Make our hearts always love you and always seek your presence. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

DAY 4: 10 July Monday 7:30 pm

Let us pray our parish prayer:

Creator God, Life is Your gift to me. Through Baptism, you invite me to share the gift of my life in service to others. Be with me as I choose each day to show Your presence in our world. Give me the courage and generosity to respond to Your love, to Your call. I pray especially for those who serve you in ministry at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish. May we bear the "Good News" to those in need. Keep us close to you. Open the minds and hearts of many other men, women and young people that they may accept Your challenge to build the Kingdom in our parish. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Novena Prayer

(After communion)

Day 4: **“Mary, said Yes!”**

Leader: “Blessed are you because you believed in the Word of the Lord.”

Holy Mary: your relative Elizabeth proclaimed you blessed because you believe that the things that the Lord had told you would be fulfilled (LK. 1:45)

All: You believed and you brought the Son of God into your womb. You believed and your Son was the Saviour of the world. When everyone doubted and moved away from the Cross, there you were, believing and authenticating that exaltation would emerge from that humiliation that salvation of the world would be born from that apparent failure. And so it was, you believed and you were always right. Your faith is exemplary for us who so often doubt the Word of God and who never trust enough in His promises. We never have enough confidence. In your hands, Mary, our Mother the little tree of our faith will give flowers of hope and fruits of charity. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: “How well cared is the one who trust in God! Engaged yourself in prayer to acquire this trust and confidence because you need it” (letter 56:2).

Leader: Queen and Beauty of Carmel

All: Pray for us!

(Floral Offering to Mary)

**FLOS CARMELI
VITIS FLORIGERA
SPLENDOR CAELI
VIRGO PUERPERA
SINGULARIS
MATER MITIS
SED VIRI NESCIA
CARMELITIS ESTO
PROPITIA
STELLA MARIS**

**Flower of Carmel
Blossoming vine
light of heaven
mother of God's dear Son
vine and virgin;
gentle parent,
pure beyond human love
Bless your children
Star shining far above
This world's ocean.**