



## GUIDELINES FOR PRAYER

# “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord” (cf Luke 1:38)

Week IV

December 21-27, 2020

**Theme: MARY, PROPHET OF HOPE AND JOY**

**General Objective:** To imitate the woman who received, nourished, shared and give flesh to the Word in her Life. Mother of Verbum Dei, source of our hope and joy.

**Specific objective:** To follow how Mother Mary was able to open her life for the Incarnation of the Word and embrace with

freedom to do God’s will and to allow God to dream with her life.

### MONDAY

**(St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church)**

**Sg 2:8-14** The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills.

<sup>9</sup> My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice.

<sup>10</sup> My beloved speaks and says to me:

“Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away;<sup>11</sup> for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.

<sup>12</sup> The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come,

and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. <sup>13</sup> The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

<sup>14</sup> O my dove, in the clefts of the rock, in the covert of the cliff, let me see your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely.

**FMVDC#119.** We will live obedience so as to do only the will of the Father, to be living

and life-giving members of the Body of Christ and to have among us the same attitudes as Jesus, who became for us “obedient to the point of death and death on a cross.” By obedience, we will be able to live and proclaim Mary’s co-redemptive FIAT throughout our whole life.

*What is my disposition in doing the will of the Father? How am I accepting His plan over my life?*

### TUESDAY

**(St. Flavian)**

**FMVDC#121.** Our obedience to God and to the insinuations of his Spirit will always be the measure of our true love, the principal motor of our prayer and the best proof of its authenticity. We pray in order to unite ourselves to Jesus’ thinking, feeling and loving, in order to better accomplish His will.

*How obedient am I to the different insinuations of the Holy Spirit?*

### WEDNESDAY

**(St. John of Kanty, Priest)**

**Is 9:1-6** The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a

light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, as they rejoice before you at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, and the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

*In what way God is inviting me to collaborate with Him in doing His will?*

**THURSDAY**  
**(St. Delphinus)**

**Luke 2:1-6** In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up

from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

*How willing am I in embracing God's ways?*

**FRIDAY**  
**(Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord)**

**Luke 2:10-14** The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

*How am I taking the Good News being proclaimed to me?*

**SATURDAY**  
**(St. Stephen, First Martyr)**

**John 1:3** All things came into being through him, and without him not one

thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

*What does it bring to me the birth of Jesus?*

**SUNDAY**  
**(Feast of the Holy Family)**



1<sup>st</sup> Reading : Sirach 3:2-14

Resp. Psalm: Psalm 105:1-9

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Col 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40