



Little Office of

The Immaculate Conception

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee.



The text from which the present translation has been made is taken from the Office as published by authority at Rome, in 1838 (*Caeleste Palmentum*, p. 243). In 1830 Our Lady appeared to St. Catherine Labouré and gave us the Miraculous Medal. In 1854 the dogma of the Immaculate Conception was defined by Pope Pius IX. In 1858 Our Lady appeared to St. Bernadette at Lourdes and, in answer to the saint's question, "who are you," said: "I am the Immaculate Conception."

Our Lady's Immaculate Conception and the Fatima Message



In July 13, 1917, during the Third apparition of Our Lady at Fatima, She told the three child seers, Lucy, Jacinta and Francisco, that in order to prevent the punishment of the world for its crimes by means of wars, famine, persecutions of the Church and of the Holy Father, She would come at a future date to ask for the Consecration of Russia to Her Immaculate Heart, and the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays.

True to Her word, on December 10, 1925, the Child Jesus appeared with Our Lady to Sister Lucy (the only surviving of the 3 child seers) in Pontevedra, Spain. Sister Lucy was shown a Heart encircled by thorns.

The Child Jesus said:

“Have compassion on the Heart of your Most Holy Mother, covered with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce It at every moment, and there is no one to make an act of Reparation to remove them.”

Then the Most Holy Virgin said:

“Look My daughter, at My Heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce Me at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console Me and announce in My name that I promise to assist at the moment of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months shall confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep Me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making Reparation to Me.”

Sister Lucy was asked by Her confessor, Father Gonçalves, “Why five Saturdays...?”

On May 29 while visiting the Blessed Sacrament, here is what was revealed to Sister Lucy by Our Lord:

“My daughter, the reason is simple. There are five types of offenses and blasphemies committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary:

- 1. Blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception.**
2. Blasphemies against Her Perpetual Virginity.
3. Blasphemies against Her Divine Maternity, in refusing at the same time to recognize Her as the Mother of men.
4. The blasphemies of those who publicly seek to sow in the hearts of children indifference or scorn, or even hatred of this Immaculate Mother.
5. The offenses of those who outrage Her directly in Her holy images.”

In addition to making the Five First Saturday Communion of Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, further console Our Lady with the recitation of the Little Office of The Immaculate Conception. This Office may be said anytime. In preparation for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8, make a novena reciting this Little Office for nine days prior to the feast day.



Preparatory Prayers



Prayer to the Holy Ghost

(Recommended for recitation at the beginning of prayers)

Veni Creator Spiritus

Veni Creator Spiritus,
Mentes Tuorum visita,
Imple superna gratia
Quæ Tu creasti pectora.

Qui diceris Paraclitus,
Altissimi donum Dei,
Fons vivus, ignis, caritas,
Et spiritalis unctio.

Tu septiformis munere,
Digitus Paternæ dexteræ,
Tu rite promissum Patris,
Sermone ditans guttura.

Accende lumen sensibus,
Infunde amorem cordibus,
Infirma nostri corporis
Virtute firmans perpeti.

Hostem repellas longius,
Pacemque dones protinus:
Ductore sic Te prævio
Vitemus omne noxium.

Per Te sciamus da Patrem,
Noscamus atque Filium,
Teque utriusque Spiritum
Credamus omni tempore.

Deo Patri sit gloria,
Et Filio, Qui a mortuis
Surrexit, ac Paraclito,
In sæculorum sæcula. Amen.

Come, O Creator Spirit blest!
And in our souls take up Thy rest,
Come with Thy grace and heav'nly aid
To fill the hearts which Thou hast made.

Great Paraclete! To Thee we cry,
O heav'nly gift of God Most High,
O fount of life and fire of love,
And sweet anointing from above.

Thou in Thy sevenfold gifts art known,
Thou, finger of God's hand we own;
True promise of the Father, Thou,
Who dost the tongue with power endow.

Kindle our senses from above,
And make our hearts o'erflow with love;
With patience firm and virtue high
The weakness of our flesh supply.

Far from us drive the foe we dread,
And grant us Thy true peace instead;
So shall we not, with Thee for guide,
Turn from the path of life aside.

Oh, may Thy grace on us bestow
The Father and the Son to know,
And Thee through endless times confessed
Of both the eternal Spirit blest.

All glory while the ages run
Be to the Father and the Son
Who rose from death; the same to Thee
O Holy Ghost, eternally. Amen.

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Ave, Maris Stella



During a riot in Rome, a mob came to the house where Saint Bridget lived; a leader talked of burning her alive. She prayed to Our Lord to know if she should flee to safety. Jesus advised her to stay: "It doesn't matter if they plot thy death. My power will break the malice of thine enemies: if Mine crucified Me, it is because I permitted it." Our Blessed Mother added: "Sing as a group the Ave Maris Stella and I will guard you from every danger."

Ave, Maris Stella,
Dei Mater alma,
Atque semper Virgo,
Felix cœli porta.

Sumens illud Ave
Gabrielis ore,
Funda nos in pace,
Mutans Evæ nomen.

Solve vincla reis,
Profer lumen cæcis,
Mala nostra pelle,
Bona cuncta posce.

Monstra Te esse Matrem,
Sumat per Te preces,
Qui pro nobis natus,
Tulit esse Tuus.

Virgo singularis,
Inter omnes mitis,
Nos culpis solutos,
Mites fac et castos.

Vitam præsta puram,
Iter para tutum,
Ut videntes Jesum
Semper collætetur.

Sit laus Deo Patri,
Summo Christo decus,
Spiritui Sancto,
Tribus honor Unus. Amen.

Hail, bright Star of ocean,
God's Own Mother blest,
Ever sinless Virgin,
Gate of heavenly rest.

Taking that sweet *Ave*
Which from Gabriel came,
Peace confirm within us,
Changing *Eva's* name.

Break the captives' fetters,
Light on blindness pour,
All our ills expelling,
Ev'ry bliss implore.

Show Thyself a Mother;
May the Word Divine,
Born for us Thine Infant,
Hear our prayers through Thine.

Virgin all excelling,
Mildest of the mild,
Freed from guilt, preserve us,
Pure and undefiled.

Keep our life all spotless,
Make our way secure,
Till we find in Jesus
Joy forevermore.

Through the highest Heaven
To the Almighty Three,
Father, Son and Spirit,
One same glory be. Amen.

Little Office of the Immaculate Conception



Eja, mea labia, nunc
annuntiate
Laudes et praeconia
Virginis beatae.

*℣ Domina, in adiutorium
meum intende.*

*℟ Me de manu hostium
potenter defende.*

*℣ Gloria Patri, et Filio, et
Spiritu Sancto.*

*℟ Sicut erat in principio, et
Nunc, et semper: et in saecula
saeculorum. Amen. Alleluia.**

Come, my lips, and
wide proclaim
The Blessed Virgin's
spotless fame.

*℣ O Lady, make speed to
befriend me.*

*℟ From the hands of the
enemy mightily defend me.*

*℣ Glory be to the Father, and
to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*℟ As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen. Alleluia.**

**From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia is said:*

**Laus Tibi, Domine, Rex
aeternae gloriae.**

**Praise be to Thee, O Lord,
King of everlasting glory.**

Hymn.

Salve, mundi Domina
Coelorum Regina;
Salve, Virgo virginum,
Stella matutina.

Hail, Queen of the heavens,
Hail, Mistress of earth,
Hail, Virgin most pure,
Of immaculate birth;

Salve, plena gratia,
Clara luce divina:
Mundi in auxilium,
Domina, festina.

Clear star of the morning,
In beauty enshrined,
O Lady, make speed
To the help of mankind.

Ab aeterno Dominus
Te praedestinavit
Matrem unigeniti
Verbi, Quo creavit

Thee God in the depth
Of eternity chose;
And formed Thee all fair
As His glorious Spouse;

Terram, pontum, aethera:

And called Thee His Word's

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Te pulchram ornavit
Sibi Sponsam, Quae in
Adam non peccavit. Amen.

*℣ Elegit Eam Deus, et
prae-elegit Eam.*

**℞ In tabernaculo Suo
habitare fecit Eam.**

*℣ Domina, protege orationem
meam.*

**℞ Et clamor meus ad Te
veniat.**

Own Mother to be,
By Whom He created
The earth, sky, and sea. Amen.

*℣ God elected Her, and
pre-elected Her.*

**℞ He made Her to dwell
in His tabernacle.**

*℣ O Lady, aid my
prayer.*

**℞ And let my cry come
unto Thee.**

Prayer and Versicles said at the end of each Hour

Oremus.

Sancta Maria, Regina Coelorum,
Mater Domini Nostri Jesu Christi,
et mundi Domina, Quae nullum
derelinquis, et nullum despicias;
respice me, Domina, clementer
oculo pietatis, et impetra mihi apud
Tuum dilectum Filium cunctorum
veniam peccatorum: ut qui nunc
Tuam sanctam et Immaculatam
Conceptionem devoto affectu recolo,
aeternae in futurum beatitudinis
bravium capiam, ipso, Quem virgo
peperisti, donante Domino Nostro
Jesu Christo: Qui cum Patre et Sancto
Spiritu vivit et regnat, in Trinitate
perfecta, Deus in saecula saeculorum.
Amen.

℣ Domina, protege orationem meam.

**℞ Et clamor meus ad Te
veniat.**

Let us pray.

Holy Mary, Queen of Heaven, Mother
of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and Mistress
of the world, Who forsakest no one,
and despisest no one, look upon
me, O Lady, with an eye of pity, and
entreat for me, of Thy beloved Son,
the forgiveness of all my sins; that, as
I now celebrate, with devout affection,
Thy holy and Immaculate Conception,
so, hereafter, I may receive the prize
of eternal blessedness, by the grace of
Him Whom Thou, in virginity, didst
bring forth, Jesus Christ Our Lord:
Who with the Father and the Holy
Ghost, liveth and reigneth, in perfect
Trinity, God, world without end.
Amen.

℣ O Lady, aid my prayer.

**℞ And let my cry come
unto Thee.**

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✠ *Benedicamus Domino.*

✠ *Deo gratias.*

✠ *Fidelium animae per misericordiam Dei requiescant in pace.*

✠ *Amen.*

✠ *Let us bless the Lord*

✠ *Thanks be to God.*

✠ *May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

✠ *Amen.*



At Prime.



✠ *Domina, in adiutorium meum intende.*

✠ *Me de manu hostium potenter defende.*

✠ *Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.*

✠ *Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. Alleluia.**

✠ *O Lady, make speed to befriend me.*

✠ *From the hands of the enemy mightily defend me.*

✠ *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

✠ *As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.**

**From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia is said:*

Laus Tibi, Domine, Rex aeternae gloriae.

Praise be to Thee, O Lord, King of everlasting glory.

Hymn.

*Salve, Virgo sapiens,
Domus Deo dicata,
Columna septemplici
Mensaque exornata.*

*Hail, Virgin most wise,
Hail, Deity's shrine,
With seven fair pillars,
And table divine.*

*Ab omni contagio
Mundi praeservata:
Semper Sancta in utero
Matris, ex qua nata.*

*Preserved from the guilt
Which hath come on us all:
Exempt, in the womb,
From the taint of the fall.*

*Tu Mater viventium,
Et porta es sanctorum:
Nova stella Jacob,
Domina angelorum.*

*A new Star of Jacob,
Of angels the Queen,
O Gate of the saints,
O Mother of men.*

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Zabulo terribilis
Acies castrorum;
Porta et refugium
Sis Christianorum. Amen.

*℣ Ipse creavit Illam in
Spiritu Sancto.*

*℞ Et effudit Ilam super
omnia opera Sua.*

*℣ Domina, protege orationem
meam.*

*℞ Et clamor meus ad Te
veniat.*

*(Pages 6 and 7, cum Oratione ut
supra).*

To Zabulon fearful
As the embattled array,
Be Thou of the faithful
The refuge and stay. Amen.

*℣ The Lord Himself created
Her in the Holy Ghost.*

*℞ And poured Her out
over all His works.*

*℣ O Lady, aid my
prayer.*

*℞ And let my cry come
unto Thee.*

*(With the Prayer and Versicles,
as on pages 6 and 7).*



At Terce.



*℣ Domina, in adiutorium
meum intende.*

*℞ Me de manu hostium
potenter defende.*

*℣ Gloria Patri, et Filio, et
Spiritu Sancto.*

*℞ Sicut erat in principio, et
nunc, et semper: et in saecula
saeculorum. Amen. Alleluia.**

*℣ O Lady, make speed
to befriend me.*

*℞ From the hands of the
enemy mightily defend me.*

*℣ Glory be to the Father, and
to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*℞ As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen. Alleluia.**

**From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia is said:*

*Laus Tibi, Domine, Rex
aeternae gloriae.*

*Praise be to Thee, O Lord,
King of everlasting glory.*

Hymn.

*Salve, arca foederis,
Thronus Salomonis,
Arcus pulcher aetheris,
Rubus visionis:*

*Hail, Solomon's throne,
Pure ark of the law,
Fair rainbow, and bush,
Which the Patriarch saw.*

Virga frondens germinis,

Hail, Gedeon's fleece,

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Vellus Gedeonis:
Porta clausa Numinis,
Favusque Samsonis.

Hail, blossoming Rod,
Samson's sweet honeycomb,
Portal of God!

Decebat tam nobilem
Natum, praecavere
Ab originali
Labe matris Evae.

Well-fitting it was,
That a Son so divine
Should preserve from all touch
Of original sin,

Almam, Quam elegerat,
Genitricem vere,
Nulli prorsus sinens
Culpaе subjacere. Amen.

Nor suffer by smallest
Defect to be stained,
That Mother, Whom He
For Himself had ordained. Amen.

℣ Ego in altissimis habito.

℣ I dwell in the highest.

*℞ Et thronus Meus in
columna nubis.*

*℞ And My throne is on
the pillar of the clouds.*

*℣ Domina, protege orationem
meam.*

*℣ O Lady, aid my
prayer.*

*℞ Et clamor meus ad Te
veniat.*

*℞ And let my cry come
unto Thee.*

*(Pages 6 and 7, cum Oratione ut
supra).*

*(With the Prayer and Versicles,
as on pages 6 and 7).*



At Sext.



*℣ Domina, in adjutorium meum
intende.*

*℣ O Lady, make speed
to befriend me.*

*℞ Me de manu hostium
potenter defende.*

*℞ From the hands of the
enemy mightily defend me.*

*℣ Gloria Patri, et Filio, et
Spiritu Sancto.*

*℣ Glory be to the Father, and
to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*℞ Sicut erat in principio, et
nunc, et semper: et in saecula
saeculorum. Amen. Alleluia.**

*℞ As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen. Alleluia.**

**From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia is said:*

*Laus Tibi, Domine, Rex
aeternae gloriae.*

*Praise be to Thee, O Lord,
King of everlasting glory.*

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Hymn.

Salve, Virgo puerpera,
Templum Trinitatis,
Angelorum gadium,
Cella puritatis:

Hail, virginal Mother,
Hail, purity's cell,
Fair Shrine where the Trinity
Loveth to dwell.

Solamen moerentium,
Hortus voluptatis:
Palma patientiae,
Cedrus castitatis.

Hail, Garden of pleasure
Celestial balm
Cedar of chastity
Martyrdom's palm.

Terra es benedicta
Et sacerdotalis,
Sancta et immunis
Culpa originalis.

Thou land set apart
From uses profane,
And free from the curse
Which in Adam began.

Civitas Altissimi,
Porta orientalis:
In Te est omnis gratia,
Virgo singularis. Amen.

Thou city of God,
Thou gate of the east,
In Thee is all grace,
O joy of the blest. Amen.

℣ Sicut lilium inter spinas.

℣ As the lily among the thorns.

*℞ Sic amica Mea inter
filias Adae.*

*℞ So is My beloved among
the daughters of Adam.*

*℣ Domina, protege orationem
meam*

*℣ O Lady, aid my
prayer.*

*℞ Et clamor meus ad Te
veniat.*

*℞ And let my cry come
unto Thee.*

*(Pages 6 and 7, cum Oratione ut
supra).*

*(With the Prayer and Versicles, on
pages 6 and 7).*



At None.



*℣ Domina, in adiutorium meum
intende.*

*℣ O Lady, make speed
to befriend me.*

*℞ Me de manu hostium
potenter defende.*

*℞ From the hands of the
enemy mightily defend me.*

*℣ Gloria Patri, et Filio, et
Spiritui Sancto.*

*℣ Glory be to the Father, and
to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

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℟ Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper: et in saecula saeculorum. Amen. Alleluia.*

℟ As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Alleluia.*

**From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia is said:*

Laus Tibi, Domine, Rex
aeternae gloriae.

Praise be to Thee, O Lord,
King of everlasting glory.

Hymn.

Salve, urbs refugii,
Turrisque munita
David, propugnaculis
Armisque in signita.

Hail, city of refuge,
Hail, David's high tower,
With battlements crowned
And girded with power.

In conceptione
Charitate ignita;
Draconis potestas
Est a te contrita.

Filled at Thy conception
With love and with light,
The dragon by Thee
Was shorn of his might.

O mulier fortis,
Et invicta Judith,
Pulchra Abisag virgo,
Verum fovens David.

O woman most valiant,
O Judith thrice blest,
As David was nursed
In fair Abisag's breast.

Rachel curatorem
Aegypti gestavit:
Salvatorem mundi
Maria portavit. Amen.

As the Savior of Egypt
Upon Rachel's knee:
So the world's great Redeemer
Was cherished by Thee. Amen.

℣ *Tota pulchra es, amica Mea.*

℟ **Et macula originalis
numquam fuit in Te.**

℣ *Domina, protege orationem
meam.*

℟ **Et clamor meus ad Te
veniat.**

*(Pages 6 and 7, cum Oratione ut
supra).*

℣ *Thou art all fair, My beloved.*

℟ **And the original stain
was never in Thee.**

℣ *O Lady, aid my
prayer.*

℟ **And let my cry come
unto Thee.**

*(With the Prayer and Versicles,
as on pages 6 and 7).*

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At Vespers.



*℣ Domina, in adiutorium
meum intende.*

*℞ Me de manu hostium
potenter defende.*

*℣ Gloria Patri, et Filio, et
Spiritu Sancto.*

*℞ Sicut erat in principio, et
nunc, et semper: et in saecula
saeculorum. Amen. Alleluia.**

*℣ O Lady, make speed
to befriend me.*

*℞ From the hands of the
enemy mightily defend me.*

*℣ Glory be to the Father, and
to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

*℞ As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen. Alleluia.**

**From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia is said:*

*Laus Tibi, Domine, Rex
aeternae gloriae.*

*Praise be to Thee, O Lord,
King of everlasting glory.*

Hymn.

*Salve, horologium,
Quo retrogradiatur
Sol in decem lineis;
Verbum incarnatur.*

*Hail, dial of Achaz,
On Thee the true sun
Told backward the course
Which from old he had run.*

*Homo ut ab inferis
Ad summa attollatur,
Immensus ab angelis
Paulo minoratur.*

*And, that man might be raised,
Submitting to shame,
A little more low
Than the angels became.*

*Solis hujus radiis
Maria coruscat;
Consurgens aurora
In conceptu micat.*

*Thou, rapt in the blaze
Of His infinite light,
Dost shine as the morn
On the confines of night.*

*Lilium inter spinas,
Quae serpentis conterat
Caput: pulchra ut luna
Errantes collustrat. Amen.*

*As the moon on the lost
Through obscurity dawns;
The serpent's destroyer,
A lily 'mid thorns. Amen.*

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✠ *Ego feci in Coelis, ut oriretur
lumen indeficiens.*

✠ **Et quasi nebula texti
omnem terram.**

✠ *Domina, protege orationem
meam.*

✠ **Et clamor meus ad Te
veniat.**

*(Pages 6 and 7, cum Oratione ut
supra).*

✠ *I made an unfailing light to
arise in Heaven.*

✠ **And as a mist I overspread
the whole earth.**

✠ *O Lady, aid my
prayer.*

✠ **And let my cry come
unto Thee.**

*(With the Prayer and Versicles,
as on pages 6 and 7.*



At Compline.



✠ *Convertat nos, Domina,
Tuis precibus placatus Jesus
Christus Filius Tuus.*

✠ **Et avertat iram Suam
a nobis.**

✠ *Domina, in adjutorium
meum intende.*

✠ **Me de manu hostium
potenter defende.**

✠ *Gloria Patri, et Filio, et
Spiritus Sancto.*

✠ **Sicut erat in principio, et
nunc, et semper: et in saecula
saeculorum. Amen. Alleluia.***

✠ *May Jesus Christ, Thy Son,
reconciled by Thy prayers, O Lady,
convert our hearts.*

✠ **And turn away His anger
from us.**

✠ *O Lady, make speed
to befriend me.*

✠ **From the hands of the
enemy mightily defend me.**

✠ *Glory be to the Father, and
to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.*

✠ **As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world
without end. Amen. Alleluia.***

**From Septuagesima to Easter, instead of Alleluia is said:*

**Laus Tibi, Domine, Rex
aeternae gloriae.**

**Praise be to Thee, O Lord,
King of everlasting glory.**

Hymn.

Salve, Virgo florens,
Mater illibata,
Regina clementiae,
Stellis coronata.

Hail, Mother most pure,
Hail, Virgin renowned,
Hail, Queen with the stars
As a diadem crowned.

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Super omnes angelos
Pura, immaculata,
Atque ad Regis dexteram
Stans veste de aurata.

Above all the angels
In glory untold,
Standing next to the King
In a vesture of gold.

Per Te, Mater gratiae,
Dulcis spes reorum,
Fulgens stella maris,
Portus naufragorum.

O Mother of mercy,
O star of the wave,
O hope of the guilty,
O light of the grave.

Patens coeli janua,
Salus infirmorum,
Videamus Regem,
In aula sanctorum. Amen.

Through Thee may we come
To the haven of rest,
And see Heaven's King
In the courts of the blest. Amen.

*℣ Oleum effusum, Maria,
nomen Tuum.*

*℣ Thy name, O Mary, is
as oil poured out.*

**℟ Servi Tui dilexerunt
Te nimis.**

**℟ Thy servants have loved
Thee exceedingly.**

*℣ Domina, protege orationem
meam.*

*℣ O Lady, aid my
prayer.*

**℟ Et clamor meus ad Te
veniat.**

**℟ And let my cry come
unto Thee.**

*(Pages 6 and 7, cum Oratione ut
supra).*

*(With the Prayer and Versicles,
as on pages 6 and 7).*

The Commendation.

Supplices offerimus
Tibi, Virgo pia,
Haec laudum praeconia:
Fac nos ut in via.

These praises and prayers
I lay at Thy feet,
O Virgin of virgins,
O Mary most sweet.

Ducas cursu prospero;
Et in agonia
Tu nobis assiste,
O dulcis Maria.

Be Thou my true guide
Through this pilgrimage here;
And stand by my side
When death draweth near.

℟ Deo gratias.

℟ Thanks be to God.

LITTLE OFFICE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Ant. Haec est virga in qua nec
nodus originalis, nec cortex
actualis culpa fuit.

✠ *In conceptione Tua, Virgo,
Immaculata fuisti.*

✠ *Ora pro nobis Patrem,
Cujus Filium peperisti.*

Oremus.

Deus qui per Immaculatam
Virginis Conceptionem dignum
Filio Tuo habitaculum praeparasti:
quaesumus, ut qui ex morte
ejusdem Filii Tui praevisa eam ab
omni labe praeservasti, nos quoque
mundos ejus intercessione ad te
pervenire concedas. Per eundem
Christum Dominum nostrum.

✠ **Amen.**

Ant. This is the rod in which
was neither knot of original
sin, nor rind of actual guilt.

✠ *O In Thy conception, O Virgin,
Thou wast immaculate.*

✠ *Pray for us to the Father,
Whose Son Thou didst bring forth.*

Let us pray.

O God Who, by the Immaculate
Conception of the Virgin, didst
prepare a worthy habitation for Thy
Son: we beseech Thee, that, as in
view of the death of that Son, Thou
didst preserve Her from all stain of
sin, so Thou wouldst enable us, being
made pure by Her intercession, to
come unto Thee. Through the same
Christ our Lord.

✠ **Amen.**

DAILY ACT OF CONSECRATION

I am all Thine and all I have is Thine, O most loving Jesus, through Mary, Thy holy Mother. My Queen! my Mother, I give myself entirely to Thee and to show my devotion to Thee, I consecrate to Thee this day, my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my whole being, without reserve. Wherefore, good Mother, as I am Thine Own, keep me, guard me, as Thy property and possession. Amen.



Praying the Little Office of the Immaculate Conception

Like the other Little Offices of the Church, the Little Office of the Immaculate Conception, mirrors the larger Divine Office prayed daily by all Catholic priests and religious.

There are eight “hours,” or times of prayer in these Offices. While it is a commendable, traditional practice to recite the hours separately and at different times – as priests and religious living in community usually do – it is not strictly necessary. However to do so does aid in sanctifying the day, and prayerfully recalling the constant presence of Jesus and Mary in all our endeavors.

Here is a sample schedule used in some religious communities. In the Little Office of the Immaculate Conception, Matins and Lauds are combined together and are generally recited in the early morning at Midnight or 3 a.m., Prime at 6 a.m., Terce at 9 a.m., Sext at 12 noon, None at 3 p.m., Vespers at 6 p.m. and Compline at 9 p.m.

Lay people may follow a schedule similar to priests and religious or adjust accordingly. The entire office may also be prayed all at once.

When the hours are said separately throughout the day, this booklet suggests preceding the praying of each of the hours with two preparatory prayers: the *Veni Creator Spiritus* (prayer to the Holy Ghost) and the *Ave, Maris Stella* (prayer to Our Lady) before beginning the Hour. When praying all the hours or more than one of the hours at the same time, pray the preparatory prayers just once before beginning the hours.



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