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# The Little Office of the Immaculate Conception

## PRAYER

Before the Recitation of the Office

Open, O Lord, our mouths to bless thy holy name; cleanse our hearts from all vain, bad, and distracting thoughts; enlighten our understanding, inflame our will that we may worthily, attentively, and devoutly recite this office and deserve to be heard in the presence of thy divine majesty. Through Christ Our Lord.

℟. Amen.

O Lord, I offer this office to thee in union with that divine intention with which thou thyself whilst on earth didst render praises to God.

## AT MATINS

℣. Come, O my voice, and let us raise

℟. To heaven's bright queen a song of praise.

℣. Propitious thought, O Mother, send us,

℟. And from the dreadful foe defend us.

℣. Glory be to the Father, *etc.*

## HYMN

Hail, mistress of earth; hail, heavenly queen;
Hail, Virgin of virgins, all chaste and serene.
Bright star of the morning, the light of whose face
Reflects His effulgence who filled thee with grace.
O sovereign of angels, come quickly, we pray,
And drive every ill that besets us away.

Thee from eternity
God did ordain
Over His household
As mistress to reign;
Thee He predestined
The Mother to be
Of Him who created
Earth, heaven, and sea;
Thee He selected
The spouse of His heart,
Because in our sin
Thou never hadst part.

*V.* God selected and prepared her,

*R.* And gave His own tabernacle for a dwelling.



## LET US PRAY

O holy Mary, Mother of Ou Lord Jesus Christ, queen of heaven and mistress of the world, who never forsakest nor despisest anyone, look upon us with an eye of pity, and beg of thy beloved Son the pardon of all our sins, that we who now devoutly celebrate thy Immaculate Conception may receive the reward of eternal joy through the mercy of Jesus Christ Our Lord, whom thou, pure Virgin, didst bring into the world and who with the Father and the Holy Spirit in perfect Trinity liveth and reigneth one God, world without end. Amen.

*V.* O Mother, turn a mother's ear,

*R.* And kindly our petitions hear.

*V.* Blessed be the Lord,

*R.* Thanks be to God.

*V.* May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

*R.* Amen.

## AT PRIME

*V.* Thy help, propitious Mother, lend us.
*R.* And from the dreadful foe defend us.
*V.* Glory be to the Father, *etc.*

HYMN

Hail, virginal wisdom; hail, mansion of God,
Where sevenfold pillars befit His abode.
All stately without and all perfect within,
He chose Him a dwelling undarkened by sin;
For even before thy miraculous birth
Thou wert free from the stain that has sullied the earth.

Mother of all saints
Living and dead,
New star that shone
Over Israel's head,
Sovereign of angels,
Terror of hell,
Be thou our refuge
Who love thee so well.

*V.* In His Holy Spirit He created her,
*R.* And exalted her above all His works.

LET US PRAY

O holy Mary, *etc.* (*as on page five*)



## AT TIERCE

*V.* Thy help, propitious Mother, lend us,
*R.* And from the dreadful foe defend us.
*V.* Glory be to the Father, *etc.*

HYMN

Hail, ark of the covenant, Solomon's throne,
The rainbow thou art thro' the deluge that shone.
Bright bush of the vision, fair flowering rod,
Sweet morsel of Samson, sealed closet of God.

O how befitting
The wisdom divine
To prepare for Himself
A nature like thine,
To which not a speck
Of the error of Eve,
That taints all beside,
For a moment could cleave.

*V.* My dwelling place is in the highest heavens,
*R.* And my throne I have placed above the clouds.

LET US PRAY

O holy Mary, *etc.* (*as on page five*)

## AT SEXT

*V.* Thy help, propitious Mother, lend us,
*R.* And from the dreadful foe defend us.
*V.* Glory be to the Father, *etc.*

HYMN

Hail, virginal Mother; hail, temple divine;
The glory of angels and purity's shrine.
Hail, comfort of mourners, bright garden of joy,
Whose beauties the songs of all angels employ.
The type of thy patience is victory's palm,
Thy chastity's figure the fragrance of balm.

O blessed the clay
Out of which thou wert wrought,
So utterly free
From original blot.
O city exalted,
Bright orient gate,
What graces unite
In thy singular state!

*V.* Like a lily in the midst of thorns,
*R.* So among Adam's daughters is my beloved.

LET US PRAY

O holy Mary, *etc.* (*as on page five*)



## AT NONE

*V.* Thy help, propitious Mother, lend us,
*R.* And from the dreadful foe defend us.
*V.* Glory be to the Father, *etc.*

HYMN

Hail, city of refuge, the safety of all,
Hail, tower of David, impregnable wall.
All flaming with zeal for man in his woe,
Thou crushest the head of his Stygian foe.

Invincible woman,
Than Judith more bold,
Fair Abisag cherishing
David of old.

Rachel a savior
To one people gave;
Thou a Redeemer
All nations to save.

*V.* All fair art thou, my beloved.
*R.* And there was never a stain of Adam's sin in thee.

LET US PRAY

O holy Mary, *etc.* (*as on page five*)

## AT VESPERS

*V.* Thy help, propitious Mother, lend us,
*R.* And from the dreadful foe defend us.
*V.* Glory be to the Father, *etc.*

HYMN

Hail, wonderful dial Ezechias of old
Beheld when the prophet His destiny told.
The Word, that incarnate in thee did become,
Receded, descending to man's lowly home.
Nine choirs He passed of superior powers,
To take up the tenth in this nature of ours.

The beams of this sun
Are the light of thy face,
And thou the aurora
Preceding His race.
The serpent that lurks
In night's desperate gloom
Thou crushest, and causest
All beauties to bloom.

*V.* I have caused a never-failing light to rise in heaven,
*R.* And like a luminous veil have spread it over all the earth.

LET US PRAY

O holy Mary, *etc.* (*as on page five*)



## AT COMPLINE

*V.* May Jesus Christ, thy Son, at thy intercession convert us
*R.* And turn away His anger from us forever.
*V.* Thy help, propitious Mother, lend us.
*R.* And from the dreadful foe defend us.
*V.* Glory be to the Father, *etc.*

HYMN

Hail, Virgin productive, yet Mother unstained;
A Virgin brought forth, yet a Virgin remained.

No crown was e'er given to creature like thine;
Twelve stars are the gems in its circle that shine.

Above all the angels, immaculate, pure,
At the right of the king thou shalt sit evermore.

O Mother, thro' thee,
The sinner's great hope,
Bright star of the sea,
May paradise ope.

And thus in the mansions
Of peace and of rest
With the sight of thy Son
May our vision be blessed.

*V.* Like fluent oil, O Mary, is thy name;

*R.* And thy servants have loved thee, oh how much!

LET US PRAY

O holy Mary, *etc.* (*as on page five*)

## CONCLUDING PRAYERS

Sweet Virgin, we offer
On suppliant knee
These prayers that the Church
Has devoted to thee.
O Mary, conduct us
In happiness' way,
And at the last hour
Assist us, we pray.

There is a bough in which no blur of either kind, original or wrought, hath touched the Virgin rind.

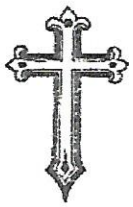
*V.* In thy conception, O Virgin, thou wast immaculate.

*R.* Pray for us to the Father, whose Son thou didst bear.



LET US PRAY

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary didst prepare a worthy habitation for thy Son, we beseech thee that as by the foresight of His death thou didst exempt her from all stain, so we, purified by her intercession, may come to thee, through the same Jesus Christ Our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.



*To the faithful who recite daily the Little Office of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is granted:*

*An indulgence of seven years.*

*A plenary indulgence under the usual conditions Mass, confession, Holy Communion, and visit to a church or public oratory] if this Office has been recited daily throughout the entire month. (Brief of March 31, 1875; S. Ap. Penit., Oct. 23, 1928, and March 18, 1932.)*

## ACT OF CONSECRATION

Most holy Virgin Mary, Mother of God, I (*repeat your name*), although most unworthy yet moved by the sincerest love and impelled by the desire of serving thee, do this day choose thee in the presence of my guardian angel and the whole heavenly court for my queen, my advocate, and my Mother; and I firmly resolve henceforth faithfully to serve thee and to do all in my power to increase the number of thy servants. I therefore pray and beseech thee, O most affectionate Mother, through the blood of Jesus Christ, shed for my sake, to guard and protect me and to receive me as thy servant forever. Assist me in all my undertakings, and obtain for me that I may so regulate my thoughts, words, and actions as never to displease either thee or thy most holy Son. Remember me, O dearest Mother, and forsake me not at the hour of my death. Amen.



## The Magnificat or Canticle of the Blessed Virgin Mary

My soul doth magnify the Lord,

And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For He hath regarded the humility of His handmaid; for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

For He that is mighty hath done great things unto me, and holy is His name.

And His mercy is from generation to generation, unto them that fear Him.

He hath shown strength with His arm; He hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat and hath exalted the humble.

He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He hath sent empty away.

He hath received Israel, His servant, being mindful of His mercy.

As He spoke unto our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. *Etc.*

## THE MEMORARE

Prayer of St. Bernard

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



# Little Office of the Immaculate Conception

**Father George Johnson's Translation**

### MATINS AND LAUDS

Kneel

*Pref.*—Awake, my lips! your hymn of praise begin

*All*—To her, the Virgin blest, who knew no sin.

*Pref.*—O Lady, soon unto mine aid incline,

*All*—And strongly shield me from the foe malign.

*Pref.*—Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*All*—As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia !

**From Septuagesima to Easter, Alleluia is replaced by:**

*Pref.*—Ceaseless praise to thee be given,

*All*—O eternal king of heaven.

HYMN

**Stand**

*Pref.*—Hail, Lady; hail, our earthly queen
And mistress fair of worlds unseen.
Hail, Virgin, sprung from soil terrene
Yet robed in peerless purity.

*All*—Hail, star of morning, shining fair.
Hail, full of grace beyond compare.
O Lady, list thy children's prayer
And haste to heal their misery.

*Pref.*—Of old, ere time had yet begun,
God destined thee His chosen one
And made thee Mother of His Son,
His Word of equal deity.

*All*—By whom the starry skies He made,
And earth and sea in pomp arrayed.
Thou wert His spotless bride; no shade
Of Adam's sin e'er sullied thee.

Amen.

*Pref.*—God chose her and forechose her.

*All*—In His own dwelling place He set up her abode.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.



**Kneel**

*Pref.*—Let us pray:

Holy Mary, queen of heaven, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and mistress of earth, thou forsakest no one and despisest no one. Deign then, O Lady, to turn upon me thine eyes of tender love, and from thy dear Son obtain for me the forgiveness of all my sins. So that I, who now devoutly cherish the memory of thy holy Immaculate Conception, may in the life to come attain the prize of bliss everlasting by His gift whom thou, ever Virgin, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ Our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit in Trinity all-perfect liveth and reigneth God, forever and ever.

*All*—Amen.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

*Pref.*—Let us bless the Lord.

*All*—Thanks be to God.

*Pref.*—May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

*All*—Amen.

*Pref.*—O Lady soon unto mine aid incline,

*All*—And strongly shield me from the foe malign.

*Pref.*—Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*All*—As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia !

**From Septuagesima to Easter, Alleluia is replaced by:**

*Pref.*—Ceaseless praise to thee be given,

*All*—O eternal king of heaven.

HYMN

**Stand**

*Pref.*—Hail, Virgin, wisdom's fairest shrine,
God's temple wrought in rare design,
Whose mystic columns intertwine
In sevenfold magnificence.

*All*—Alone of all our mortal race
Thou wast preserved from sin's least trace
As soon as e'er thy soul found place
Within its fleshly cerements.



*Pref.*—O angel queen, 'tis ours to claim
For thee a Mother's dearer name.
O gate of heaven, new-risen flame
Of Israel's deliverance.

*All*—To demon hordes thou art more dread
Than armed hosts to battle led
Our refuge be when life is fled,
Our haven midst its turbulence.
Amen.

*Pref.*—In the Holy Spirit He created her.

*All*—And He poured her out among all His works.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer.

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

**Kneel**

*Pref.*—Let us pray:

Holy Mary, queen of heaven, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and mistress of earth, thou forsakest no one and despisest no one. Deign then, O Lady, to turn upon me thine eyes of tender love, and from thy dear Son obtain for me the forgiveness of all my sins. So that I, who now devoutly cherish the memory of thy holy Immaculate Conception, may in the life to come attain the prize of bliss everlasting by His gift whom thou,

ever Virgin, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ Our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit in Trinity all-perfect liveth and reigneth God, forever and ever.

*All*—Amen.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

*Pref.*—Let us bless the Lord.

*All*—Thanks be to God.

*Pref.*—May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

*All*—Amen.

TIERCE

*Pref.*—O Lady, soon unto mine aid incline,

*All*—And strongly shield me from the foe malign.

*Pref.*—Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*All*—As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia !

**From Septuagesima to Easter, Alleluia is replaced by:**

*Pref.*—Ceaseless praise to thee be given.

*All*—O eternal king of heaven.



HYMN

**Stand**

*Pref.*—Hail, ark that held God's treaty stone.
Hail, Solomon's prefigured throne.
Hail, burning bush to Moses shown.
Rainbow of peace perpetual.

*All*—Hail, rod of Jesse, blossom-crowned.
Hail, fleece heaven-dewed 'mid arid ground.
Hail, honeycomb by Samson found.
Blest portal of Emmanuel.

*Pref.*—Could Christ thy Son, who took from thee
His flesh of frail mortality,
Do aught but keep forever free
From Eva's taint original

*All*—That Mother whom He chose of old
With love no mortal tongue hath told,
The only one of human mould,
Immaculate, all-beautiful?

Amen.

*Pref.*—My dwelling is in the highest,

*All*—And my throne is on the pillar of the cloud.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

Kneel

*Pref.*—Let us pray:

Holy Mary, queen of heaven, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and mistress of earth, thou forsakest no one and despisest no one. Deign then, O Lady, to turn upon me thine eyes of tender love, and from thy dear Son obtain for me the forgiveness of all my sins. So that I, who now devoutly cherish the memory of thy holy Immaculate Conception, may in the life to come attain the prize of bliss everlasting by His gift whom thou, ever Virgin, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ Our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit in Trinity all-perfect liveth and reigneth God, forever and ever.

*All*—Amen.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

*Pref.*—Let us bless the Lord.

*All*—Thanks be to God.

*Pref.*—May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

*All*—Amen.



SEXT

*Pref.*—O Lady, soon unto mine aid incline,

*All*—And strongly shield me from the foe malign.

*Pref.*—Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*All*—As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia !

**From Septuagesima to Easter, Alleluia is replaced by:**

*Pref.*—Ceaseless praise to thee be given,

*All*—O eternal king of heaven.

HYMN

Stand

*Pref.*—Hail, Virgin Mother, in whose breast
The Triune God once dwelt a guest.
Thou art the joy of angels blest,
Secretest cell of purity.

*All*—The solace thou of all who mourn,
Fair garden free from every thorn.
The martyr's palm by thee is borne,
Thou cedar tree of chastity.

*Pref.*—Hail, hallowed land, whose sacred state
To priestly rites was consecrate,
Of sin's foul touch inviolate
In heaven-bestowed immunity.

*All*—Fair city, ruled by king divine,
Morn's gate, whence orient splendors shine,
The plentitude of grace is thine,
O queen of every sanctity.

Amen.

*Pref.*—As a lily in the midst of thorns,

*All*—So is my beloved among the daughters of Adam.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

**Kneel**

*Pref.*—Let us pray:

Holy Mary, queen of heaven, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and mistress of earth, thou forsakest no one and despisest no one. Deign then, O Lady, to turn upon me thine eyes of tender love, and from thy dear Son obtain for me the forgiveness of all my sins. So that I, who now devoutly cherish the memory of thy holy Immaculate Conception, may in the life to come attain the prize of



bliss everlasting by His gift whom thou, ever Virgin, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ Our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit in Trinity all-perfect liveth and reigneth God, forever and ever.

*All*—Amen.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

*Pref.*—Let us bless the Lord.

*All*—Thanks be to God.

*Pref.*—May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

*All*—Amen.

NONE

*Pref.*—O Lady, soon unto mine aid incline,

*All*—And strongly shield me from the foe malign.

*Pref.*—Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*All*—As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia !

**From Septuagesima to Easter, Alleluia is replaced by:**

*Pref.*—Ceaseless praise to thee be given,

*All*—O eternal king of heaven.

HYMN

Stand

*Pref.*—Hail, city of refuge, David's tower,
Our strong defense in battle's hour,
Whose ramparts firm defy the power
Of hell in all its panoply.

*All*—So burned with love's celestial flame
Thy soul when first from God it came,
That Satan's might and sin's fell name
Lost all their evil potency.

*Pref.*—Thrice blessed Judith, valiant-souled,
'Twas thine in sweet embrace to hold
The Christ, as Abisag of old
Nursed David's second infancy.

*All*—As Rachel's son, in Pharaoh's day,
Saved all his race from sure decay,
Thy Son did once our ransom pay
From worse than Egypt's slavery.
Amen.

*Pref.*—All fair art thou, my loved one;

*All*—And the primal stain was never in thee.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.



Kneel

*Pref.*—Let us pray:

Holy Mary, queen of heaven, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and mistress of earth, thou forsakest no one and despisest no one. Deign then, O Lady, to turn upon me thine eyes of tender love, and from thy dear Son obtain for me the forgiveness of all my sins. So that I, who now devoutly cherish the memory of thy holy Immaculate Conception, may in the life to come attain the prize of bliss everlasting by His gift whom thou, ever Virgin, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ Our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit in Trinity all-perfect liveth and reigneth God, forever and ever.

*All*—Amen.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer.

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

*Pref.*—Let us bless the Lord.

*All*—Thanks be to God.

*Pref.*—May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

*All*—Amen.

*Pref.*—O Lady, soon unto mine aid incline,

*All*—And strongly shield me from the foe malign.

*Pref.*—Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

*All*—As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia !

**From Septuagesima to Easter, Alleluia is replaced by:**

*Pref.*—Ceaseless praise to thee be given,

*All*—O eternal king of heaven.

HYMN

**Stand**

*Pref.*—Hail, dial whereon time's laws were stayed
More wondrously than when the shade
Crept back on that King Achaz made,
And God took man's humanity.

*All*—That man from nature's low estate
To heights divine might penetrate,
Than angels less in worth innate
Thro' Christ of nobler destiny



*Pref.*—Brighter than suns of earthly days,
Celestial glories round thee blaze;
More fair than morn's refulgent rays,
That flame in eastern majesty.

*All*—Or when the moon with silvery light
Soft shines on wanderers lost at night.
Chaste lily sin could never blight,
The serpent's head was crushed by thee.
Amen.

*Pref.*—I made to arise in the heavens a light that never faileth;

*All*—And as a cloud I covered all the earth.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

**Kneel**

*Pref.*—Let us pray:

Holy Mary, queen of heaven, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and mistress of earth, thou forsakest no one and despisest no one. Deign then, O Lady, to turn upon me thine eyes of tender love, and from thy dear Son obtain for me the forgiveness of all my sins. So that I, who now devoutly cherish the memory of thy holy Immaculate Conception, may in the life to come attain the prize of

bliss everlasting by His gift whom thou, ever Virgin, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ Our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit in Trinity all-perfect liveth and reigneth God, forever and ever.

*All*—Amen.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

*Pref.*—Let us bless the Lord.

*All*—Thanks be to God.

*Pref.*—May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

*All*—Amen.

COMPLINE

*Pref.*—May Jesus Christ, thy Son, be appeased by thy prayers, O Lady, and convert our hearts,

*All*—And turn away from us His wrath.

*Pref.*—O Lady, soon unto mine aid incline,

*All*—And strongly shield me from the foe malign.

*Pref.*—Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.



*All*—As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia !

**From Septuagesima to Easter, Alleluia is replaced by:**

*Pref.*—Ceaseless praise to thee be given,
*All*—O eternal king of heaven.

HYMN

**Stand**

*Pref.*—Hail, Virgin, root of flower divine,
God's sinless Mother, queen benign.
Thy brow encircling stars entwine,
A crown of immortality.

*All*—All purity to angels known
Is less, far less, than is thine own;
Thou standest close beside God's throne,
Arrayed in robes of majesty

*Pref.*—O thou who art full of grace,
The hope of Adam's fallen race,
Bright star whose beams no storms efface,
The shipwrecked soul's security.

*All*—Thro' thee, who art the gate of rest,
The strength of those by sin oppressed,
May we at last among the blessed
See God for all eternity.

Amen.

*Pref.*—Thy name, O Mary, is as oil poured out.

*All*—Thy children have loved thee exceeding much.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.

**Kneel**

*Pref.*—Let us pray:

Holy Mary, queen of heaven, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and mistress of earth, thou forsakest no one and despisest no one. Deign then, O Lady, to turn upon me thine eyes of tender love, and from thy dear Son obtain for me the forgiveness of all my sins. So that I, who now devoutly cherish the memory of thy holy Immaculate Conception, may in the life to come obtain the prize of bliss everlasting by His gift whom thou, ever Virgin, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ Our Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit in Trinity all-perfect liveth and reigneth God, forever and ever.

*All*—Amen.

*Pref.*—O Lady, guard my prayer,

*All*—And let my cry come unto thee.



*Pref.*—Let us bless the Lord.

*All*—Thanks be to God.

*Pref.*—May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

*All*—Amen.

**Stand**

*Pref.*—From suppliant hearts to thee we raise,
Sweet Mother, this our hymn of praise
To thee whose gentle love outweighs
Thy children's loving trust in thee.

*All*—Keep thou our ways whate'er betide;
Thro' prosperous paths our footsteps guide;
And stand our parting souls beside
In death's dark hour of agony.
Amen

*Pref.*—Thanks be to God.

ANTIPHON

*Ass'ts.*—This is the branch in which was neither knot of original sin nor rind of actual guilt.

*Pref.*—In thy conception, O Virgin, thou wast immaculate.

*All*—Pray for us to the Father, whose Son was born of thee.

**Kneel**

*Pref.*—Let us pray:

By the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary thou didst provide, O God, a dwelling fit for thy Son. Grant, we beseech thee, that as through the death of the same thy Son thou didst keep her from every taint, so we also by her intercession may come unto thee free from sin. Through the same Christ Our Lord.

*All*—Amen.

