

OPENING PRAYER SERVICE (May 31, 2010)

The Visitation

Introduction: Today we celebrate the Feast of the Visitation of Mary. Mary, who was three months pregnant, went from Galilee to Judea to visit her cousin Elizabeth, who was six months pregnant. She went to help her cousin, to share her happy news, perhaps even to be out of the public eye as her pregnancy began to “show”. Whatever the reason, the event is marked in the Church year as a feast day and in our Rosary as the second joyful mystery.

Reader #1: Let us begin our convention joyfully by praying a decade of the Rosary, with a short reflection between each “Hail Mary”. We begin... in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Reader #2: Mary, we pray... for courage and conviction, that we may say “Here I am” to the will of God.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Reader #3: Mary, we pray... for openness to hear God’s word and to recommit ourselves to be faithful to our Baptismal promises.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Reader #4: Mary, we pray... for responsive hearts that may know how to act in a spirit of peace and hope.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Reader #5: Mary, we pray... for a disciple’s heart that we may always treasure God’s word and act accordingly.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Reader #6: Mary, we pray... for the women of the League, that they may live in peace by acting justly, loving tenderly, and walking humbly with their God.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Reader #7: Mary, we pray... that you enlighten the eyes of our mind so that we may see what hope your call holds for us.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Reader #8: Mary, we pray... that we may be firm in the hope we profess and always be ready to give the reason for the hope we have.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Reader #9: Mary, we pray... that in a world becoming divided, we, as women of peace and hope, may act as peacemakers in our families, our workplaces and our communities.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Reader #10: Mary, we pray... as members of the League, for the memory of our deceased family members, for our League members and Spiritual Advisors, that God has welcomed them into the fullness of life where they may rest in peace and love.

All: Hail Mary, full of grace...

Together let us pray the League Prayer – We humbly pray you...

Let us conclude our prayer by singing “Hail Mary: Gentle Woman” by Carey Landry

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you
Blessed are you among women
And blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now,
And at the hour of death. Amen.

Refrain:

Gentle woman, quiet light,
Morning star so strong and bright.
Gentle Mother, peaceful dove,

Teach us wisdom; teach us love.

1. You were chosen for the Father;
You were chosen for the Son;
You were chosen from all women,
And for woman, shining one.

(Refrain)

2. Blessed are you among women,
Blest in turn all women, too.
Blessed they with peaceful spirits;
Blessed they with gentle hearts.

(Refrain).

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