

## The Most Holy Name of Mary 12 September



### About the Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Mary

The Roman Martyrology tells us that The Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a day on which the inexpressible love of the Mother of God for her Holy Child is recalled, and the eyes of the faithful are directed to the figure of the Mother of the Redeemer, for them to invoke with devotion.

This celebration in honour of the name of Mary, the mother of Jesus, has been a feast since 1684, when Pope Innocent XI added it to the General Roman Calendar to commemorate the victory of the Battle of Vienna in 1683, when the Ottoman Turks were defeated and the siege of Vienna lifted.

The memorial is also a counterpoint to the optional memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus which is celebrated on 3 January.

### How can we apply the Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Mary to our lives today?

We should respect and honour the holy name of the Blessed Virgin Mary, always grateful for her role in our salvation. Her obedience to God which made her the mother of the Messiah is an example which all Christians must follow.

### Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that, for all who celebrate the glorious Name  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
she may obtain your merciful favour.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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Gospel

Luke 1:39-47

Blessed is she who believed the promise

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah.

**She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth.**

**Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,**

the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

She gave a loud cry and said,

**'Of all women you are the most blessed and blessed is the fruit of your womb.**

Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

For the moment, your greeting reached my ears,

the child in my womb leapt for joy.

**Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'**

And Mary said:

**'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord**

**and my spirit exults in God my saviour.'**

Antiphon

All generations will call me blessed,

for God has looked on his lowly handmaid.

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## Hymn for the Memorial of the Holy Name of Mary

Mary, you have been blessed by God  
from all women on earth:  
for He has exalted your Name  
from the day of your birth.

The praise on our lips will not end  
for your Name most holy:  
the Lord especially chose you  
Mother of Christ to be.

Through you to Your Son we now come  
and pray for what we need,  
and for the needs of neighbours all,  
to Your Son, for us plead.

CM 86.86 Richmond

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## Other Music Suggestion

[Song of Mary](#) (Dan Schutte)

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