

INTRODUCTION
DAY 8: Wednesday 12 JULY 2023 @7:30PM

“PRAYER”

Good evening to all!

We welcome you to our Eucharistic celebration on the sixth day of our Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and we thank the groups for sponsoring the mass: The ALPHA, RCIA and Children’s Ministry.

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.

In the Gospels we see Mary displaying a full range of prayerful attitudes: thanksgiving and praise (Magnificat), petition (Wedding at Cana), humble surrender (Annunciation), painful acceptance of God’s will (Calvary), obedience (Presentation), concern for others (Visitation), learning in faith (Finding in the Temple), and offering (Calvary).

But beneath all these ways of praying Mary displays a consistent attitude towards God: she always prays “with a noble and generous heart”, seeking to hear the word of God, take it to herself, and yield a harvest through her perseverance (cf. Lk 8.15).

Jesus, by holding up his mother as one of those “who hear the word of God and put it into practice” (Lk 8.21), He is also telling us that his mother is one of his true followers; indeed, she is the model disciple. Naturally enough then, she brings to her prayer the soul of a true disciple. We find the fullness of prayer in her. There are three principal elements: (a) listening to what God has to say; (b) taking it to heart; and then (c) allowing it to have an effect in one’s life and activity.

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

READING

Acts 2:14a 36-40a, 41-42

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: “Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Now when the people heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, “What are we to do, my brothers?” Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call,” Peter testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them.

Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.

They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 34

Response: Look to the Lord and be filled with light.

I will bless the Lord at all time;
praise shall be always in my mouth.
My soul will glory in the Lord
that the poor may hear and be glad.

Response: Look to the Lord and be filled with light.

Look to God that you maybe radiant with joy
and your faces may not blush for shame.
In my misfortune I called,
the Lord heard and saved me from all distress.

Response: Look to the Lord and be filled with light.

The angel of the Lord, who encamps with them,
delivers all who fear God.

Response: Look to the Lord and be filled with light.

Learn to savour how good the Lord is;
happy are those who take refuge in him.

Response: Look to the Lord and be filled with light.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia.

Happy are you holy Virgin Mary, from you rose the sun of justice, Christ the Lord; whoever follows him will have the light and life.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 12:44-50

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus cried out and said, “Whoever believes in me believes not only in me but also in the one who sent me. I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me might not remain in darkness. And if any hear my words and do not observe them, I do not condemn them, for I did not come to condemn the world but to save the world.

Those who reject me and do not accept my words have something to judge them: the word that I spoke, it will condemn them on the last day, because I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. So, what I say, I say as the Father told me.”

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest: With Mary, the mother of the Church, let us come closer to God and with hope of his merciful and loving concern we may entrust our needs and intentions.

Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

1. **For the Church:** that all its members may bridge social and cultural differences to achieve true unity.
Let us pray to the Lord.
2. **For our nation:** that God will be gracious and give them peace. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
3. **For all those who serve the Church and look after the material needs of our community:** may their efforts to work out for the common goods may strengthen our relationship to one another and bring us to the spirit of unity, peace and love. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
4. For all those on the pathway of conversion to the Catholic faith; that they may receive suitable pastoral formation and guidance into the mystery of God's love and the gospel way of life.
Let us call upon the Lord.
5. **For all who are suffering from pain and sickness:** that they may find strength and courage to make themselves be united to the suffering Christ. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
6. **For all our departed loved ones and friends:** that together with all the saints in heaven they may also enjoy the unending praises to God. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

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.

Priest: Infinite God, your Son is Jesus our Saviour.
May these prayers be granted in his name,
for he is Lord forever and ever. Amen

NOVENA PRAYER

DAY 6: Wednesday 12 JULY 2023 @7:30PM

(After Communion)

6th day: “Do whatever He tells you”

Leader:

“Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and practice it” Virgin Mary: while your Son was preaching, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said: “Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you” (Luke 11:27) and your Son added this: “Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and obey it” (Luke 11:28)

All: Teach us, Mary, to honour you as the Mother of God. To imitate you in attentive and loving listening to his Word and in the faithful fulfilment of His Will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader:

“Believing in the Word of God is hearing him all the more clearly and surely the greater the faith with which we believe. The Word of God will remain and endure forever, like God himself. To believe means is to apply the ear of the soul, and to pay attention in silence to listen to it” (MR 4:9)

Leader: Queen and Beauty of Carmel

All: Pray for us!

DAY 6: Wednesday 12 JULY 2023 @7:30PM

(Floral Offering to Mary)

FLOS CARMELI	Flower of Carmel
VITIS FLORIGERA	Blossoming vine
SPLENDOR CAELI	light of heaven
VIRGO PUERPERA	mother of God's dear Son
SINGULARIS	vine and virgin;
MATER MITIS	gentle parent,
SED VIRI NESCIA	pure beyond human love
CARMELITIS ESTO	Bless your children
PROPITIA	Star shining far above
STELLA MARIS	This world's ocean.