



**THE LITTLE OFFICE OF
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

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Pope Pius IX, by Brief of March 31, 1876, granted to the faithful who recite devoutly and with a contrite heart, the Little Office of the Immaculate Conception an Indulgence of 300 Days each time.

Cover art taken from a hand-painted pall depicting

The Immaculate Conception

Courtesy of Servants of the Holy Family

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AT MATINS

Come, my lips, and wide proclaim
The blessed Virgin's spotless fame.

V. O Lady, make speed to befriend me.

R. From the hands of the enemy mightily defend me.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia, is said:

Praise be to Thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.

Hymn

Hail, Queen of the heaven.

Hail, mistress of earth!

Hail, Virgin most pure,

Of immaculate birth!

Clear star of the morning,

In beauty enshrin'd!

O Lady, make speed

To the help of mankind.

Thee God in the depth

Of eternity chose:

And form'd thee all fair

As His glorious spouse;

And call'd thee His word's

Own Mother to be,

By whom He created

The earth, sky, and sea. Amen.

V. God elected her, and pre-elected her.

R. He made her to dwell in His tabernacle.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

Let Us Pray

Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, and Mistress of the world, who forsakest no one, and despisest no one; look upon me, O Lady, with an eye of pity, and entreat for me, of thy beloved Son, the forgiveness of all my sins; that as I now celebrate with devout affection thy holy and Immaculate Conception, so, hereafter, I may receive the prize of eternal blessedness by the grace of Him whom thou, in virginity, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ our Lord; Who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth in perfect Trinity, God, world without end. Amen.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

V. Let us bless 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. O Lady, make speed to befriend me.

R. From the hands of the enemy mightily defend me.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia, is said:

Praise be to Thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.

Hymn

Hail, Virgin most wise!

Hail, Deity's shrine!

With seven fair pillars,

And table divine.

Preserv'd from the guilt

Which hath come on us all,

Exempt, in the womb,

From the taint of the Fall!

O new star of Jacob!

Of Angels the Queen!

O gate of the Saints!

O mother of men!

O terrible as

The embattled array!

Be thou of the faithful

The refuge and stay.

Amen.

V. The Lord Himself created her in the Holy Ghost.

R. And poured her out among all his works.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

Let Us Pray

Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ and Mistress of the world, who forsakest no one, and despisest no one; look upon me, O Lady, with an eye of pity, and entreat for me, of thy beloved Son, the forgiveness of all my sins; that as I now celebrate with devout affection thy holy and Immaculate Conception, so, hereafter, I may receive the prize of eternal blessedness, by the grace of Him whom thou, in virginity, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who, with the Father, and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, in perfect Trinity, God, world without end. Amen.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

V. Let us bless 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 TIERCE.

V. O Lady, make speed to befriend me.

R. From the hands of the enemy mightily defend me.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia, is said:

Praise be to Thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.

Hymn

Hail, Solomon's throne!

Pure ark of the law!

Fair rainbow! and bush,

Which the Patriarch saw.

Hail, Gedeon's fleece!

Hail, blossoming rod!

Samson's sweet honeycomb!

Portal of God!

Well fitting it was,

That a Son so divine,

Should preserve from all touch

Or original sin;

Nor suffer by smallest

Defect to be stain'd,

That Mother, whom He

For Himself had ordain'd.

Amen.

V. I dwell in the highest.

R. And my throne is on the pillar of the cloud.

V. O Lady hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

Let Us Pray

Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, and Mistress of the world, who forsakest no one, and despisest no one; look upon me, O Lady, with an eye of pity, and entreat for me, of thy be-loved Son, the forgiveness of all my sins; that as I now celebrate with devout affection thy holy and Immaculate Conception, so, hereafter, I may receive the prize of eternal blessedness, by the grace of Him whom thou, in virginity, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who with the Father and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, in perfect Trinity, God, world without end.—Amen.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

V. Let us bless 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 SEXT

V. O Lady, make speed to befriend me.

R. From the hands of the enemy mightily defend me.

V. Glory be to the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia, is said:

Praise be to Thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.

Hymn

Hail, virginal Mother!

Hail, purity's cell!

Fair shrine where the Trinity

Loveth to dwell!

Hail, garden of pleasure!

Celestial balm!

Cedar of chastity!

Martyrdom's palm!

Thou land set apart

From uses profane!

And free from the curse

Which in Adam began!

Thou city of God!

Thou gate of the east!

In thee is all grace,

O joy of the blest! Amen.

V. As the lily among the thorns.

R. So is my beloved among the daughters of Adam.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

Let Us Pray.

Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, and Mistress of the world, who forsakest no one, and despisest no one; look upon me, O Lady, with an eye of pity, and entreat for me, of thy beloved Son, the forgiveness of all my sins; that as I now celebrate with devout affection thy holy and Immaculate Conception, so, hereafter, I may receive the prize of eternal blessedness, by the grace of Him whom thou, in virginity, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ our Lord: Who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, in perfect Trinity, God, world without end. Amen.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

V. Let us bless 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 NONE

V. O Lady, make speed to befriend me.

R. From the hands of the enemy mightily defend me.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia, is said:

Praise be to Thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.

Hymn

Hail city of refuge!

Hail, David's high tower!

With battlements crown'd

And girded with power!

Fill'd at thy Conception

With love and with light,

The dragon by thee

Was shorn of his might.

O woman most valiant!

O Judith thrice blest!

As David was nurs'd

In fair Abisag's breast.

As the saviour of Egypt

Upon Rachel's knee;

So the world's great Redeemer

Was cherish'd by thee. Amen.

V. Thou art all fair, my beloved.

R. And the original stain was never in thee.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

Let Us Pray.

Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, and Mistress of the world, who forsakest no one, and despisest no one; look upon me, O Lady, with an eye of pity, and entreat for me, of thy beloved Son, forgiveness of all my sins, that as I now celebrate with devout affection thy holy and Immaculate Conception, so, hereafter, I may receive the prize of eternal blessedness, by the grace of Him whom thou, in virginity, didst bring forth Jesus Christ our Lord; Who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, in perfect Trinity, God, world without end.

Amen.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.

R. And let my cry come unto thee.

V. Let us bless 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 VESPERS

V. O Lady, make speed to befriend me.

R. From the hands of the enemy mightily defend me.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.—Amen.

Alleluia.

From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia, is said:

Praise be to Thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.

Hymn

Hail, dial of Achaz!

On thee the true sun

Told backward the course

Which from old he had run.

And that man might be rais'd.

Submitting to shame,

A little more low

Than the Angels became.

Thou, wrapt in the blaze

Of His infinite light,

Dost shine as the morn

On the confines of night.

As the moon on the lost

Through obscurity dawns:

The serpent's destroyer!

A lily 'mid thorns!

Amen.

V. I made an unfailing light to arise in heaven.
R. And, as a mist, I overspread the whole earth.
V. O Lady, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come unto thee.

Let Us Pray.

Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, and Mistress of the world, who forsakest no one, and despisest no one; look upon me, O Lady, with an eye of pity, and entreat for me, of thy beloved Son, the forgiveness of all my sins; that as I now celebrate with devout affection thy holy and Immaculate Conception, so, hereafter, I may receive the prize of eternal blessedness, by the grace of Him whom thou, in virginity, didst bring forth, Jesus Christ our Lord; Who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, in perfect Trinity, God, world without end. Amen.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come unto thee.
V. Let us bless 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 COMPLINE

V. May Jesus Christ thy Son, reconciled by thy prayers, O Lady, convert our hearts.

R. And turn away His anger from us.

V. O Lady, make speed to befriend me.

R. From the hands of the enemy mightily defend me.

V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia, is said:

Praise be to Thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.

Hymn

Hail, Mother most pure!

Hail, Virgin renown'd!

Hail, Queen with the stars

As a diadem crowned.

Above all the Angels

In glory untold,

Standing next to the King

In a vesture of gold!

O Mother of Mercy!

O star of the wave!

O hope of the guilty!

O light of the grave!

Through thee may we come

To the haven of rest;

And see heaven's King

In the courts of the blest!

Amen.

V. Thy name, O Mary, is as oil poured out.
R. Thy servants have loved thee exceedingly.
V. O Lady, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come unto thee.

Let Us Pray.

Holy Mary, Queen of heaven, Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ and Mistress of the world, who forsakest no one, and despisest no one; look upon me, O Lady, with an eye of pity, and entreat for me, of thy beloved Son, the forgiveness of all my sins; that as I now celebrate with devout affection thy holy and Immaculate Conception, so, hereafter, I may receive the prize of eternal blessedness, by the grace of Him whom thou, in virginity, didst bring forth Jesus Christ our Lord; Who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, in perfect Trinity, God, world without end. Amen.

V. O Lady, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come unto thee.
V. Let us bless 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.

THE COMMENDATION

These praises and prayers

I lay at thy feet,

O Virgin of Virgins!

O Mary most sweet!

Be thou my true guide

Through this pilgrimage here;

And stand by my side

When death draweth near.

R. Thanks be to God.

Ant. This is the rod, wherein was neither the knot of original sin, nor the bark of actual sin.

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, Why by the Immaculate Conception of a Virgin didst make ready a meet dwelling for Thy Son, we beseech Thee that Thou, who, foreseeing the death of that same Son of Thine, didst keep her free from all stain, mayest suffer us also, with clean hearts through her pleading, to come unto Thee. Through the same Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

Nihil Obstat:

H. McDERMOTT, D. D., Censor DePutatus

Imprimi Potest:



MICHAEL

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