

Last Sunday of October

The Blessed Virgin MARY, QUEEN OF PALESTINE (or Holy Land)  
Principal Patron of the Diocese.

Solemnity

We honour the Virgin Mary in a very particular way and we declare her to be our Queen in this country where she lived the mysteries of the Incarnation and of the Redemption. Many shrines here evoke the presence of the Daughter of Zion, from whom Christ the Saviour was born to the world. And we believe that now, sharing the glory of her Son, Mary especially intercedes for this country and for those who walk the very ground that was sanctified by the blood of Christ.

The entire liturgy of this day sings the glory of the one who, from the Annunciation to her Elevation to heaven to be at the side of her Son, was filled by the mercy of God. " All ages will call her blessed! "

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Ps 45: 9b

At your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

or else:

Let us rejoice in the Lord this day as we celebrate the feast of the Virgin Mary, our Queen. On this feast, the angels rejoice and sing praises to the Son of God. Alleluia.

COLLECT

Lord, you rule all things according to your divine Providence; we pray, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Palestine to you for this holy land of Palestine, where your Son, in his infinite love, was pleased to accomplish the mystery of Redemption. Protect it throughout all difficulties, enable us to serve it loyally and render it a witness of holiness.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ...

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles 1: 12-14

After having seen Jesus to be taken up to the heavens, the Apostles returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they entered the city they went to the upper room where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer, together with some women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.  
The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 1 Mic 6: 15a. 17b, Sir 45: 12, Songs 5: 1. 4: 11 (R. Luke 1: 48)

R. Behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.

1. He gave him her crown, so that she might rear the king's son to be king in his place.

2. On his turban the diadem of gold, its plate wrought with the insignia of holiness, Majestic, glorious, renowned for splendor, a delight to the eyes, beauty supreme.

3. Come to your garden, ô Queen, our Lady. The fragrance of your garments<sup>[L]</sup> is the fragrance of Lebanon.

## SECOND READING

A reading from the Book of Revelation 11: 19a, 12: 1b. 3-6a. 10a

Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant could be seen in the temple: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. Then another sign appeared in the sky; it was a huge red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on its heads were seven diadems. Its tail swept away a third of the stars in the sky and hurled them down to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman about to give birth, to devour her child when she gave birth. She gave birth to a son, a male child, destined to rule all the nations with an iron rod. Her child was caught up to God and his throne. The woman herself fled into the desert where she had a place prepared by God. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have salvation and power come, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Anointed".

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jdt 13: 17b-18a

Alleluia. "Blessed are you, our God, who today have brought to nought the enemies of your people" and "Blessed are you, daughter, by the Most High God". Alleluia.

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint Luke 1: 41-50

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, filled with the holy Spirit, she cried out in a loud voice and said: "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him".

The Gospel of the Lord.

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, be graciously pleased to accept these gifts that we offer you on the Feast of Holy Mary, our Queen. You, who have done great things for her, make of us also, an eternal oblation to your glory. Through Christ our Lord.

## Preface

V. The Lord be with you.<sup>[L]</sup>

R. And with your spirit.<sup>[L]</sup>

V. Lift up your hearts.<sup>[L]</sup>

R. We lift them up to the Lord.<sup>[L]</sup>

V. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.<sup>[L]</sup>

R. It is right and just.<sup>[L]</sup>

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,<sup>[L]</sup> always and everywhere to give you thanks,<sup>[L]</sup> Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,<sup>[L]</sup> and to praise, bless, and glorify your name,<sup>[L]</sup> on the solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Palestine.

For by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, she conceived your Only Begotten Son, and without losing the glory of virginity, brought forth into the world the eternal Light, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him the Angels praise your majesty, Dominions adore and Powers tremble before you. Heaven and the Virtues of heaven and the blessed Seraphim worship together with exultation. May our voices, we pray, join with theirs in humble praise, as we acclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts...

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Most holy Mother and Immaculate virgin, glorious Queen of the world, intercede for us before God.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, we have received this nourishment on the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary; may it transform our innermost being, so that, just as we live here on the earth made holy by the blood of your Son, so may we, one day, be worthy to reach our eternal homeland. Through Christ our Lord.