

Readings: SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

First Reading: [Gen 3:9-15, 20](#)

After the man, Adam, had eaten of the tree,
the LORD God called to the man and asked him, "Where are you?"
He answered, "I heard you in the garden;
but I was afraid, because I was naked,
so I hid myself."
Then he asked, "Who told you that you were naked?
You have eaten, then,
from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat!"
The man replied, "The woman whom you put here with me—
she gave me fruit from the tree, and so I ate it."
The LORD God then asked the woman,
"Why did you do such a thing?"

The woman answered, "The serpent tricked me into it, so I ate it."

Then the LORD God said to the serpent:
"Because you have done this, you shall be banned
from all the animals
and from all the wild creatures;
on your belly shall you crawl,
and dirt shall you eat
all the days of your life.
I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike at your head,

while you strike at his heel."

The man called his wife Eve,

because she became the mother of all the living.

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 98:1-4](#)

R/. Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvelous deeds.

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done wondrous deeds;

his right hand has won victory for him, his holy arm.

R/. Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvelous deeds.

The Lord has made his salvation know:
in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.
He has remembered his kindness

and his faithfulness toward the house of Israel.

R/. Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvelous deeds.

All the ends of the earth
have seen the salvation by our God.
Sing joyfully to the Lord, all you lands;

break into song; sing praise.

R/. Sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvelous deeds.

Second Reading: [Called To Be God's Children](#)

Before all ages, we have been destined to become God's daughters and sons, his holy people, through Christ's salvation.

Second Reading: Eph 1:3-6, 11-12

Brothers and sisters:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing in the heavens,
as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world,
to be holy and without blemish before him.
In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ,
in accord with the favor of his will,
for the praise of the glory of his grace

that he granted us in the beloved.

In him we were also chosen,
destined in accord with the purpose of the One
who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will,
so that we might exist for the praise of his glory,

we who first hoped in Christ.

Gospel Reading: The Beginning of the Fulfillment

As the "Favored One of God," Mary is the prophetic model of those who overcome evil. With her begins the fulfillment of God's promises. With her, those who are one with Christ will learn to say Yes to God's plan.

Gospel Reading: Lk 1:26-38

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth. He was sent to a young virgin who was betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the family of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

The angel came to her and said, "Rejoice, full of grace, the Lord is with you." Mary was troubled at these words, wondering what this greeting could mean.

But the angel said, "Do not fear, Mary, for God has looked kindly on you. You shall conceive and bear a son and you shall call him Jesus. He will be great and shall rightly be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the kingdom of David, his ancestor; he will rule over the people of Jacob forever and his reign shall have no end."

Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be if I am a virgin?" And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the holy child to be born shall be called Son of God. Even your relative Elizabeth is expecting a son in her old age, although she was unable to have a child, and she is now in her sixth month. With God nothing is impossible."

Then Mary said, "I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me as you have said." And the angel left her.
