

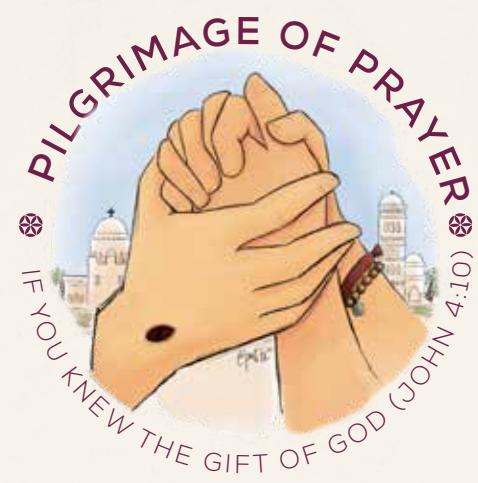
Day 22

Prayer Unites Us to the Church

For Personal Reflection & Prayer

- How would I describe Mary's special role in Salvation History, her being 'blessed among women'?
- How have I tried to cooperate with the action of the Holy Spirit as Mary did?

Take these considerations to the Lord in prayer, asking for light and strength.



Offer a prayer inspired by the words of Scripture:

*Blessed are you among women,
And blessed is the fruit of your womb.
But why am I so favored
That the mother of my Lord should come to me?*

Luke 1:42-45

Prayer of Pope Benedict XVI on Mary

Mary, Mother of the "Yes", you listened to Jesus,
and know the tone of his voice and the beating of his heart.
Morning Star, speak to us of him,
and tell us about your journey of following him on the path of faith.

Mary, who dwelt with Jesus in Nazareth,
impress on our lives your sentiments,
your docility, your attentive silence,
and make the Word flourish in genuinely free choices.



Mary, speak to us of Jesus, so that the freshness of our faith
shines in our eyes and warms the heart of those we meet,
as you did when visiting Elizabeth,
who in her old age rejoiced with you for the gift of life.

Mary, Virgin of the Magnificat
help us to bring joy to the world and, as at Cana,
lead every young person involved in service of others
to do only what Jesus will tell them.

Mary, look upon the Agora of youth,
so that the soil of the Italian Church will be fertile.
Pray that Jesus, dead and Risen, is reborn in us,
and transforms us into a night full of light, full of him.

Mary, Our Lady of Loreto, Gate of Heaven,
help us to lift our eyes on high.
We want to see Jesus, to speak with him,
to proclaim his love to all.

https://www.vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/_en/prayers/documents/hf_ben-xvi_20070901_prayer-loreto.html

