

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

## Introduction

The two beautiful texts of today correspond to each other as promise and fulfillment of the promise.

The child to be born of a young maiden as a sign of Israel's salvation probably spoke directly of a son to be born to a king; yet, in later tradition and particularly in the Christian understanding, the text came to be understood as a messianic prophecy, which was fulfilled in Mary and the child born from her. Also noteworthy is the spirit of the fulfillment. The incarnation of Christ was the beginning of a real turning upside down of values, for example: salvation comes to the poor and humble, expresses itself in obedience and humble service, God's power and majesty shows itself in his unostentatious approach to people, God becomes near in people, even death becomes a way to life.

## Opening Prayer

God of the poor and the humble,  
we thank you today for choosing Mary  
as the Virgin Mother of Jesus, your Son.  
Her faith and willing service  
opened the way to your new world.  
Dispose us to seek your will  
and to cooperate with your plans,  
that we, too, like Mary,  
may give to the world its Savior,  
Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord.

## General Intercessions

- Lord our God, make us aware of our poverty, that you may fill it with your riches, we pray:
  - Lord, that like Mary we may accept and deeply believe in your word and live by it, we pray:
- Lord, let your Spirit awaken in us great aspirations of goodness and service, that we may bring people closer to Christ, we pray:

## Prayer over the Gifts

God of mercy and love,  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
your Son became man  
and was born of the Virgin Mary.  
By the power of this same Spirit,  
let your Son come among us  
in these signs of bread and wine  
and gather us together in love,  
that we may become to the world today  
the presence and the message  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Prayer after Communion**

Lord, mighty God,  
you spoke your word to the Virgin Mary  
and she accepted it readily in faith;  
you committed your Son to her  
and she gave him to all humankind.  
May the Good News you have spoken to us,  
stir our hearts to share it with all  
as a liberating message  
and may the bread of life we have eaten  
make us free for the life you give us  
  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Blessing**

God keeps his promises. He is trustworthy and loving. Do we too keep our promises? May we become reliable and worthy of trust, with the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.