



## WITH MARY TOWARDS THE SYNODAL ASSEMBLY

Mary, the Mother of God, is always with us on the synodal path, for she is also 'Mother of the Church' (*Mater Ecclesiae*); mother of all those who are companions and disciples of her Son. Whenever we are feeling lost, confused, or hesitant about the way, we only have to look to her to point out the way.

### THE ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,  
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.  
Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord,  
Be it done unto me according to your Word.  
Hail Mary...

And the Word was made flesh,  
And dwelt among us.  
Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,  
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray,  
Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord.  
Amen.

### PRAYER SERVICE

FOR PARISHES AND GROUPS PLACING THE  
CHURCH'S ENTIRE SYNODAL PROCESS  
UNDER THE PROTECTION OF MARY,  
MOTHER OF THE CHURCH.

12PM AND 6PM

WEDNESDAY, 31 MAY 2023

OR A TIME THAT'S CONVENIENT FOR YOU





# PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF THE WAY

Placing the Church's entire synodal process, especially the work of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod under the protection of Mary, Mother of the Church.

This late medieval mural of Mary was originally on an external wall of the small chapel of Our Lady of the Way in Rome, where Saint Ignatius prayed and where he eventually set up the headquarters of his new Society. This prayer to Our Lady of the Way can be used as we continue our synodal journey together, invoking the help of Mary and inviting her to walk with us every step of the way.

## Opening Hymn

As I kneel before you  
As I bow my head in prayer  
Take this day, make it yours  
And fill me with your love

*Ave Maria, Gratia plena  
Dominus tecum, Benedicta tu*

All I have I give you  
Every dream and wish are yours  
Mother of Christ  
Mother of mine, present them to my Lord

*Ave Maria, Gratia plena  
Dominus tecum, Benedicta tu*

As I kneel before you  
And I see your smiling face  
Every thought, every word  
Is lost in your embrace

*Ave Maria, Gratia plena  
Dominus tecum, Benedicta tu*

## The Visitation

### From the Gospel of Luke (1:39-45)

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

In a loud voice she exclaimed: 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favoured, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil his promises to her!



# THE SECOND JOYFUL MYSTERY OF THE ROSARY

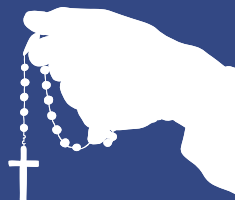
## THE VISITATION

As we pray this decade of the rosary, let us reflect on how Mary visited her cousin. Saint Elizabeth's words are not simply a greeting between cousins. Instead, they reveal to us the identities of both Mary and her Child as the Mother of God and Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. The Visitation reminds us that Mary will abide with us in prayer, and with Mary comes the presence of God.

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou amongst women  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done  
on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.

Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning  
is now, and ever shall be  
world without end. Amen.



## LITANY

Holy Mary Mother of God  
**Walk with us on our synodal journey**

Mother of the Church  
**Walk with us and pray for us**

Mother of the disciples of Jesus  
**Walk with us and pray for us**

Mother of the lost and the lonely  
**Walk with us and pray for us**

Mother of the confused and hesitant  
**Walk with us and pray for us**

Mother of those who are searching and  
questioning  
**Walk with us and pray for us**

Mother of those who are on the margins  
**Walk with us and pray for us**

Mother who gives us direction and points  
the way ahead  
**Walk with us and pray for us**

# LITANY CONTINUED

Woman of silence and reflection  
**Help us to listen to the Spirit**

Woman of service and action  
**Help us to listen to the Spirit**

Woman who sets out in mission  
**Help us to listen to the Spirit**

Woman who directs us towards your Son  
**Help us to listen to the Spirit**

You journeyed from Nazareth to Bethlehem  
**Be with us on our pilgrim way**

You journeyed on the refugee road into  
Egypt  
**Be with us on our pilgrim way**

You journeyed as a pilgrim to Jerusalem  
**Be with us on our pilgrim way**

You accompanied your Son Jesus on the  
road to Calvary  
**Be with us on our pilgrim way**

You walked with the disciples as they  
shared the Good News  
**Be with us on our pilgrim way**

Holy Mary,  
Mother of God  
and Mother of the Church.  
Guide our steps along the right path.  
Direct us towards your Son and  
help us to follow Him faithfully.

Our Lady of the Way  
**Pray for us**

Our Lady of the Way  
**Stay with us**

Our Lady of the Way  
**Walk with us**

Let us now place our petitions at the feet of Our Lady, placing the entire synodal process and the work of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, taking place in Rome this October, under the protection of Mary, Mother of the Church.

## Closing Hymn

When creation was begun,  
God had chosen you to be  
Mother of his blessed Son,  
Holy Mary, full of grace.  
*Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.*

When creation was restored,  
You were there beside the Lord  
Whom you cherished and adored,  
Holy Mary, full of grace.  
*Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.*

All of us are children too,  
often doubtful what to do,  
Needing to confide in you,  
Holy Mary, full of grace.  
*Ave, Ave, Ave Maria*  
*Ave, Ave, Ave Maria*

