

headwaiter.” So they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from, although the servers who had drawn the water knew, the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves good wine first, and then, when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now.”

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him. —The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Father, as we celebrate the memory of the Virgin Mary, we offer you our gifts and prayers. Sustain us by the love of Christ, who offered himself as a perfect sacrifice on the cross, and is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

PREFACE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Rejoice, virgin mother, for Christ has arisen from his grave, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, may this sacrament strengthen the faith in our hearts. May Mary’s Son, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaim to be God and man, bring us to eternal life by the saving power of his resurrection, for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

24 May
Our Lady, Help of Christians (memorial)
Day of Prayer for the Church in China

(during the season of Ordinary Time)

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The disciples were constantly at prayer together, with Mary the mother of Jesus, alleluia. *(cf. Acts 1:14)*

OPENING PRAYER

God our Father, you gave the Holy Spirit to your apostles as they joined in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus. By the help of her prayers, keep us faithful in your service, and let our words and actions be so inspired as to bring glory to your name.

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

READINGS

FIRST READING *(I will put enmity between your offspring and the offspring of the woman.)*

A reading from the Book of Genesis 3:1-6, 13-15

Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the animals that the Lord God had made. The serpent asked the woman, “Did God really tell you not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?”

The woman answered the serpent: “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; it is only about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden that God said, ‘You shall not eat it or even touch it, lest you die.’”

But the serpent said to the woman: “You certainly will not die! No, God knows well that the moment you eat of it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know what is good and what is evil.”

The woman saw that the tree was good for food, pleasing to the eyes, and desirable for gaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

The Lord God then asked the woman, “Why did you do such a thing?” The woman answered, “The serpent tricked me into it, so I ate it.”

Then the Lord God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, you shall be banned from all the animals and from all the wild creatures; on your belly shall you crawl, and dirt shall you eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike at your head, while you strike at his heel.”—The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50-51, 52-53, 54-55)

R. *My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.*

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. (R)

For he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. (R)

He has mercy on those who fear him, in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. (R)

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever. (R)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(cf. 2 Thes 2:14)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are you, holy Virgin Mary, deserving of all praise; from you rose the sun of justice, Christ our God. (R)

GOSPEL *(The mother of Jesus was there.)*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (2:1-11)

There was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servers, “Do whatever he tells you.” Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told them, “Fill the jars with water.” So they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, “Draw some out now and take it to the