

Faith, Hope and Love

DAY 7: 13 July Thursday 7:30 pm Mass

INTRODUCTION

Good evening to all!

Tonight, we thank the groups for sponsoring the mass:

The PPC, PLT and the Spanish Community.

We welcome you to our Eucharistic celebration on the seventh day of our Novena to Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

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)

Mary is the perfect expression of faith, hope and love

The Church lives by faith, seeing in her "who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord" (Lk 1:45), the first and perfect expression of her faith. On this journey of trusting abandonment to the Lord, the Virgin goes before the disciples, adhering to the divine Word with an increasing intensity that embraces all the stages of her life and spreads to the very mission of the Church.

Mary also becomes a model of hope for the Church. In listening to the angel's message, the Virgin first directs her hope to the kingdom without end. After Pentecost, the Mother of Jesus sustains the Church's hope despite the threat of persecution. She is thus the Mother of hope for the community of believers and she encourages and guides Her children as they await the kingdom, supporting them in their daily trials and throughout the events of history.

Lastly, the Church sees in Mary the model of her charity. By looking at the situation of the first Christian community, we discover that the unanimity of their hearts, which was shown as they awaited Pentecost, is associated with the presence of the Holy Virgin (cf. Acts 1:14). And precisely because of Mary's radiant charity, it is possible to always maintain harmony and fraternal love within the Church.

Please stand and join in our entrance hymn.

FIRST READING

REVELATION 12:1-3, 7-12

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon, which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Now war broke out in heaven, when Michael with his angels attacked the

Dragon. The dragon fought back with his angels, but they were defeated and driven out of heaven. The great dragon, the primeval serpent, known as the Devil and Satan, who had deceived all the world, was hurled down to the earth and his angels were hurled down with him. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ, now that the persecutor, who accused our brothers day and night before our God, has been thrown down. They have triumph over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the witness of their martyrdom, because even in the face of death they would not cling to life. Let the heavens rejoice and all who live there.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps. 40:7-8a, 8b-9,10,11

Response: **Here Am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

Sacrifice and offering you do not want;
But ears open to obedience you gave me.
Holocausts and sin-offerings you do not require;
So I said, "Here I am.

Response: **Here Am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

Your commands for me are written in the scroll.
To do your will is my delight;
My God, your law is in my heart!"

Response: **Here Am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

I announced your deed to a great assembly;
I did not restrain my lips;
You, Lord, are my witness.

Response: **Here Am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

Your did I did not hide within my heart; your loyal deliverance
I have proclaimed.
I made no secret of your enduring kindness
To a great assembly.

Response: **Here Am I, Lord; I come to do your will.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary,
for firmly believing that the promises of the Lord would be
fulfilled. **Alleluia.**

GOSPEL

READING LUKE 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the Virgin's name was Mary. And coming to Mary, the angel said, "Hail, favoured one! The Lord is with you." But Mary was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" and the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore, the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Priest: In total humility and trust, the Virgin Mary submitted to the divine will to be the mother of God's Son. We pray for our needs, submissive to God's action in our lives.

1. For our Pope, Bishops, priests, and lay ministers: that like Mary they may always proclaim God's greatness and may always be open to serve him with humility.

Let us pray to the Lord.

2. For our local church: that we may honour Mary with our prayers and follow her example of humility and gentleness.

Let us pray to the Lord.

3. For all of us gathered here: that when trials come and our patience, honesty and love for others is tested, we may be open to the power of the Spirit who work in us.

Let us pray to the Lord.

4. For all the sick members of our family and friends: that in their sufferings and pains they may find strength and consolation in God. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

5. For all our departed loved ones and friends: that they may share in the joy of union with Mary and the saints.

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: 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.

NOVENA PRAYER

(After Communion)

Day - 7 “Mary, Mirror of Justice”

Leader: Holy Mary, Mother of Carmel: your Son proclaimed:
‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied’ (Mat. 5:6).

This bliss are all yours. Always hungering and thirsting for the Will of God, in which reside justice and holiness. You have to live and coexist with the just par excellence one with the Lamb without blemish. Your hunger and thirst were satisfied contemplating the renewal of the world... seeing how the flame of the Holy Spirit of your Son descended on you and on the apostles sent to implant the Gospel of love and holiness.

All: O Mary, fill us with mercy and holiness of the Lord our God. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: “Father, the little ones are asking for bread and, since there is no one to give it to them, they are dying of hunger. Lord, give us the bread of your word and for this, send labourers into your harvest, send preachers full of your spirit, who with apostolic zeal will share your divine word with your people...give strength to the weak and health to the sick; and satisfy the hunger of your little ones”. (Struggle, page 158,38).

Leader: Queen and Beauty of Carmel.

All: Pray for us!