

**MAY 31,  
THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:  
MASS**

*The First Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from the Book of Zephaniah**

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has cast out your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear evil no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Do not fear, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.”

*The Reader concludes*    The Word of the Lord.

## Psalm 113

*At Said Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 113, found in the red Prayer Book on page 756.

*(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)*

*At Sung Mass the Reader says*

Please join me in reading Psalm 113 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 Hallelujah!  
Give praise, you servants of the LORD; \*  
praise the Name of the LORD.
- 2 Let the Name of the LORD be blessed, \*  
from this time forth for evermore.
- 3 From the rising of the sun to its going down \*  
let the Name of the LORD be praised.
- 4 The LORD is high above all nations, \*  
and his glory above the heavens.
- 5 Who is like the LORD our God, who sits  
enthroned on high, \*  
but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

- 6 He takes up the weak out of the dust \*  
and lifts up the poor from the ashes.
- 7 He sets them with the princes, \*  
with the princes of his people.
- 8 He makes the woman of a childless house \*  
to be a joyful mother of children.

*The Second Lesson. The Reader begins*

**A Reading from the**

**Letter of Paul to the Colossians**

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do

everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*The Reader concludes* The Word of the Lord.

*The Reader says*

Please stand for the Gospel.

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.*

*Reader* Alleluia.

*People* Alleluia.

*Reader* Blessed is the Virgin Mary, because  
she believed \*  
that the Lord's promise to her would be  
fulfilled.

*People* Alleluia.

*The Reader returns to his or her seat.*

## The Holy Gospel

*The Minister says*           The Lord be with you.

*People*                           And also with you.

*Minister*                       The Holy Gospel of our Lord  
Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People*                       Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm, he

has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts, he has put down the mighty from their thrones, and exalted those of low degree; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent empty away. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity for ever.” And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her home.

*The Minister says*            The Gospel of the Lord.