Closing R eflection Mary is special because she lived the very meaning of the Gospel that we are all invited to live. Mary's example of staying with Jesus through his suffering and death encourages us to be filled with compassion and with hope. Mary did not wallow in grief but took courage from His resurrection. We have been

resurrection. We have been promised in Baptism that the hope Mary saw fulfilled in her life will be realized within our own lives.

YCDSB document, Celebrating Mary



Closing Prayer

The words from St. Teresa's Prayer reminds us how we must live our lives filled with compassion, hope, joy and love—just as Mary did.

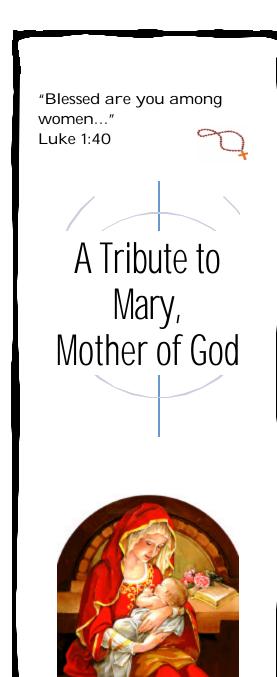


Christ has no body now but yours No hands, no feet on earth but yours Yours are the eyes through which He looks Compassion on this world Yours are the feet with which He walks To do good Yours are the hands with which He blesses All the world Yours are the hands Yours are the hands Yours are the feet Yours are the eyes You are his body Christ has no body but yours No hands, no feet on earth but yours Amen



Compiled by Les Miller and Melinda Rapallo York Catholic District School Board

Mary...blessed from age to age



Mary...believer unto glory



I ntroduction

Blessed is she who has believed...(Luke 1:45)

These words, inspired from on High, are voiced for all to hear. Mary is called blessed because of her pure and unwavering

faith. We will be blessed as well if we imitate her and become Christians of depth— Christians who are truly servants of God. Mary was chosen by God. She must have been a very special woman, close to the Lord as no one else. Her love and compassion must have shone in her eyes. Journeying through life with Jesus, she must have possessed a deep and living faith. Love and faith—these were gifts given to her by the Lord.

Sr. Angelica Ballan

Opening Prayer: Mother of U nity Prayer

Virgin Mary, our Mother of renewed faith, hope and love, instill in us your call to unity, so that we may be one in heart with you and the most Holy Trinity. Show us your way to peace and bring us to oneness in spirit and mind. All for the glory of God we pray. Amen.



S cripture R eading: L uke 1:26-33

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A reading from the Gospel according to St. Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.



R esponsorial

Reader: You are the glory of all women; you are the joy of I srael; you are the honour of all people.

All: Mary, you gave birth to the Son of God.

Reader: You have carried out the Lord's will. The hand of God has made you strong. You shall be blessed forever.

All: Mary, you gave birth to the Son of God.

Reader: Blessed Mary, poor in spirit, All: Lead us into the Kingdom of heaven.

Reader: Blessed Mary, so humble, **All:** *Teach us to listen to your son, Jesus.*

Reader: Blessed Mary, pure of heart, **All:** *Comfort us in our daily trials.*

Reader: Blessed Mary, lover of peace, **All:** *Help us become a peaceful people.*

Reader: We turn to you for protection, Holy Mother of God.

-source unknown

Let us now join together in praying the Hail Mary...