

DIOCESE OF ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON

*Travelling Icon*  
*of*  
*Our Lady of Consolation*



**GUIDELINES &  
RESOURCES**



**NB.** Please ensure that this file remains with the Icon and passed to the next deanery or parish

# Introduction



## ICON OF OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION

*‘At the foot of the Cross, Mary, together with John, the disciple of love, witnessed the words of forgiveness spoken by Jesus. This supreme expression of mercy towards those who crucified him show us the point to which the mercy of God can reach. Mary attests that the mercy of the Son of God knows no bounds and extends to everyone, without exception. Let us address her in the words of the Salve Regina, a prayer ever ancient and ever new, so that she may never tire of turning her merciful eyes upon us, and make us worthy to contemplate the face of mercy, her Son Jesus.’<sup>1</sup>*

[From para 24 of the BULL of INDICATION of the EXTRAORDINARY, JUBILEE OF MERCY, Pope Francis]

From Bishop Richard:



“The icon of Our Lady of Consolation, representative of the Year of Mercy, will travel around the diocese visiting schools and parishes. The icon will give people access to the Year – especially in circumstances where they are unable to travel to one of the Holy Doors.

I encourage those with the pastoral care of those unable to make pilgrimages or to attend Church – prisoners, those in hospital, the housebound – to ensure that they are able to join in the prayer of the Diocese during this Jubilee Year.”

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<sup>1</sup> MV, n.24.

# *Resources Information*

This folder includes resources and information relevant to Our Lady of Consolation and to the Year of Mercy.

- Introduction by Bishop Richard
- Resources information
- Deanery dates for the travelling icon
- Indulgences
- Holy Father's homily at the Opening of the Holy Door
- Devotion to Our Lady of Consolation
- The Shrine at West Grinstead
- Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee Year of Mercy
- Litany of Our Lady
- Prayer to Our Lady of Consolation *of West Grinstead*
- Prayers suitable for school use
- Morning and Evening Prayer

Included in the folder are various prayers that may be used, including Morning and Evening Prayer for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and some suggested prayers that are suitable for school use.

If parishes or schools put together their own short liturgy to use with the icon, please add a copy to this folder as it will be helpful to share it with others.

## **CARE OF THE ICON**

Please handle the icon with care and ensure that the protective cloth cover is replaced over the image before closing the doors.

## DEANERY DATES FOR TRAVELLING ICON

14 December 2015	-	Cathedral Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Peter Newsam</i> <i>Secretary: Rev Andrew Moss</i>
28 December 2015	-	Lewes Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Jonathan Martin</i> <i>Secretary: Rev Gerard Irwin</i>
11 January 2016	-	Brighton Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Kevin Dring</i> <i>Secretary: Rev Bruno Witchells</i>
25 January 2016	-	Eastbourne Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Barry Anderson</i>
8 February 2016	-	Mayfield Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Stephen Hardaker</i> <i>Secretary: Rev Mike Thoms</i>
22 February 2016	-	St Leonard's Deanery <i>Dean: Rev David Parmiter</i>
7 March 2106	-	Epsom Deanery <i>Dean: Rev John Inglis</i> <i>Secretary: Rev Kevin O'Brien</i>
21 March 2016	-	Woking Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Mgr Richard Madders</i>
4 April 2016	-	Guildford Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Colin Wolczak</i> <i>Secretary: Rev John Edwards</i>
18 April 2016	-	Redhill Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Chris Spain</i>
2 May 2016	-	Crawley Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Chris Dobson</i>
16 May 2016	-	Worthing Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Dominic O'Hara</i> <i>Secretary: Mrs Anne Niven</i>
30 May 2016	-	Weybridge Deanery <i>Dean: Rev Rob Esdaile</i>

# *The Opening of the Holy Door*

*Below is the Vatican-provided text of Pope Francis' homily for the opening of the Jubilee Year of Mercy and the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8 December 2015*



“In a few moments I will have the joy of opening the Holy Door of Mercy. We carry out this act – as I did in Bangui – so simple yet so highly symbolic, in the light of the word of God which we have just heard. That word highlights the *primacy of grace*. Again and again these readings make us think of the words by which the angel Gabriel told an astonished young girl of the mystery which was about to enfold her: “Hail, full of grace” (Lk 1:28).

The Virgin Mary was called to rejoice above all because of what the Lord accomplished in her. God’s grace enfolded her and made her worthy of becoming the Mother of Christ. When Gabriel entered her home, even the most profound and impenetrable of mysteries became for her a cause for joy, a cause for faith, a cause for abandonment to the message revealed to her. *The fullness of grace can transform the human heart* and enable it to do something so great as to change the course of human history.

The feast of the Immaculate Conception expresses the grandeur of God’s love. Not only does he forgive sin, but in Mary he even averts the original sin present in every man and woman who comes into this world. This is *the love of God which precedes, anticipates and saves*. The beginning of the history of sin in the Garden of Eden yields to a plan of saving love. The words of Genesis reflect our own daily experience: we are constantly tempted to disobedience, a disobedience expressed in wanting to go about our lives without regard for God’s will. This is the enmity which keeps striking at people’s lives, setting them in opposition to God’s plan. Yet the history of sin can only be understood in

the light of God's love and forgiveness. Sin can only be understood in this light. Were sin the only thing that mattered, we would be the most desperate of creatures. But the promised triumph of Christ's love enfolds everything in the Father's mercy. The word of God which we have just heard leaves no doubt about this. The Immaculate Virgin stands before us as a privileged witness of this promise and its fulfilment.

This Extraordinary Year is itself a gift of grace. To pass through the Holy Door means to rediscover the infinite mercy of the Father who welcomes everyone and goes out personally to encounter each of them. It is he who seeks us! It is he who comes to encounter us! This will be a year in which we *grow ever more convinced of God's mercy*. How much wrong we do to God and his grace when we speak of sins being punished by his judgment before we speak of their being forgiven by his mercy (cf. Saint Augustine, *De Praedestinatione Sanctorum*, 12, 24)! But that is the truth. We have to put mercy before judgment, and in any event God's judgement will always be in the light of his mercy. In passing through the Holy Door, then, may we feel that *we ourselves are part of this mystery of love, of tenderness*. Let us set aside all fear and dread, for these do not befit men and women who are loved. Instead, let us experience *the joy of encountering that grace which transforms all things*.

Today, here in Rome and in all the dioceses of the world, as we pass through the Holy Door, we also want to remember another door, which fifty years ago the Fathers of the *Second Vatican Council* opened to the world. This anniversary cannot be remembered only for the legacy of the Council's documents, which testify to a great advance in faith. Before all else, the Council was an encounter. A genuine *encounter between the Church and the men and women of our time*. An encounter marked by the power of the Spirit, who impelled the Church to emerge from the shoals which for years had kept her self-enclosed so as to set out once again, with enthusiasm, on her missionary journey. It was the resumption of a journey of encountering people where they live: in their cities and homes, in their workplaces. Wherever there are people, the Church is called to reach out to them and to bring the joy of the Gospel, and the mercy and forgiveness of God. After these decades, we again take up this missionary drive with the same power and enthusiasm. The Jubilee challenges us to this openness, and demands that we not neglect *the spirit which emerged from Vatican II, the spirit of the Samaritan*, as Blessed Paul VI expressed it at the conclusion of the Council. May our passing through the Holy Door today commit us to making our own the mercy of the Good Samaritan."

## *Description of the Year of Mercy Logo*



The *logo* and the *motto* together provide a fitting summary of what the Jubilee Year is all about. The motto *Merciful Like the Father* (taken from the Gospel of Luke, 6:36) serves as an invitation to follow the merciful example of the Father who asks us not to judge or condemn but to forgive and to give love and forgiveness without measure (cfr. Lk 6:37-38). The logo – the work of Jesuit Father Marko I. Rupnik – presents a small *summa theologiae* of the theme of mercy. In fact, it represents an image quite important to the early Church: that of the Son having taken upon his shoulders the lost soul demonstrating that it is the love of Christ that brings to completion the mystery of his incarnation culminating in redemption. The logo has been designed in such a way so as to express the profound way in which the Good Shepherd touches the flesh of humanity and does so with a love with the power to change one's life. One particular feature worthy of note is that while the Good Shepherd, in his great mercy, takes humanity upon himself, his eyes are merged with those of man. Christ sees with the eyes of Adam, and Adam with the eyes of Christ. Every person discovers in Christ, the new Adam, one's own humanity and the future that lies ahead, contemplating, in his gaze, the love of the Father.

The scene is captured within the so called *mandorla* (the shape of an almond), a figure quite important in early and medieval iconography, for it calls to mind the two natures of Christ, divine and human. The three concentric ovals, with colours progressively lighter as we move outward, suggest the movement of Christ who carries humanity out of the night of sin and death. Conversely, the depth of the darker colour suggests the impenetrability of the love of the Father who forgives all.

# Indulgences

‘A Jubilee also entails the granting of indulgences. This practice will acquire an even more important meaning in the Holy Year of Mercy. God’s forgiveness knows no bounds...To live the indulgence of the Holy Year means to approach the Father’s mercy with the certainty that his forgiveness extends to the entire life of the believer.’<sup>1</sup>

## **The Year of Mercy Plenary Indulgence**

The Plenary Indulgence can be attained by the faithful who are truly repentant, with the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin, and fulfil the following conditions:

- Sacramental confession of sins
- The reception of Holy Communion
- Praying the Creed, the Our Father and the Hail Mary for the intentions of the Holy Father

Having fulfilled these necessary conditions, the faithful may gain the Jubilee Indulgence by making a brief pilgrimage to the Holy Door in one of the designated places:

- Arundel Cathedral
- Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, West Grinstead
- Church of Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge
- Mayfield Convent Chapel (by appointment)
- Any of the Holy Doors such as Westminster Cathedral or any of the four Papal Basilicas in Rome

Those who are unable to leave their location through illness, age, or any other legitimate cause, may gain a plenary indulgence without actual confession and communion, provided they have inner contrition and the resolution to celebrate these sacraments as soon as possible. For the sake of those legitimately impeded, confessors can commute the prescribed ‘work’ of the pilgrimage to a Holy Door.

Indulgences can always be applied either to oneself or to the souls of the deceased, but they cannot be applied to other persons living on earth.

## **Pope Francis**

In his letter of 1 September 2015 to the President of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelisation, Pope Francis wrote:

*“My thought first of all goes to all the faithful who, whether in individual Diocese or as pilgrims to Rome, will experience the grace of the Jubilee. I wish that the Jubilee*

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<sup>1</sup> MV, n.22.

*Indulgence may reach each one as a genuine experience of God's mercy, which comes to meet each person in the Face of the Father who welcomes and forgives, forgetting completely the sin committed. To experience and obtain the Indulgence, the faithful are called to make a brief pilgrimage to the Holy Door, open in every Cathedral or in the churches designated by the Diocesan Bishop, and in the four Papal Basilicas in Rome, as a sign of the deep desire for true conversion. ... It is important that this moment be linked, first and foremost, to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to the celebration of the Holy Eucharist with a reflection on mercy. It will be necessary to accompany these celebrations with the profession of faith and with prayer for me and for the Intentions that I bear in my heart for the good of the Church and of the entire world.*

*Additionally, I am thinking of those for whom, for various reasons, it will be impossible to enter the Holy Door, particularly the sick and people who are elderly and alone, often confined to the home. For them it will be of great help to live their sickness and suffering as an experience of closeness to the Lord who in the mystery of his Passion, death and Resurrection indicates the royal road which gives meaning to pain and loneliness. Living with faith and joyful hope this moment of trial, receiving communion or attending Holy Mass and community prayer, even through the various means of communication, will be for them the means of obtaining the Jubilee Indulgence.*

*My thoughts also turn to those incarcerated, whose freedom is limited. The Jubilee Year has always constituted an opportunity for great amnesty, which is intended to include the many people who, despite deserving punishment, have become conscious of the injustice they worked and sincerely wish to re-enter society and make their honest contribution to it. May they all be touched in a tangible way by the mercy of the Father who wants to be close to those who have the greatest need of his forgiveness. They may obtain the Indulgence in the chapels of the prisons. May the gesture of directing their thought and prayer to the Father each time they cross the threshold of their cell signify for them their passage through the Holy Door, because the mercy of God is able to transform hearts, and is also able to transform bars into an experience of freedom.*

*I have asked the Church in this Jubilee Year to rediscover the richness encompassed by the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. The experience of mercy, indeed, becomes visible in the witness of concrete signs as Jesus himself taught us. Each time that one of the faithful personally performs one or more of these actions, he or she shall surely obtain the Jubilee Indulgence. Hence the commitment to live by mercy so as to obtain the grace of complete and exhaustive forgiveness by the power of the love of the Father who excludes no one. The Jubilee Indulgence is thus full, the fruit of the very event which is to be celebrated and experienced with faith, hope and charity.*

*Furthermore, the Jubilee Indulgence can also be obtained for the deceased. We are bound to them by the witness of faith and charity that they have left us. Thus, as we remember them in the Eucharistic celebration, thus we can, in the great mystery of the*

*Communion of Saints, pray for them, that the merciful Face of the Father free them of every remnant of fault and strongly embrace them in the unending beatitude.*

*One of the serious problems of our time is clearly the changed relationship with respect to life. A widespread and insensitive mentality has led to the loss of the proper personal and social sensitivity to welcome new life. The tragedy of abortion is experienced by some with a superficial awareness, as if not realizing the extreme harm that such an act entails. Many others, on the other hand, although experiencing this moment as a defeat, believe that they have no other option. I think in particular of all the women who have resorted to abortion. I am well aware of the pressure that has led them to this decision. I know that it is an existential and moral ordeal. I have met so many women who bear in their heart the scar of this agonizing and painful decision. What has happened is profoundly unjust; yet only understanding the truth of it can enable one not to lose hope. The forgiveness of God cannot be denied to one who has repented, especially when that person approaches the Sacrament of Confession with a sincere heart in order to obtain reconciliation with the Father. For this reason too, I have decided, notwithstanding anything to the contrary, to concede to all priests for the Jubilee Year the discretion to absolve of the sin of abortion those who have procured it and who, with contrite heart, seek forgiveness for it. May priests fulfil this great task by expressing words of genuine welcome combined with a reflection that explains the gravity of the sin committed, besides indicating a path of authentic conversion by which to obtain the true and generous forgiveness of the Father who renews all with his presence.*

*A final consideration concerns those faithful who for various reasons choose to attend churches officiated by priests of the Fraternity of St Pius X. This Jubilee Year of Mercy excludes no one. From various quarters, several Brother Bishops have told me of their good faith and sacramental practice, combined however with an uneasy situation from the pastoral standpoint. I trust that in the near future solutions may be found to recover full communion with the priests and superiors of the Fraternity. In the meantime, motivated by the need to respond to the good of these faithful, through my own disposition, I establish that those who during the Holy Year of Mercy approach these priests of the Fraternity of St Pius X to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation shall validly and licitly receive the absolution of their sins.*

*Trusting in the intercession of the Mother of Mercy, I entrust the preparations for this Extraordinary Jubilee Year to her protection.”*

*Franciscus*

# *Devotion to Our Lady of Consolation*<sup>1</sup>

When in 1865, it was proposed to build a new church at West Grinstead, a friend of the Mission suggested that the new sanctuary should be placed under the patronage of Our Lady of Consolation. Bishop Grant, who then ruled the diocese of Southwark, warmly approved of the suggestion, adding that with its past traditions of Catholicity, West Grinstead was in truth a "holy ground", and Bishop Danell, when signing the contract for the new building in 1874, presented it to Mary, in thanksgiving for the preservation of the faith on this privileged spot.

With the approval of the Archbishop of Turin, in northern Italy, the new church was affiliated to the original sanctuary of Our Lady of Consolation, and a copy of the miraculous picture, enriched with similar indulgences and privileges, was brought to West Grinstead.

The title of Our Lady of Consolation, under which the Mother of God is specially honoured in the church of West Grinstead, is one that has long been in use in the Church. In France the dioceses of Vannes, Valence, Montpellier, Laval, Nantes, Perigueux, Tours and many others, possessed churches or chapels dedicated to Our Lady, under a name so peculiarly fitted to inspire confidence. In these islands, before the Reformation, the same devotion towards Our Lady had existed, and altars were erected in her honour under the same title. "When John Knox began his work of demolition, there was", says Father Bridget, "in the Church of St. John the Baptist at Perth, an altar inscribed to 'St. Mary of Consolation.'" "Again", says the same author, "one of the many vocables or titles under which Our Lady was honoured through England and Scotland was that of 'Our Lady of Consolation.'"

The Church seems everywhere to have addressed to her children, the words of St. Sour, founder of the Abbey of Tarasson, in the sixth century, who, when the poor, the sick, the unhappy, had recourse to his protection, replied, pointing to the neighbouring shrine: "Go and seek Our Lady of Consolation". But of all the sanctuaries dedicated to Mary under this invocation, the most widely celebrated is the shrine of our Lady of Consolation at Turin, whence the sanctuary of West Grinstead derives its name and privileges.

According to a venerable tradition confirmed by ancient writers, the original picture of "La Consolata", at Turin, was painted by St. Eusebius of Vercelli, in the fourth century; and placed in the Church of St. Andrew of Turin by Bishop Maximus, in reparation for the blasphemies uttered against the Mother of God by Eutyches and his followers.

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<sup>1</sup> From the Archives of the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation

However, the holy image seems subsequently to have been forgotten and neglected till 1004, when the Blessed Virgin herself appeared to Ardoin, Marquis of Torea and last king of Italy; and bade him rescue her image from obscurity. He obeyed, and having restored the chapel which was attached to the Church of St. Andrew, he caused the picture to be placed with due reverence in its new shrine, where it was visited by multitudes of pilgrims, whose faith and piety were rewarded by countless miracles.

According to the chronicle of St. Benignus of Fruttuaria, and to the Italia Sacra of Ferdinand Ughello, Abbot of the Order of Citeaux, the name of "Madonna Della Consolata", or in English, "Our Lady of Consolation" was given to that miraculous painting, by the express order of the Blessed Virgin, and the Sanctuary was erected at her own request. This is a privilege unheard of before, and which has never been granted since to any other painting by the Holy Mother of God.

Towards 1080, however, foreign invasions and civil wars spread ruin and destruction throughout the country; to these scourges were added those of famine and pestilence, so that, according to the old historians, Turin became like a city of the dead. Things were in this state when a fresh invasion of the Lombards completed the ruin of the unhappy city, its monuments were destroyed, its remaining inhabitants massacred, the sanctuary of Our Lady of Consolation perished in the general destruction, and the holy image itself was buried away among the ruins of its once magnificent shrine.

A new miracle was destined to bring it to light. In 1104, according to the historians of Our Lady of Consolation, the Mother of God appeared to a man born blind, named John, who lived at Brianon, in Dauphin, and bade him, if he desired to obtain the gift of sight, start for Turin; and there seek for the miraculous picture formerly honoured under the name of "La Consolata", and which now lay buried and forgotten among the ruins of the Chapel erected by King Ardoin. The blind man, in his child-like confidence, begged his brothers to lead him immediately to Turin to begin his search. But they treated his vision as a delusion, and scornfully refused to render him any assistance. He then entreated a poor servant girl to be his guide; and she having consented, they set forth and bravely pursued their journey. When they had arrived within a mile of Turin, the eyes of the blind man were suddenly opened, and he perceived a sun of extraordinary beauty and splendour shining over a ruined Chapel. Convinced that this was the spot where he was to begin his search, he bent his steps towards it, and though the gift of sight, miraculously given to him for a moment, was again withdrawn, he continued his road with unshaken confidence and joy.

On reaching the ruin, he knelt down and prayed fervently; and shortly afterwards his sight was again restored, but this time to be withdrawn no more. The Bishop of Turin, hearing of the miracle, hastened to the spot; a careful search was commenced and on the 2nd of June 1104, the picture of "La Consolata", holding her divine son in her arms,

appeared to the searcher's impatient gaze. The chapel was speedily rebuilt and the image, replaced in its honoured shrine, became the centre of an extraordinary concourse of pilgrims. It would be too long to relate even briefly the many miracles by which Mary rewarded the piety of her clients and justified the title under which they invoked her assistance. The history of the Sanctuary is a long chronicle of favours asked for and received; every form of ill - physical and moral - seems to have found its cure at the feet of the heavenly Comfortress, and in time of war and pestilence, her protection was extended in a miraculous manner over her faithful city.

In 1527, a Confraternity, which the Popes enriched with many privileges, was founded in honour of our Lady of Consolation and on the long roll of its members we find the names of Emmanuel the Great, duke of Savoy; Catherine of Austria, daughter of Philip II, and duchess of Savoy; and many other Princes and Princesses. Also among the pilgrims who more than once came to pray before the holy picture, must be mentioned St. Francis de Sales.

In 1704, the sixth centenary of the finding of the image, was celebrated with great solemnity, and, upon this occasion, it was placed in a new Chapel, where it still receives, at the present day, the homage of countless pilgrims.

Such is, in a few brief words, the history of the venerable image, of which the picture of West Grinstead is a copy.

# *The Shrine at West Grinstead*

This was first Catholic Shrine in honour of Our Lady to be established in England since before the Reformation and it is to be found in West Sussex, just a few miles south of the market town of Horsham, close to the busy A24 London to Worthing road.

An imposing church, built in a relatively isolated rural location would seem to be an anomaly, but the reason for its existence lies in the story, firstly of the Caryll family – an old land-owning, truly devout Catholic Sussex family – and secondly in a long line of devoted priests who, supported by this family, played their part in keeping the Catholic faith alive in recusant times, through their care of the West Grinstead Mission. It was the fact that Mass was offered here throughout those dark recusant days that led a French émigré priest, Monsignor Jean-Marie Denis, to establish this Shrine in honour of Our Lady and in thanksgiving for the official restoration of the Catholic faith in England.

We know nothing of the origin of the West Grinstead painting. It is described elsewhere in the Handbook of the Confraternity of Our Lady of Consolation, West Grinstead, as "a copy of the old miraculous picture of Our Lady of Consolation of Turin". Early photographs of the Shrine (taken at the end of the 19th century) show the painting in its stone canopy and standing to the left of the Sanctuary arch, just as now; but of the painter, nothing can be discovered. One theory is that Mgr. Jean Marie Denis employed an artist to make either pencil or pen and ink sketches of the Turin 'Consolata'. However, on return to England and in attempting to translate the sketches into a copy of the painting, the artist created something rather different.

You may make your own judgement as to just how faithful a copy of the "Madonna Della Consolata" the West Grinstead painting is, by seeing a copy of the Turin "Consolata" on the rear wall of the Secret Chapel in the Priest's House! One way or the other, we are left with a lovely painting that truly is Our Lady of Consolation of West Grinstead.

## **The Caryll Family**

In the reign of Elizabeth I the Carylls lived in the near-by parish of Shipley, at Benton's Place – an imposing farmhouse, which still stands and also at West Grinstead Park, an ancient manor house, no longer extant. A great landowning family, they possessed many houses and farms in this vicinity as well as in other parts of Sussex and Hampshire. They were known to be supporters of the "old religion", giving shelter to priests, many of whom, while disguised as servants, acted as chaplains to the family particularly at West Grinstead Park.

## **The Priest's House**

It is not easy to accurately date the so-called Priest's House. It belonged to the Carylls, as

part of their West Grinstead estate; it was possibly in existence as early as the middle of the 16th century. Originally just a small cottage, consisting of one room on each of the ground and first floors, priests lived here disguised as local stockmen (shepherds). Under the thatched roof the Caryll family provided a hayloft that also housed a tiny hidden chapel. Additionally, two other hides (*Priest's Holes*) were built into the massive chimneybreast that supports the centre of the cottage.

The original hayloft and Chapel would have been very different to what is found here today. Under a thatch roof, the loft would have been windowless and access would originally have been via a vertical ladder rising from the first floor on the West side of the house. It was in the middle of the 18th century that the hayloft was cleared and the present small chapel was created. At the same time, the Priest's House was extended – indeed, its 18th century extension constitutes some 75% of the whole building.

This once small cottage, known today as The Priest's House, is reputedly the oldest continuously occupied Catholic presbytery in England. It came to be euphemistically known as *the little cottage in the forest* – a 'safe house' where priests and seminarians could find, not just good Catholic hospitality, but the possibility of hiding, should militia or magistrates be in hot pursuit. The River Adur runs about a quarter of a mile to the south and was extensively used by those many travelling between London and the Continent. There is no evidence that any priest was ever captured at West Grinstead (the very fact that the House has survived is itself proof of that); but it is not possible to speak with certainty of the many who undoubtedly used this house as a refuge. Written records were not kept for obvious reasons of security and anonymity.

After the persecutions and executions that followed the Titus Oates plot in 1680, the death penalty for being a priest was eventually removed. Instead, unscheduled fines and taxes on Catholics were doubled and all remaining civil rights were taken from them. Nearly all the remaining local Catholic families conformed at this stage, but not the Carylls, who stayed faithful to their religion and to the Stuart monarchy. As a result they were continuously harassed and eventually became impoverished, having lost all their houses and lands.

### **The Sale of West Grinstead Park**

John Caryll (the seventh of this name) followed James II to France. In exile he became Secretary to King James' Queen Mary, and was given a title by James of Lord Caryll. Eventually the title went to his great nephew, John Baptist, the last Lord Caryll. He it was, who in 1754, having lost most of his fortune, largely because of his loyalty to his religion, sold West Grinstead Park for £6,000. However, he first endowed the Priest's House to the Catholic Church via Bishop Richard Challoner (1691-1781), in order that Mass could continue to be offered for the people of the locality. Bishop Challoner himself had made

a visitation to the West Grinstead Mission in 1741; and had found 80 Catholics at Mass – being celebrated in an upstairs room of the extended Priest’s House – the Mass purportedly being celebrated on the first floor Landing of the House; the Faithful congregating in the area which now constitutes two rooms on the South Front of the house.

### **The End of Penal Days**

After the departure of both the Caryll family and their Franciscans priests, French émigré priests – who had fled from the French Revolution – served the Mission. It was during this time in the early 19th century that Catholicism in West Grinstead declined. (However good and well intentioned he might be, a ‘foreigner’ who did not speak the English language could not make much headway with the Sussex country folk!) The parish, therefore, was at a low when Mgr. Jean Marie Denis was appointed as its priest in 1863. He was originally from the Brittany area of France. With the encouragement of the first re-established Bishop of Southwark, Bishop Thomas Grant and after him, Bishop James Dannell, he revived West Grinstead in a remarkable way so that it once more became a lively force in the story of the Catholic Church in Sussex. Shortly after Mgr. Denis’ arrival Bishop Thomas Grant made an Episcopal Visitation to West Grinstead; and despite the declined numbers, the bishop gave great encouragement when he said, “This mission has nothing to fear – it has seen far harder times. It has protectors in heaven and you will see at West Grinstead things that will surprise you”.

Inspired by his bishop, Mgr. Denis straightway began to make improvements. That same year, 1863, he opened a school for poor children in a wooden stable behind the House. By 1868 the school’s numbers had increased from the original eight, so that new accommodation had to be found in the kitchen. In 1871 the Education Act meant that a completely new building was necessary and soon generous donations made it possible to build a large hall to take more than 100 children.

### **West Grinstead in the 20th Century**

By the time Mgr. Denis died in 1900, he had left a well-established parish behind him, with a flourishing school, a convent and a growing pattern of regular pilgrimages.

In 1965 the Southwark Archdiocese was further divided and the Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation became part of the new Diocese of Arundel and Brighton. Although the large annual Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage ceased, others pilgrimages, both large and small, have continued regularly here throughout the summer months. So once more, a constant stream of pilgrims still make their way to West Grinstead to leave their petitions at the Shrine and at the historic altar in the ‘Secret Chapel’ located in The Priest’s House.

### **The Shrine**

Although the history of this Catholic Mission goes back to the days of Henry VIII and the

split with Rome, Mgr. Jean-Marie Denis established the Shrine Church of Our Lady of Consolation of West Grinstead as recently as 1876. His efforts at begging the necessary funds, not only locally, but also in France, Belgium and Holland, enabled the building of the fine late 19th century Gothic church that is there.

When choosing a title for the shrine Mgr. Denis had decided that it would be better to have one which was well known on the Continent, in order that it would share from the start in already established prayers, privileges and blessings. At that time few were so venerated both for antiquity and universal fame as the *Consolata* at Turin. So it was that the title of Our Lady of Consolation, (also well known and venerated in Pre-Reformation England), was the title he chose. The West Grinstead shrine, affiliated in such a way as to be a true extension of that of Turin, is nevertheless separate under its own title of *Our Lady of Consolation of West Grinstead*, founded by Pope Leo XIII and with the Episcopal approval of Bishop Grant. The ceremony of crowning was performed before a great crowd of pilgrims on 12th July, 1893 by the Papal Delegate, Bishop Butt, representing the Holy See and Pope Leo XIII.

### **A Seminary Begins in 1889**

With the arrival of Mgr. Denis, the number of parishioners steadily increased and in 1887 a curate was appointed to assist him. This curate was none other than Fr. Francis Bourne, who later became the famous Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster. He remained for two years working particularly with the boys of the orphanage. It was about this time that almost every diocese began to set up its own seminary. Bishop Butt, while in retreat at the Carthusian Monastery in nearby Cowfold, decided that it was time Southwark had its own seminary and he appointed Fr. Bourne to take charge as the first Rector in 1889. Boys had already begun training for the priesthood with Fr. Bourne and three of them formed the nucleus of the first seminary. Their training began at the West Grinstead Priest's House, although it moved after two years to a larger domestic property at the nearby village of Henfield, where it remained whilst the purpose-built seminary at Womersley was being completed. However, as both the first students and the first Rector came from and lived at West Grinstead, it can fairly be said that The Priest's House was the cradle of the present St. John's Seminary.

***Our Lady of Consolation of West Grinstead  
Have pity on us***

# *Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee Year of Mercy*



Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,  
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.  
Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money;  
the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things;  
made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.  
Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the  
Samaritan woman:

“If you knew the gift of God!”

You are the visible face of the invisible Father,  
of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:  
let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.  
You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness  
in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error:  
let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the  
Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,  
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor,  
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,  
and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of  
Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and  
ever.

Amen.

Diocese of Arundel Brighton

## ***PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION***



Shrine painting of Our Lady of Consolation of West Grinstead

O God, who through the Virgin Mary has willed to give to your people the true consolation, Jesus Christ; grant to us who venerate her, under the title of Our Lady of Consolation, the grace to co-operate with her in the work of Redemption.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

*Our Lady of Consolation of West Grinstead  
Have pity on us*

# *Litany of Our Lady*

Lord, have mercy. – Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy. – Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy. – Lord, have mercy.  
God our Father in heaven, – have mercy on us.  
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, – have mercy on us.  
God the Holy Spirit, – have mercy on us.  
Holy Trinity, one God, – have mercy on us.

Holy Mary,

PRAY FOR US. (Repeat after each line)

Holy Mother of God,  
Most honoured of virgins,  
Mother of Christ,  
Mother of the Church,  
Mother of Divine grace,  
Mother most pure,  
Mother of chaste love,  
Mother and virgin,  
Sinless Mother,  
Dearest of mothers,  
Model of motherhood,  
Mother of good counsel,  
Mother of our Creator,  
Mother of our Saviour,

Virgin most wise,  
Virgin rightly praised,  
Virgin rightly renowned,  
Virgin most powerful,  
Virgin gentle in mercy,  
Faithful virgin,  
Mirror of justice,  
Throne of wisdom,  
Cause of our joy,  
Shrine of the Spirit,  
Glory of Israel,  
Vessel of selfless devotion,  
Mystical rose,  
Tower of David,

Tower of ivory,  
House of Gold,  
Ark of the Covenant,  
Gate of heaven,  
Morning star,  
Health of the sick,  
Refuge of sinners,  
Comfort of the troubled,  
Help of Christians,

Queen of angels,  
Queen of patriarchs and prophets,  
Queen of apostles and martyrs,  
Queen of confessors and virgins,  
Queen of all saints,  
Queen conceived in grace,  
Queen raised up to glory,  
Queen of the Rosary,  
Queen of peace,

(Pause for spontaneous prayer)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, – have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, – have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the. World, – have mercy on us.

Pray for us, holy Mother of God. – that we may become worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Eternal God, let your people enjoy constant health in mind and body. Through the intercession of the Virgin Mary free us from the sorrows of this life and lead us to happiness in the life to come. Grant this through Christ our Lord. –

AMEN

# *Prayers suitable for School use*

## **For the Jubilee Year of Mercy**

(Provided by the Education Service, DABCEC)

Lord Jesus,

You have taught us how to forgive,  
just like God our Father in heaven forgives.

You have told us that if we are more like you,  
then we will be free from sin.

Help us to know the great gifts of mercy and forgiveness that God has given us  
because He loves us so much.

Guide us every day so that we can show a kind and loving face  
to everyone we meet, even if they have made the wrong choices.

Show us how to reach out to the poor and needy both near and far.

Send the light of the Holy Spirit to bless us all during this Jubilee Year, so that we can  
go out and spread the Good News of God's mercy and love to all those who live in  
darkness,

for you are Lord forever and ever

**Amen.**

**Mary, Mother of Mercy** *Pray for us*

## **Merciful Like the Father**

(Provided by the Education Service, DABCEC)

Merciful Father,

Encourage us to

Reach out to others with

Care and kindness.

Inspire us to be the

Face of Jesus in our world.

Use us, teach us, help us to be merciful

Like the Father.

**Amen.**

# The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*Solemnity on which the Holy Door of St. Peter's was opened*

## MORNING PRAYER

O God, come to our aid.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

### Hymn

Mary Immaculate, star of the morning,  
Chosen before the creation began,  
Chosen to bring in the light of thy dawning,  
Woe to the serpent and rescue to man.

Here, in this world of both shadow and sadness  
Veiling thy splendour, thy course hast thou run:  
Now thou art throned in all glory and gladness,  
Crowned by the hand of thy Saviour and Son.

Sinners, we worship thy sinless perfection;  
Fallen and weak, for thy pity we plead:  
Grant us the shield of thy sov'reign protection,  
Measure thine aid by the depth of our need.  
Bend from thy throne at the voice of our crying,  
Bend to this earth which thy footsteps have trod:  
Stretch out thine arms to us, living and dying,  
Mary Immaculate, Mother of God.

### Psalm 62 (63)

ANT: Behold, the chaste Mother who knew no stain. She was chosen to be the Mother of God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

On my bed I remember you.

On you I muse through the night  
for you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

ANT: Behold, the chaste Mother who knew no stain. She was chosen to be the Mother of God.

**Canticle** Daniel 3:57-88,56

ANT: Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, above all women on the earth. The Lord God himself has chosen you.

O all you works of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, angels of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, the heavens of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
And you, clouds of the sky, O bless the Lord.  
And you, all armies of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, sun and moon, O bless the Lord.  
And you, the stars of the heavens, O bless the Lord.  
And you, showers and rain, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, all you breezes and winds, O bless the Lord.  
And you, fire and heat, O bless the Lord.  
And you, cold and heat, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, showers and dew, O bless the Lord.  
And you, frosts and cold, O bless the Lord.  
And you, frost and snow, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, night-time and day, O bless the Lord.  
And you, darkness and light, O bless the Lord.  
And you, lightning and clouds, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.  
O let the earth bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, mountains and hills, O bless the Lord.  
And you, all plants of the earth, O bless the Lord.  
And you, fountains and springs, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, rivers and seas, O bless the Lord.  
And you, creatures of the sea, O bless the Lord.  
And you, every bird in the sky, O bless the Lord.  
And you, wild beasts and tame, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, children of men, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

O Israel, bless the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
And you, priests of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
And you, servants of the Lord, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

And you, spirits and souls of the just, O bless the Lord.  
And you, holy and humble of heart, O bless the Lord.  
Ananias, Azarias, Mizaël, O bless the Lord.  
To him be highest glory and praise for ever.

Let us praise the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit:  
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.  
May you be blessed, O Lord, in the heavens:  
To you be highest glory and praise for ever.

ANT: Blessed are you, O Virgin Mary, above all women on the earth. The Lord  
God himself has chosen you.

## **Psalm 149**

ANT: Fragrant is the scent of your perfume, immaculate Virgin. Let us follow in  
your footsteps.

Sing a new song to the Lord,  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel rejoice in its Maker,  
let Zion's sons exult in their king.  
Let them praise his name with dancing  
and make music with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes delight in his people.  
He crowns the poor with salvation.  
Let the faithful rejoice in their glory,  
shout for joy and take their rest.

Let the praise of God be on their lips  
and a two-edged sword in their hand,

to deal out vengeance to the nations  
and punishment on all the peoples;  
to bind their kings in chains  
and their nobles in fetters of iron;  
to carry out the sentence pre-ordained:  
this honour is for all his faithful.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

ANT: Fragrant is the scent of your perfume, immaculate Virgin. Let us follow in  
your footsteps.

### **Short Reading**

Isaiah 43:1

But now the Lord speaks, who created you, Jacob, who formed you, Israel: 'Do  
not be afraid, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name, you  
are mine.'

### **Short Responsory**

The Lord God Almighty girds me with strength.

– The Lord God Almighty girds me with strength.

He preserves me from stain of sin.

– The Lord God Almighty girds me with strength.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– The Lord God Almighty girds me with strength.

## **Benedictus**

ANT: The Lord God said to the serpent: I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your seed and her seed. She will crush your head. Alleluia.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has visited his people and redeemed them.

He has raised up for us a mighty saviour  
in the house of David his servant,  
as he promised by the lips of holy men,  
those who were his prophets from of old.

A saviour who would free us from our foes,  
from the hands of all who hate us.  
So his love for our fathers is fulfilled  
and his holy covenant remembered.

He swore to Abraham our father to grant us,  
that free from fear, and saved from the hands of our foes,  
we might serve him in holiness and justice  
all the days of our life in his presence.

As for you, little child,  
you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.  
You shall go ahead of the Lord  
to prepare his ways before him,

To make known to his people their salvation  
through forgiveness of all their sins,  
the loving-kindness of the heart of our God  
who visits us like the dawn from on high.

He will give light to those in darkness,  
those who dwell in the shadow of death,  
and guide us into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

ANT: The Lord God said to the serpent: I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your seed and her seed. She will crush your head. Alleluia.

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us proclaim the greatness of our Saviour who chose to be born of the Virgin Mary. Confident that he will hear us, we ask:

– Lord, may your mother pray for us.

Sun of justice, you showed your day was dawning in the immaculate Virgin Mary;

help us to walk in the daylight of your presence.

– Lord, may your mother pray for us.

Saviour of the world, by your redemptive power you preserved your mother Mary from every stain of sin;

deliver us from the evil that lies hidden in our hearts.

– Lord, may your mother pray for us.

Christ, our Redeemer, you made the Virgin Mary the sanctuary of your presence and the temple of the Spirit;

make us bearers of your Spirit, in mind, heart and body.

– Lord, may your mother pray for us.

King of kings, you assumed Mary into heaven to be with you completely in body and soul;

may we seek the things that are above and keep our lives fixed on you.

– Lord, may your mother pray for us.

## **Our Father**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

## **Concluding Prayer**

Father,

we rejoice in the privilege of our Lady's Immaculate Conception,  
which preserved her from the stain of sin by the power of Christ's  
redeeming death,

and prepared her to be the Mother of God.

Grant that through her prayers

we ourselves may come to you, cleansed from all sin.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

AMEN

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# The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*Solemnity on which the Holy Door of St. Peter's was opened*

## EVENING PRAYER

O God, come to our aid.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

### Hymn

Hail, Queen of the heavens, hail Mistress of earth;  
Hail, Virgin most pure of immaculate birth:  
Clear star of the morning in beauty enshrined;  
O Lady, make speed to the help of mankind.

Thee God in the depth of eternity chose,  
And formed thee all fair as his glorious spouse,  
And called thee his own Word's true Mother to be  
By whom he created the earth, sky, and sea.

Hail, Mother most pure, hail, Virgin renowned,  
Hail, Queen with the stars as a diadem crowned;  
Above all the angels in glory untold,  
Set next to the King in a vesture of gold.  
These praises and prayers we lay at thy feet,  
O Virgin of virgins, O Mary most sweet:  
Be thou our true guide through this pilgrimage here,  
And stand by our side when our death draweth near.

### Psalm 121 (122)

ANT: You are all fair, O Mary; without original sin.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city  
strongly compact.  
It is there that the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,  
there to praise the Lord's name.  
There were set the thrones of judgement  
of the house of David.

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:  
'Peace be to your homes!  
May peace reign in your walls,  
in your palaces, peace!'

For love of my brethren and friends  
I say: 'Peace upon you!'  
For love of the house of the Lord  
I will ask for your good.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

ANT: You are all fair, O Mary; without original sin.

**Psalm 126 (127)**

ANT: You are the glory of Jerusalem! You are the joy of Israel! You are the  
highest honour of our race!

If the Lord does not build the house,  
in vain do its builders labour;  
if the Lord does not watch over the city,  
in vain does the watchman keep vigil.

In vain is your earlier rising,  
your going later to rest,  
you who toil for the bread you eat,  
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.

Truly sons are a gift from the Lord,  
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.  
Indeed the sons of youth  
are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

O the happiness of the man  
who has filled his quiver with these arrows!  
He will have no cause for shame  
when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

ANT: You are the glory of Jerusalem! You are the joy of Israel! You are the  
highest honour of our race!

---

### **Canticle** Ephesians 1

ANT: Your garments are white as snow, your face shines like the sun.

Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

He chose us in him  
before the foundation of the world,  
that we should be holy  
and blameless before him.

He destined us in love  
to be his sons through Jesus Christ,  
according to the purpose of his will,  
to the praise of his glorious grace  
which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

In him we have redemption through his blood,  
the forgiveness of our trespasses,  
according to the riches of his grace  
which he lavished upon us.

He has made known to us  
in all wisdom and insight  
the mystery of his will,  
according to his purpose  
which he set forth in Christ.

His purpose he set forth in Christ  
as a plan for the fullness of time,  
to unite all things in him,  
things in heaven and things on earth.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

ANT: Your garments are white as snow, your face shines like the sun.

### **Short Reading**

Romans 5:20-21

However great the number of sins committed, grace was even greater; and so, just as sin reigned wherever there was death, so grace will reign to bring eternal life thanks to the righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Short Responsory

By this I shall know that you have chosen me.

– By this I shall know that you have chosen me.

If my enemy does not shout in triumph over me.

– By this I shall know that you have chosen me.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

– By this I shall know that you have chosen me.

## Magnificat

ANT: Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you. You are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Alleluia.

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

ANT: Hail Mary, full of grace: the Lord is with you. You are the most blessed  
of all women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Alleluia.

### **Prayers and intercessions**

Let us praise God the Father who chose Mary as the mother of his Son and  
wanted all generations to call her blessed. With confidence we pray:

– May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

Father, you did great things for the Virgin Mary and brought her, body and  
soul, to the glory of heaven;

fill the hearts of your children with the hope of Christ's glory.

– May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

Through the prayers of Mary, our mother, heal the sick, comfort the  
sorrowful, pardon sinners;

grant peace and salvation to all.

– May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

You looked on the Virgin Mary and made her the mother of mercy;

may those who are in danger experience the depth of her love.

– May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

You called Mary to be the mother in the house of Jesus and Joseph;

through her prayers help all mothers to make their homes places of love  
and holiness.

– May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

You exalted the Virgin Mary and crowned her queen of heaven;

may the dead enter your kingdom and rejoice with your saints for ever.

– May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

### **Concluding Prayer**

Father,  
we rejoice in the privilege of our Lady's Immaculate Conception,  
which preserved her from the stain of sin by the power of Christ's  
redeeming death,  
and prepared her to be the Mother of God.  
Grant that through her prayers  
we ourselves may come to you, cleansed from all sin.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.  
AMEN

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