

**Novena for the Solemnity of  
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
MOTHER OF  
DIVINE PROVIDENCE**

**DAUGHTERS OF ST. MARY  
OF PROVIDENCE**

Congregation of the  
Daughters of St. Mary of Providence

St. Mary of Providence

4200 North Austin Avenue - Chicago, Illinois 60634

*(Not for Sale)*

October 1994

## FATHER ALOYSIUS GUANELLA SPEAKS TO US OF OUR LADY OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE

Our Lady of Divine Providence gathers her Divine Son in her mantle and presses him gently to her heart. She looks at him lovingly in an overflow of divine joy, as if to say: I embrace Divine Providence, which makes use of a humble handmaid to provide food and other necessities to this infant, who is Divine Providence Incarnate.

The Blessed Virgin of Divine Providence is our dearest Mother. She enjoys being called by this title and comes promptly to our assistance.

What a consolation, in the midst of the trials of life, to have someone to whom we can have recourse – recourse to the great Virgin of Divine Providence.

In the various works of the House our Mother, Mary most Holy, is venerated under the title “Mother of Divine Providence.” The Holy Virgin, not infrequently and even sensibly – shows the efficacy of her protection; thus, we enjoy presenting ourselves before her image of Divine Providence and invoking her for ourselves and for all the needs that surround us.

May the Virgin of Divine Providence always look with kindness on our House... and all our cooperators and benefactors.

## LOOK AT THE STAR, INVOKE MARY

If the winds of temptations arise,  
And run aground amid the rocks of trials,  
look at the star, invoke Mary.

If you are tossed here and there by the waves  
of pride, of ambition,  
of calumny, of competition,  
look at the star, invoke Mary.

If anger, avarice, lust,  
shake the ship of your Spirit,  
turn your attention to Mary.

If disturbed by the immensity of your sins,  
confused by the disorder of your conscience,  
frightened by the fear of the judgment of  
God, you begin to plunge into the abyss of  
sadness and of despair, think of Mary.

In dangers, in distress, in perplexities,  
think of Mary, invoke Mary.

May Mary always be on your lips and in  
your heart; to obtain her prayer,  
do not forget her teachings.

Following her example, you will not be lost;  
invoking her, you will not lose hope.

Thinking of her, you will not fall into error.

Leaning on her, you will not slip;  
under her protection, you will have no fear;  
with her guidance, you will not tire;  
through her you will reach your destination,  
and so you will experience in yourselves what  
the gospel phrase means:

“And the Virgin’s name was Mary.”

*(St. Bernard of Chiaravalle)*

# INTRODUCTION

*(Each day of the Novena)*

## ● EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

*If the celebration takes place before the Blessed Sacrament follow the Rite for Eucharistic exposition - Eucharistic hymn - Moment of silence - Novena begins (Please stand)*

## ● ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

**L:** Blessed be our God in every age,  
now and always and forever.

**All:** And blessed are you, O Mary, by the Most High  
God, more than all women on earth.

## ● GREETING

**L:** The grace of God the Father, the Creator,  
the strength of Christ the Redeemer,  
the joy of the Spirit who gives life,  
be with all of you.

## ● READING *(As indicated each day)*

## ● HYMN: *Salve, Mater Providentiae*

Salve, Mater Providentiae,  
Mater Dei et mater vèniae,  
mater spèi et mater gratiae,  
mater plena sanctae laetitiae,  
O Maria!

Salve, decus humani géneris,

salve Virgo dignior caeteris,  
quae virgines omnes transgréderis  
et altius sedes in súperis,

O Maria!

Salve, felix Virgo puérpera,  
nam qui sedet in Patris dextera,  
coelum régens, terram et étera,  
intra tua se clausit viscera,

O Maria!

Te creávit Pater ingénitus,  
obumbravit te Unigénitus,  
fecundávit te Sanctus Spíritus,  
tu es facta tota divinitas,

O Maria!

Te creávit Deus mirábilem,  
te respexit ancillam humilem,  
te quaesivit spónsam amábilem,  
tibi numquam fecit consímilem,

O Maria!

Te beatam laudáre cúpiunt  
omnes justí, sed non sufficiunt,  
multas, laudes de te concípiunt  
sed in illis prorsus deficiunt,

O Maria!

Esto, Mater, nostrum solátium,  
nostrum esto tu, Virgo, gaudium  
et nos tandem post hoc exilium  
laetos júnge choris coeléstium,

O Maria!

● PRAYER TO MARY  
MOTHER OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE

Remember, O good and most merciful Virgin Mary, that you have been given to us to be our Providence and support. Full of confidence in your patronage, we come to you, asking your aid and your assistance.

To you we confide our sufferings and our needs. Come to sustain and comfort us. Bless our hopes and our works. You to whom Jesus denies nothing, help us. Protect our Holy Church, our country, our Congregation, our superiors, our families and all those who no longer know how to call on you.

Open your heart to us, O gentle mother, dear Lady of Divine Providence, graciously receive our prayers, comfort us, and hear us, now and forever. Amen.

*Or:*

Mary, Immaculate Virgin and Mother of Divine Providence, keep my soul in the fullness of God's grace: govern my life and direct it in the way of virtue to the fulfillment of the divine will. Obtain for me the pardon and remission of all my sins; be my refuge, my protection, my defense, and my guide in my pilgrimage through the world; comfort me in danger; in the storms of adversity afford me your sure protection.

Obtain for me, O Mary, the renewal of my heart within me, that it may become a worthy dwelling place for your divine Son Jesus; keep far from me every kind of sin and negligence. Dear Mother of Divine Providence, turn your motherly gaze upon me, and, if through weakness or malice I have provoked the threats of the eternal Judge and saddened the Sacred Heart of my dear Jesus, cover me with the mantle of your protection and I shall be safe. You are the Mother of Providence; you are the Virgin of pardon;

you are my hope on earth. Grant that I may have you as my Mother in the glory of heaven.  
Amen.

*Or:*

O Mary, Mother of Providence, help us to rise above the things of this earth. Give us your hand in the daily spiritual ascensions of this life so as to be prepared to ascend from this valley of tears to heaven on the day of our death and judgment.

Then your work of providence will be finished for each one of us and we will sing your mercies forever.



# CONCLUSION

*(Each day of the Novena)*

- SINGING OF THE AVE MARIA
- COMMUNITARIAN PRAYER OF PRAISE

**All:** My soul magnifies the Lord.

**L:** Father,  
Giver of life and source of beauty,  
we praise you.  
You have made of the Virgin Mary  
the icon of the faithful Spouse  
the Lover of Your Word,  
the model who accepts Your Word  
with faith and guards it with love;  
to You be glory forever!

**All:** My soul magnifies the Lord.

**L:** Son of God,  
“the most beautiful among the sons of men,”  
we praise you  
because you have chosen Mary  
to be your gentle mother and  
generous companion and have given  
her to us as a mother of immense  
tenderness and mistress of life:  
to You be glory forever!

**All:** My soul magnifies the Lord.

**L:** Spirit of Love,  
Light that never sets,  
source of grace, crown of glory,

we praise you  
because you have clothed  
the Immaculate Virgin  
with eternal innocence and youthful  
strength designing her as the  
perfect image of the Church  
“without stain or wrinkle”  
resplendent with beauty:  
to you be glory forever!

**All:** My soul magnifies the Lord.

*(If the community has not celebrated Vespers you may prefer the singing of  
the Magnificat to the Communitarian Prayer of Praise)*

● INTERCESSIONS

**L:** Let us unite our voices in prayer to God the Father, the  
source of every good, through the intercession of Mary  
most holy Mother of Divine Providence.

**All:** Remember your people, Lord.

**L:** God, patient and kind,  
who from the spotless virgin Mary made your Word  
sprout,  
— grant that your Word accepted in faith may bring the  
fruits of a new life.

God, just and holy,  
you have glorified Mary among the insignificant and  
the poor,  
— grant us the grace to become meek and humble, to  
obtain from Christ the promised redemption.

God, merciful and compassionate,  
who have given your Apostles the Holy Spirit to form  
one Church of all nations,

— through the intercession of Mary strengthen in us the bond of unity and love in your Spirit.

God, great and rich in mercy,  
you sent your Son among man who was burdened and in distress,

— grant that staying near the cross with the Blessed Virgin, we may know how to share the fatigue and hope of our brothers and sisters.

God, provident and good,  
who guides us through the events of life,

— grant that by turning our glance to Mary, our Lady and advocate, we may contemplate the reflection of your glory.

*(Intention of the day and other petitions)*

God of life and peace,  
who in your Son died and rose, given to all eternal salvation,

— in Christ Jesus, accept our Sisters and all the faithful departed into the happiness of heaven.

## ● OUR FATHER

## ● PRAYER

L: O Father, who in your wonderful providence willed to join the Virgin Mary to the mystery of salvation, grant that, accepting the invitation of our Mother, we may put into practice what Christ taught us in the Gospel. He lives and reigns forever and ever, with You and with the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen

*(The proposed intercessions may be substituted by spontaneous petitions, or by one decade of the rosary)*

- **EUCCHARISTIC BENEDICTION**

*If the celebration takes place before the Blessed Sacrament is exposed, after a brief silence of adoration, a Eucharistic hymn is sung and the celebrant gives the blessing in the usual manner. We conclude with a hymn to Mary.*

**Or:**

*If we did not have benediction with the Blessed Sacrament, the guide concludes with these or similar words:*

**L:** Let us walk with Mary, Mother of Divine Providence, on the way of hope and active Love.

**All:** Amen

**Or:**

**L:** May Mary, the Mother of Divine Providence, protect us, and guide us in the path of life.

**All:** Amen

- **HYMN TO MARY**

# 1<sup>st</sup> DAY

## Immaculate - Full of grace

*The Immaculate is like a white lily,  
so must your soul be.*

Bl. A. Guanella

*Visual presentation:* Offering of lilies to Mary most Holy at the singing of the Magnificat or according to the indications of the leader.

- INTRODUCTION (page 5)

- READING

**L:** On the days that precede the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of Divine Providence, we want to fix our attention on her and implore her motherly care on the Church, on our Religious Family, on ourselves, on those we love, and on those whom Providence has entrusted to us. Today, the first day of the novena, let us consider her fullness of grace. *Lumen Gentium* (56) proclaims: "Adorned from the first instant of her conception with the radiance of an entirely unique holiness, the Virgin of Nazareth is greeted, by God's command, by an angel messenger as "full of grace" and to the heavenly messenger she replies: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done to me according to Your Word." John Paul II in *Redemptoris Mater* (8) clarifies: "When we read that the messenger addresses Mary as "full of grace" the Gospel context, which mingles revelations and ancient

promises, enables us to understand that among all the “special blessings in Christ” this is a special “blessing.”

- HYMN AND PRAYER TO MARY (*as in the Introduction*)
- CANTICLE

*The Song of Songs is the song of the fidelity of Yahweh to the promises made to his people, that were fulfilled in the intimate union of Messianic times.*

*Christians liken the images of the spouse in the Song of Songs as the presence and action of Christ, his love for his spouse, his Church. But in the spouse, he recognizes also the figure of Mary, the image and the beginning of the same Church.*

*The Virgin Mary, alone, ransoms entire Israel from its infidelity, being the faithful spouse, all beautiful, Immaculate, who under the tree of the Cross (the apple tree of which the Song speaks) becomes the Mother of Life.*

*In virtue of her divine maternity, Mary has become “the Alleluia of God” in the work of redemption, a type of every believer who opens herself, like her, with love to the fidelity of the Most High.*

From the Song of Songs

(4:1, 2:1-2, 16:4-12)

*You will be called “My Delight” (Is 62:4)*

**All:** How beautiful you are, my love,  
how beautiful you are!

Your eyes are doves,  
behind your veil.

**L:** I am a rose of Sharon,  
a lily of the valleys.

As a lily among bramble,  
So is my loved one among maidens.

**All:** A locked garden is  
my sister, my bride,  
a locked garden, a sealed fountain.

**L:** My beloved is mine and I am his,  
He pastures his flock among the lilies.

**All:** Glory...

## ● BIBLICAL READING

**L:** A reading from the book of Genesis (3:9-15)

But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

He said, "Who told you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

The man said, "The woman whom you gave me, gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate."

Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals, upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; she will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

## *Silent Reflection*

## ● RESPONSORIAL

**R:** Blessed among women, O full of grace; you have changed the curse of Eve into blessings: thanks to you, the blessing of the Father has shone on all men and women.

- V:** Through your means, your ancestors have found salvation:  
**R:** Thanks to you, the blessings of the Father have shone on all men and women.

*Or:*

- All:** How shall we call you, O full of grace?  
I will call you Heaven: because you caused the Sun of Justice to rise.  
Heaven: because in you immortality has blossomed.  
Virgin: because you have remained inviolate.  
Purest Mother: because you carried in your arms a Son, the God of all.  
Beg him to save our souls.

*Anonymous Hymn, V-VI century*

## ● READING FROM DON GUANELLA

From the book "In the Month of Flowers" by Blessed Aloysius Guanella

Consider the Immaculate Conception. Compare it to a sealed fountain within which it is impossible for a breath of wind to penetrate or slow it down. God is pleased that in doing good you are not slowed down by the wind of self-love. The Immaculate Conception is a garden closed to the ancient serpent. May God never permit that your heart be open again to love the temptations of the evil one. The Immaculate Conception is like a white lily, so your soul must be equally pure. The Immaculate Conception is beautiful as a dove. You also should be free of deceit and on par with her simplicity, so that you need not fear the schemes of the evil ones.

*Silent Reflection*



- FOR LIFE

**L:** Invoke Mary with an ejaculation and trust fully in the Blessed Virgin. In the course of this day, strive to give witness at least to one person with good example.

- CONCLUSION (page 9)

- INTENTION FOR THE DAY

God of grace and salvation,  
    who have blessed us with every spiritual blessing in  
    Christ,  
— make us holy and pure in love.

# 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY

## Listening Virgin

*The child lets himself be guided gently  
by the voice of his Mother.*

Bl. A. Guanella

*Visual presentation:* Place the Bible between candles and flowers. In a small box, prepare biblical phrases, which the participants will draw according to the directions of the leader.

- INTRODUCTION (page 5)

- READING

**L:** The Lord Jesus proclaimed blessed those who listen to the Word of God. With this celebration, we desire to look to the Virgin Mary as a model of listening, of acceptance, and of response to the Word. We read in *Marialis Cultus* of Paul VI (17): Mary is the attentive Virgin, who receives the Word of God with faith, that faith, which in her case, was the gateway and path to divine motherhood, for, as St. Augustine realized, "Blessed be Mary, by believing, conceived Him (Jesus) whom she brought forth." In fact, when she received from the angel the answer to her doubt (Lk 1:34-37), full of faith, and conceiving Christ in her mind before conceiving Him in her womb, she said, "*I am the handmaid of the Lord, let what you have said be done to me*" (Lk 1:38).

- HYMN AND PRAYER TO MARY (*as in the Introduction*)

● CANTICLE

From the Song of Songs

(2:8-14)

*"I will now allure her, and bring her into the wilderness" (Hos 2:14)*

**1R:** The Voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes,  
leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.  
My beloved is like a gazelle  
or a young stag.  
Looking, there he stands  
behind our wall,  
gazing in at the windows,  
looking through the lattice,  
My beloved speaks and says to me

**2R:** Arise, my love, my fair one,

and come away;  
for now the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone,  
The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
is heard in our land.

The fig tree puts forth its figs  
and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance,  
Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

O my dove, in the clefts of the rock,  
in the covert of the cliff,  
let me see your face,  
let me hear your voice;  
for your voice is sweet,  
and your face is lovely.

**All:** Glory...

## ● BIBLICAL READING

*The gospel excerpt may be read in dialogue form*

**1R:** A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Luke (1:26-38)

‘In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” ‘But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ‘Mary said to the angel, “How can this be since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore, the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing is impossible with God.” ‘Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Or:

A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Luke (11:27-28)

While he was saying this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to him, “Blessed is the womb that bore you and the breasts that nursed you!” But he said, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.”

● RESPONSORIAL

**R:** You accept the word, Virgin Mary, the announcement of the angel of the Lord: You will conceive in your womb the man-God. They will say of you: Blessed are you among women!

**V:** You will give birth to a Son and still remain a Virgin.

**R:** They will say of you: Blessed are you among women!

*Or:*

O faithful Virgin,  
You have always been prompt and  
solicitous to accept, preserve and  
meditate on the word of God, grant that we,  
in the midst of the dramatic event of history,  
may know how to always maintain our  
Christian faith intact, the precious  
treasure transmitted to us by the fathers!

*John Paul II*

● GUANELLIAN READING

**2R:** From the book "In the Month of Flowers" by Blessed Aloysius Guanella

Your heart, O Christian, is like a temple in which there is continually heard the voice of the Lord. When you find yourself in this temple, silence your heart from the noise of the world and the Word of God will be revealed to it.

As soon as you hear it, hasten as a son to the voice of his beloved father, because you will immediately be embraced by the Lord as a dear child. Mary always hastens with the

purest affection to every call of God. Therefore, she is to him the dearest creature of all. Let yourself be led by the Spirit of the Lord, and fulfill quickly those things that your heart tells you are good, as Mary always did. As soon as Mary heard a word from Jesus, she immediately meditated on it. One example, although small among the many exercises of the Savior's day, the Virgin pondered in her heart. Mary's attention was like that of a diligent scholar. Imitate the Blessed Virgin. Withdraw to prayer and your heart will make you hear his voice. Having listened to the voice of your heart, you can follow with security, because you will not fall into error. When God speaks, your mind is enlightened, a flame of holy love penetrates into your heart, and immediately converts you from a sinner into a just person.

### *Silent Reflection*

- FOR LIFE

Ask Mary to be your companion in listening to the word of God. Today, recollect yourself in a moment of attentive meditation and beg the Virgin to have you stay with fervor in the presence of God, as she dwelt there all the hours of her life.

- CONCLUSION (page 9)

- INTENTION FOR THE DAY

Master of the harvest,  
call youth to a life of special consecration,  
— and grant that, accepting the Word of salvation, they  
may be generous in responding through the example of the  
Virgin Mary.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY

## Servant of the Redemption

*Mary gives us Jesus with ineffable affection, she gives us Jesus who saves us.*

Bl. A. Guanella

*Visual presentation:* a basin of water and a towel.

- INTRODUCTION (page 5)

- READING

**L:** Jesus has said; "Whatsoever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me." In this celebration, we want to contemplate the solicitude of the Virgin Mary toward Elizabeth, so that our service, obedient to the invitation of Jesus, may be inspired by the example of Our Lady. Handmaid of the Lord, she "consecrated herself totally to the person and to the work of her Son, serving the mystery of the redemption under him and with him, with the grace of the omnipotent God" (*Lumen Gentium* 56).

Mother of him who is life, she becomes the servant of life, so that to every woman's heart, there may be revealed the hidden aspect of birth and of love.

She is a pilgrim who carries in her womb a Baby, a sense of our destiny, the hope of salvation and of joy for every life threatened by sorrow and death.

- HYMN AND PRAYER TO MARY (*as in the Introduction*)

- CANTICLE

From the Song of Songs

(1:7-8; 6:1-3)

*My heart exults in the Lord (1 Sam 2:1)*

**R:** Tell me, you whom my soul loves,  
where you pasture your flock,  
where you make it lie down at noon;  
for why should I be like one who is veiled  
beside the flocks of your companions?

**1L:** If you do not know, O fairest among women,  
follow the tracks of the flocks,  
and pasture your kids beside the shepherds' tents.

**2L:** Where has your beloved gone,  
O fairest among women?  
Which way has your beloved turned?  
That we may seek him with you?

**R:** My beloved has gone down to  
his garden, to the beds of spices,  
to pasture his flock in the gardens,  
and to gather lilies.  
I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine;  
he pastures his flock among the lilies.

**All:** Glory...

- BIBLICAL READING

**1R:** A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Luke (1:39-45)  
In those days, Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

*Silent Reflection*

● RESPONSORIAL

**R:** Blessed are you, who have believed; in you will be fulfilled the words of the Lord. And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord."

**V:** Come, listen, I will tell you what God has done for me.

**R:** My soul magnifies the Lord.

*Or:*

**All:** Blessed are you among women!  
Because you have been placed before all virgins,  
because you have been found worthy  
to shelter the Lord, because you have welcomed Him  
who is so great, that nothing in the world could contain;  
you have received Him who fills everything with Himself,  
because you have become the place  
in which salvation is realized,  
because you were the means that  
introduced the King into life,  
because you have appeared as the  
treasure, as the spiritual pearl,  
Blessed are you among women!

*St. Gregory of Nyssa, 4th century*

## ● GUANELLIAN READING

**1R:** From the book "In the Month of Flowers" by Blessed Aloysius Guanella

Mary takes notice. She had with her the Author of grace, therefore of charity. She enjoyed hearing the inspirations of God, as a blessed one can who finds herself before the Most High. But as soon as the voice of the Lord speaks to her, she hastens to the aid of her cousin Elizabeth, who could receive much assistance from a visit of Mary. And behold, Mary arises and hastens. She does not care about the difficulty of the trip, nor solicitude of the family. She travels with the wings of charity and soon finds herself nearing Hebron and the house of Elizabeth, her cousin. How the heart of Mary beat in her breast. So your love should be equally fervent... As soon as they met, the two holy souls embraced each other. What Mary thought, Elizabeth imitated. And what Mary willed, her cousin desired. In the three months in which they dwelt together they shared house and meals.

This custom the first Christians later imitated, of whom it is written that they were "one heart and one soul" and that "they had all things in common." They thought the same, willed the same, had the same table: it was a triple bond that was broken with difficulty. How much better it is that you love like Mary and the first Christians, your forefathers! But I fear there is something amiss in you. I fear that you do not love as you should love Jesus, who is the Father of all. If you do not love Him who is so good, how is it possible that you love his children who are so miserable? Mary loved Jesus with all the strength of her Immaculate soul. For this reason, she obtained every blessing for the house of Elizabeth.

*Silent Reflection*

- FOR LIFE

Today show your love to Mary by making at least three acts of charity, toward your neighbor-either corporal or spiritual.

- CONCLUSION (page 9)

- INTENTION FOR THE DAY

Good Shepherd,

you send your ministers to bring the good news to all nations,

- grant to our missionary sisters and brothers the maternal presence of Mary, and that supported by her help, they may continue to announce the Word of Salvation, and to serve the poor where Divine Providence has called them.

# 4<sup>th</sup> DAY

## Virgin Mother of God

*How beautiful you are, O Mary! You are all holy, O Virgin Immaculate. The Lord has made you great because He chose you for his Immaculate dwelling.*

Bl. A. Guanella

*Visual presentation:* Crib with lights

- INTRODUCTION (page 5)

- READING

**L:** “Rejoice heartily, my brethren! The Most High has found fit to be able to dwell on this earth in a place worthy of him. He has built his own house. That is a house, a dwelling of virtue, the delight of virtuous souls... it is called with the venerated name of Mary.” It is also the invitation of the Church who in *Lumen Gentium* (53) declares: “The Virgin Mary, who at the message of the angel received the Word of God in her heart and in her body and gave Life to the world, is acknowledged and honored as being truly the Mother of God and Mother of her Son and united to Him by a close and indissoluble tie, she is endowed with the high office and dignity of being the Mother of the Son of God, by which account she is also the beloved daughter of

the Father and the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because of this gift of sublime grace she far surpasses all creatures, both in heaven and on earth.”

- HYMN AND PRAYER TO MARY (*as in the Introduction*)
- CANTICLE

From the Song of Songs

(5:10-16)

*You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice (Is 66:14)*

**Side 1:** My beloved is all radiant  
and ruddy,  
distinguished among ten  
thousand.  
His head is the finest gold;  
his locks are wavy, black as the raven.

**Side 2:** His eyes are like doves  
beside springs of water,  
bathed in milk, fitly set.

**Side 1:** His cheeks are like beds of spices,  
yielding fragrance.  
His lips are lilies,  
distilling liquid myrrh.

**Side 2:** His arms are rounded gold,  
set with jewels.  
His body is ivory work,  
encrusted with sapphires.

**Side 1:** His legs are alabaster columns,  
set upon bases of gold.  
His appearance is like Lebanon,  
choice as the cedars.

**Side 2:** His speech is most sweet,  
and he is altogether desirable.  
This is my beloved and this is my friend,  
O daughters of Jerusalem.

**All:** Glory...

● **BIBLICAL READING**

**1R:** A reading from the holy gospel according to (1:18-25)  
St. Matthew

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son, and he named him Jesus.

*Silent Reflection*

● **RESPONSORIAL**

**R:** Blessed, O Virgin Mary: you brought forth the Creator of the world. You gave life to Him who created you, and you are a virgin forever.

**V:** I greet you, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

**R:** You gave life to Him who created you, and you are a virgin forever.

*Or:*

O Virgin most beautiful,  
you are united with a tight embrace  
to the Author of beauty  
and you have become all the more a virgin.  
Even more than a virgin,  
because as mother and virgin;  
you have received his holy offspring  
through divine power.  
For this, "I greet you, full of grace,  
the Lord is with you,  
you are blessed among all women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your  
womb," Jesus who is above all things,  
the blessed God forever!

*Amedeo of Losanna, XI-XII century*

## ● GUANELLIAN READING

**2R:** From the book "In the Month of Flowers" by Blessed Aloysius Guanella

Remember with love in your heart the great night (of Christmas). It is called the night of lights because on that night was born the true light that came into this world. It is called, of lights, because the glory of heaven descended and enveloped the cave and overhanging mound in a sea of bright light. You discover Blessed Mary in that glory. She appears to be a heavenly image of living fervor, and you keep your eyes reverently on the crib in which there is a new born infant resting on the rough straw. The little boy is

born as the son of a poor mother. Mary most holy does not sensibly discover the divinity because it is in the heavenly baby, but she is blessed with faith. What blessedness for the mother of the Savior!

Mary, through the little body of that infant, admired with the eyes of faith the Son of God. With the same eyes of faith gaze on the Eucharistic Presence and discover the person of the same Word Incarnate. If you look with lively faith, you are blessed. See how Mary is absorbed in an ecstasy of contemplation. I do not know if she was aware of that prodigious light that surrounded her. I do not know if she was aware of the events that follow one another, the angelic choirs, and the celestial songs they intoned. Mary's eyes are intent on the divine infant. Mary loved her Jesus with the purest love. The vibrations of her heart palpitated for her Divine Son. Her thoughts were on Him alone. O if you too would learn to purify your heart! If you learn to love God similar to Mary, then you can live contently.

### *Silent Reflection*

- FOR LIFE

Today make acts of faith and holy love

- CONCLUSION (page 9)

- INTENTION FOR THE DAY

Lord Jesus,

who in the Eucharist are the sun of the earth and the fire of love,

— keep always burning in us the flame of love for God and for our neighbor. We ask it of you through Mary, your Mother and ours.



# 5<sup>th</sup> DAY

## Offering Virgin

*We are before Mary, who holds in her arms her Divine Son and Savior, to give Him to whoever wishes for him, for his salvation.*

Bl. A. Guanella

*Visual presentation:* offering of a lighted lamp, symbol of Faith with which the Church welcomes Christ.

- INTRODUCTION (page 5)
- READING
- L: Today let us look on Mary who offers her only begotten son to the Father and accepts in faith the prophecy of Simeon. Paul VI in *Marialis Cultus* (20) defines Mary as the Virgin offering, because “the Church has understood in the heart of the Virgin, who brings her son to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (*Lk* 2:22), a will of oblation, which overcomes the ordinary sense of the rite. This discernment is witnessed in the words of St. Bernard: You offer your son, O Holy Virgin, and present to the Lord the blessed fruit of your womb. You offer for the reconciliation of all of us a holy victim, pleasing to God.”
- HYMN AND PRAYER TO MARY (*as in the Introduction*)

- CANTICLE

From the Song of Songs

(8:6-7)

*So be careful not to forget the covenant that the Lord your God made with you, and not to make for yourselves an idol in the form of anything that the Lord your God has forbidden you. For the Lord your God is a devouring fire, a jealous God (Dt 4:23-24)*

**R:** Set me as a seal upon your heart,  
as a seal upon your arm;  
for love is strong as death,  
passion fierce as the grave.  
Its flashes are flashes of fire,  
a raging flame.

**A:** Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can floods drown it.  
If one offered for love all the wealth of his house,  
it would be utterly scorned.  
Glory...

- OFFERING OF THE LAMP (*a lamp is brought before the icon or the statue of the Holy Virgin. The offering may be accompanied by a hymn or by an appropriate word*) For example:  
Behold Lord, our offering: may your Spirit transform it into a flame of ardent love.

- BIBLICAL READING

**1R:** A reading from the holy gospel according to St. Luke (2:21-35)  
After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.  
When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present

him to the Lord (as is written in the law of the Lord). "Every first born male shall be designated as holy to the Lord," and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtle doves or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for the glory of your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "this child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

### *Silent Reflection*

#### ● RESPONSORIAL

**R:** O Sion, adorn the room for a wedding, welcome Christ your Lord. Mary conceived him as a virgin, she gave birth as a virgin, she remained a virgin after the birth, she adored him who had generated him.

**V:** Simeon took the child in his arms and blessed the Lord.

**R:** Mary conceived him as a virgin, she gave birth as a virgin, she remained a virgin after the birth, she adored him who had generated him.

Or:

**All:** Hail, overflowing mercy,  
river of peace and grace,  
splendor of purity, dew of the valleys;  
Mother of God and Mother of pardon.  
Hail, salvation of your children,  
solemn throne of Majesty,  
house of refuge, temple of Christ,  
way to life, lily of chastity.  
Hail, spouse of Christ,  
in bloom with lovable dignity,  
humble handmaid,  
All beautiful and worthy of honor,  
no woman was or can be like you.  
We acclaim you venerable;  
your spirit is pure – your heart simple,  
your body spotless.  
You are obliging and forgiving,  
dear to God and loved above all.  
He who experiences you, ardently desires you,  
he still thirsts for your sweetness,  
and will learn to rest in your arms,  
to love and to praise you.

*Alphonsus of Toledo, 7th century*

● GUANELLIAN READING

**2R:** From the book “O Father! O Mother!” Second Course by  
Blessed Aloysius Guanella

The venerable old man who comes before us today was desolate. Simeon was just and was waiting for the redemption of Israel. It pained him to find himself rich in good works since he waited only for the source of salvation. He found himself facing evil when he wished only the delight

of virtue. He complained in his heart, when he discovered at the door of the temple, a quiet and modest woman coming toward him. "She" exclaimed Simeon, "is the mother of the Savior!" The Blessed Virgin placed the infant Jesus in his arms. Adoration and affection had no end in the heart of that holy old man. He raised his eyes to heaven and said: "Now, O Lord, let your servant die in peace, because my eyes have seen the Savior." Then he burst forth in hymns of praise to Jesus and of affection to Blessed Mary. We who live in sadness like holy Simeon recalling the numerous crimes on earth, we who like that holy old man find ourselves in a hardened earth due to detestable vices, let us turn to Mary, that she may console us, and she will bless us. Let us learn to invoke her frequently and to give her the gift of devout homage. We are before Mary, who takes us by the hand, to give to whoever desires him for their salvation, her Divine Son and Savior.

### *Silent Reflection*

- FOR LIFE

L: Today in your prayer to Mary, you will recognize her as "co-redemptrix, mediatrix, hope of salvation and of life," because she offers us "Jesus, the sun of salvation."

- CONCLUSION (page 9)

- INTENTION FOR THE DAY

God of salvation,

you have given us your only begotten Son,  
— grant that Christians may look to the future with serenity and hope, trusting in the intercession of Mary and in the saving power of Christ the Redeemer.

# 6<sup>th</sup> DAY

## Mediatrice of salvation

*Let us love our Lady of Providence:  
let us love Mary and speak to all of  
Mary, because she is the Mother of  
all and the way to ascend to the grace  
of her Divine Son Jesus.*

Bl. A. Guanella

*Visual presentation:* icon or statue of Mary, Mother of Providence;  
a container of wine.

- INTRODUCTION (page 5)

- READER

**L:** Let us introduce our celebration today with the enlightening words of John Paul II, in the encyclical “Redemptoris Mater” (21): “Mary is present at Cana in Galilee as the Mother of Jesus, and in a significant way she contributes to that “beginning of signs” which reveal the messianic power of her Son... It is certain that the event already quite clearly outlines the new dimension, the new meaning of Mary’s motherhood... The description of the Cana event outlines what is actually manifested as a new kind of motherhood according to the spirit and not just according to the flesh, that is to say, “Mary’s solicitude for human beings,” her coming to them in the wide variety of their wants and needs. At

Cana in Galilee there is shown only one concrete aspect of human need, apparently one of small importance. "They have no wine." But it has a symbolic value: this coming to the aid of human needs means, at the same time, bringing those needs within the radius of Christ's messianic mission and salvific power. Thus, there is a mediation: Mary places herself between her Son and humanity in the reality of their wants, needs and sufferings. "She puts herself in the middle," that is to say, "she acts as a mediatrix not as an outsider, but in the position of mother." She knows that, as such, she can point out to her Son the needs of humanity, and in fact, she "has the right" to do so. Her mediation is thus in the nature of intercessions in that Mary "intercedes for humanity."

- HYMN AND PRAYER TO MARY (*as in the Introduction*)

- CANTICLE

From the Song of Songs

(4:16; 5:1)

*They have no more wine (Jn 2:3)*

**1R:** Awake, O north wind, and come, O south wind!

Blow upon my garden  
that its fragrance may be wafted abroad.

Let my beloved come to his garden,  
and eat its choicest fruits.

**2R:** I come to my garden, my sister, my bride;

I gather my myrrh with my spice,  
I eat my honeycomb with my honey,  
I drink my wine with my milk.

Eat, friends, drink,  
and be drunk with love.

**All:** Glory...

## ● BIBLICAL READING

**1R:** A reading from the holy gospel according to St. John (2:1-11)

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

### *Silent Reflection*

## ● RESPONSORIAL

**R:** As a mother consoles her son, so I will console you, says the Lord; from Jerusalem, city which is dearest to me, help will come to you. You will see and your heart will rejoice.

**V:** In Sion I will give salvation, in Jerusalem my glory.

**R:** You will see and your heart will rejoice.

*Or:*



**All:** O Holy Mary, aid the suffering,  
help those who lack faith,  
pursue the weak.  
Pray for the people,  
intervene for the clergy,  
intercede for consecrated women.  
May those who celebrate your remembrance,  
experience your generous help.  
Listen to the voice of those who pray,  
and satisfy their desire.  
Intercede for your people,  
you who merited  
to carry the Redeemer  
of the world,  
He who lives and reigns forever.

*Filbert of Chartres, 11th century*

## ● GUANELLIAN READING

**2R:** From the book "In the Month of Flowers" by Blessed Aloysius Guanella

Mary enters the house of the wedding couple of Cana joyfully. She has Jesus with her and she trusts the time will be spent for a good purpose. Now the wedding couple meet Mary and Jesus. The couple themselves graciously receive Jesus through Mary. It was to their benefit to recommend themselves to Jesus through Mary! If you pray to Jesus through Mary, how many benefits you will obtain for this life, how many for eternal life!

Do not doubt that God will listen to you. Watch Blessed Mary. She discovers that the wine was running out. She sees embarrassment on the faces of the couple and has pity on them. She draws near Jesus and whispers, in his ear, "They have no wine." She said nothing more. Mary knew very well that this alone would be enough.

When you pray, revive your faith. Mary expressed her desire and was immediately heard. You will be likewise. But remember heavenly graces descend, only in proportion that you ask for them, and that you thank God for them heartily. Heavenly lights descend at the hour of prayer. They descend above all at the moment that you, like the wedding couple, permit Jesus to enter your heart in the Most Holy Sacrament. In that solemn moment you who receive the flesh of the Son, receive also the presence of Mother Mary, because the blood of the Son is that of the Mother.

### *Silent Reflection*

- FOR LIFE

L: Take a moment to intercede Jesus through Mary Most Holy

- CONCLUSION (page 9)

- INTENTION FOR THE DAY

O God, Father of love,

in Mary you have given us an attentive and concerned Mother,

— look at every one of our communities and on all the families of the world, that trusting in you they may experience your paternal providence and your powerful intercession.

# 7<sup>th</sup> DAY

## Queen of martyrs

*Like Mary, you must plant in the center  
of your heart the cross of Jesus Christ.*

Bl. A. Guanella

*Visual presentation:* a Crucifix. A burning lamp will symbolize the presence of Mary at the foot of the cross.

- INTRODUCTION (page 5)

- ACCLAMATION OF PRAISE

**L:** Blessed be God in every age,  
now and always and forever.

**All:** And blessed are you, Mary, Queen of  
martyrs; joined to the Passion of  
Christ, you have become our Mother,  
a sign of hope in our sorrow.

- READING

**L:** Let us venerate the cross on which our Lord Jesus Christ died and redeemed the human race (pause for silent prayer). Mary stood near the cross, the new tree of life, Mother of the Lord, the chalice overflowing with love and sorrow. The sword pierced her heart, so that her faith and her obedience may repair the damage caused by the incredulity and disobedience of Eve.

It is the hour of the new creation, the hour in which, like the pains of birth, the Church is born. John is entrusted to Mary; Mary is consigned to John. It is the first fruit of the new people born from the cross of Christ. And you, O Mother, in John, accepted and became mother of all humanity, "new maternity generated by your faith and by your love, through your participation in redemptive love of the Son" (*Lumen Gentium*: 53, 58), (*Redemptoris Mater*, 23). And we, your children, generated by the blood and by the Spirit, like John, accept you: precious heredity in the journey of faith, loving presence in our life, we invite you to stop near the infinite crosses of humanity, to seek comfort and hope of salvation.

- HYMN AND PRAYER TO MARY (*as in the Introduction*)

- CANTICLE

From the Song of Songs

(8:3-5)

*Your mother (Eve) was the cause of your death under a tree, under the tree of the cross I have given you life* (St. John of the Cross, *Spiritual Canticle B*, 23, 5).

**1R:** O that my left hand were under my head,  
and that his right hand embraced me!  
I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem,  
do not stir up or awaken love  
until it is ready.

**All:** Who is that coming up from the wilderness,  
leaning upon her beloved?

**2R:** Under the apple tree I awakened you.  
There your mother was in labor with you;  
there she who bore you was in labor.

**All:** Glory...

● BIBLICAL READING

**1R:** A reading from the holy gospel according to St. John (19:25-27)  
... Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

*Silent reflection*

● RESPONSORIAL

**R:** Mary stood near the cross of her Son. With fortitude she faced the martyrdom of heart.

**V:** The sword of sorrow pierced her soul.

**R:** With fortitude she faced the martyrdom of heart.

*Or:*

**All:** An innumerable multitude,  
saved by her merits and prayers,  
one day will acclaim her  
in celebration...  
May we find ourselves in their number,  
O clement, O loving, O sweet Mary,  
so that when the day of wrath,  
tribulation and anguish arrives,  
we may not be punished  
for our faults, but through  
your merit, O Lady,  
may we be judged worthy of mercy

by Him who ascended to the Father  
to prepare a place for his servants.

*Amedeo di Losanna, XI-XII century*

*Or:*

**All:** Under your protection we seek refuge,  
Holy Mother of God;  
do not despise the supplications  
of us who are in trial,  
but free us from every danger,  
O glorious and Blessed Virgin.

● GUANELLIAN READING

**2R:** From the book "In the Month of Flowers" by Blessed Aloysius Guanella

Consider now with what fortitude Mary supported the sacrifice of her divine Son. When the sun hid its light and darkness covered the earth, and Jesus' hair was disheveled, and he sweat in agony, Mary could have distanced herself from the scene. However, it is written that Mary stayed beside the cross at all times. She stayed when Jesus, raising his eyes said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Mary stayed when he turned to John to say: "This is your Mother;" and to her "This is your son." Then Mary resigned herself to losing Jesus to receive John. What does it seem to you? What agony to the heart of such a mother! To lose Jesus, the Son of God, to have John, the son of Zebedee. You would willingly follow the divine Savior to the wedding of Cana or to Tabor or to the sepulcher of the Resurrection or to the hill of the Ascension. But that must not be enough for you. You must follow Jesus to Calvary. On Calvary, Mary appears to be a sorrowful mother without end. Her eyes were bleeding, and still she does not

cease to look at her Jesus. She measures the extent of his agony, she perceives his suffering, she sees him breathe heavily and drop his head on his chest. She hears a voice that says: "Consummatum est" and then a sigh that penetrates heaven and earth. The Most Holy Soul of the Redeemer was already gone from his virginal body. Jesus remained bloodless on the wood of the cross. And Mary? Mary felt in his cross all the agonies of death, but she could not die. It would have been a relief to her heart to be able to die beside her Jesus. And you who complain for the evils of life, tell me, have you suffered until now even to blood? Does it seem to you that your sorrows can in some way be compared to the sorrows of Mary? But if you feel you have not supported much until now, be comforted in supporting more in the future. Embrace immediately and willingly those crosses that Providence entrusts to you every day. Mary is a sorrowful mother even to the end. Mary is there and becomes queen of all martyrs of the Lord.

### *Silent Reflection*

- FOR LIFE

Love Jesus strongly and embrace heartily the cross of our Savior

- CONCLUSION (page 9)

- INTENTION FOR THE DAY

Father of life,

look with love on the poor, the unfortunate, the sick,  
the dying,

— because the whole world becomes an altar and sacrifice  
of propitiation in Christ.

# 8<sup>th</sup> DAY

## Mother of the Church

*Most Holy Mother, save my brothers  
and sisters in the Congregation, save  
the whole Church!*

Bl. A. Guanella

*Visual presentation:* bring to the altar the icon or statue of Mary and the Easter candle. At the singing of the Magnificat, place some incense in the thurible.

- INTRODUCTION (page 5)

- READING

**L:** Re-united in the name of the Father, in the communion of the Holy Spirit and in the grace of the Risen Christ to glorify Mary together, Mother of Divine Providence and Mother of the Church, we wish today to place our “yes” with the “yes” of Mary, the woman who by the power of the Holy Spirit realized fully her consecration as Virgin and teaches us the secret of her fruitfulness as Mother.

To her we entrust the whole Church; with her we open our heart to the joy of the Holy Spirit, as the apostles did on the day of Pentecost.

*Silent prayer to the Holy Spirit*

- HYMN AND PRAYER TO MARY (*as in the Introduction*)



● CANTICLE

From the Song of Songs

(4:8-11)

*The Spirit and the bride say: "Come" (Ap 22:17)*

**All:** Come with me from Lebanon, my bride,  
Come with me from Lebanon!

**1R:** Depart! from the peak of Amana,  
from the peak of Senir and Hermon,  
from the dens of lions,  
from the mountains of leopards.

**2R:** You have ravished my heart,  
my sister, my bride,  
you have ravished my heart  
with a glance of your eyes,  
with one jewel of your necklace.

**1R:** How sweet is your love, my sister, my bride,  
how much better is your love than wine,  
and the fragrance of your oils  
than any spice!

**2R:** Your lips distill nectar, my bride,  
honey and milk are under your tongue;  
the scent of your garments is like the scent of Lebanon.

**All:** Come with me from Lebanon, my bride,  
Come with me from Lebanon!  
Glory...

● BIBLICAL READING

**1R:** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:12-14; 2:1-4)

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey

away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves in prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each one of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

### *Silent Reflection*

#### ● RESPONSORIAL

**R:** You are all children of God for your faith in Christ Jesus: God, in fact, has sent into our hearts the Spirit of His Son who cries: Abba, Father.

**V:** He has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of strength, of love and wisdom.

**R:** He has sent into our hearts the Spirit of His Son who cries: Abba, Father.

*Or:*

Blessed are you, Church, because you are mystery!

Blessed are you, Church, because you are the people of God!

Blessed are you, Church, for your hierarchy!

Blessed are you, Church, for your laity!

Blessed are you, Church, for your sanctity!

Blessed are you, Church, for your religious!  
Blessed are you, Church, for your eternal destiny!  
Blessed are you, Church, for your Mother Mary!

*Cardinal Carlo M. Martini*

- GUANELLIAN READING

**2R:** From the book “In the Month of Flowers” by Blessed Aloysius Guanella

Mary, in the midst of the assembly of Apostles, brought about the beginning of the formation of the Church of Jesus Christ. She earnestly supplicated the Holy Spirit for guidance in the way to proceed as directed by the Apostles of the Divine Savior.

When God calls you to some work for his glory, remember that the Holy Spirit will descend into the midst of your heart. You will follow by praying and God the Holy Spirit will direct your prayers to that very holy end that he knows. Behold Mary most holy – She moves her lips, and the one who supplicates in her heart is the Spirit of God. Who can deny that a prayer of the Holy Spirit will obtain anything? In the heart of Mary it obtains the beginning and then the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Blessed Mary was destined by Jesus at the foot of the cross to be the mother of all humanity. Behold, as universal mother, she has the greatest care for everyone. All the care that mothers have for their children cannot compare to the care which Mary provides for her children.

*Silent Reflection*

- FOR LIFE

Today offer a moment of fervent prayer

*The following act of faith in Mary, Mother of the Church is suggested. May be prayed as a chorus or individually.*

- I believe in Mary, daughter of our race and our sister.
- I believe in Mary, the virgin of the Fiat, who spoke to God also for us.
- I believe in Mary, Mother of the Redeemer, bearer of salvation.
- I believe in Mary, my Mother, and the provident mother of humanity.
- I believe in Mary, assumed into heaven, where she watches over us, prays for us, and cares for us.
- I believe in Mary, Mother of the pilgrim Church, present, and working in the Christian community.
- I believe in Mary, model and guide of perfection.
- I believe in Mary, in her role of evangelizer, as pray-er, and as faithful servant of the Lord.
- I believe in Mary, Mother of Humanity, hope of the world, queen of the Universe.
- I believe in Mary, who is victorious in the battle against evil and with her children wants to continue to sing and to live in the Church and with the Church the “Magnificat.”

● CONCLUSION (page 9)

● INTENTION FOR THE DAY

Lord,

- through the intercession of Mary, model of faith and of motherly love for the whole Church on its journey,
- protect her religious leaders, priests, deacons, religious and laity, so that their announcement of faith may correspond to their witness of life.

# 9<sup>th</sup> DAY

## Sign of secure hope

*We have in heaven a merciful mother,  
Mary Most Holy: let us be devoted to  
her, and she will give us that virtue  
which is so necessary to us.*

Bl. A. Guanella

*Visual presentation:* offer a crown of stars to Our Lady, or give a card in the form of a star to each participant with the invitation to imitate a virtue of Mary.

- INTRODUCTION (page 5)

*about our Mother*

- READING

**L:** On this day which precedes the solemnity of Mary, Mother of Divine Providence, we want to fix our gaze on her place in glory, which throws the light of hope on our path: "The Immaculate Virgin preserved free from all stain of original sin, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, when her earthly life was over, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things... Taken up into heaven she did not lay aside this saving office, but by her merciful intercession continues to bring the gifts of eternal salvation. Likewise she shines forth on earth, until the day of the Lord shall come, a sign of certain hope and comfort to the pilgrim People of God" (*Lumen Gentium* 59, 62, 68).

Let us implore Mary, Queen of Heaven, our Mother and Lady, help and protection in the necessities of the body, in the trials of the soul, in the difficulties of our personal, communitarian, family, and social life, in the anxieties of our apostolic work. Let us put in her arms our hearts and our life, and above all the pledge of walking in her path to reach also to where she has preceded us, clothed with the glory of her Son "Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death" (*Lumen Gentium*, 59). Let us now open our spirit to song and our soul to praise.

- HYMN <sup>to Mary</sup> AND PRAYER TO MARY (*as in the Introduction*)

- CANTICLE <sup>Prayer to Mary</sup>

*o need* From the Song of Songs <sup>Instead a song (6:4-10)</sup>  
*can be sung* ... the marriage of the Lamb, has come, and his bride has made herself ready (Ap 19:7)

1R: "Who is this that looks forth like the dawn,  
 fair as the moon,  
 bright as the sun,  
 terrible as an army with banners?"

2R: You are beautiful as Tirzah, my love,  
 comely as Jerusalem,  
 terrible as an army with banners.

1R: My dove, my perfect one, is the only one,  
 the darling of her mother,  
 flawless to her that bore her.

2R: The maidens saw her and called her happy;  
 the queens and concubines  
 also and they praised her.

All: Glory...

## ● BIBLICAL READING

**1R:** A reading from the book of Revelation by St. John the Apostle (12:1; 21:1-5)

A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and on her head a crown of twelve stars. Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying:

“See the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them as their God,  
they will be his people,  
and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain  
will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.”

*— Father Sermon*

*Silent Reflection*

## ● RESPONSORIAL

**R:** All beautiful and glorious, the Virgin Mary passes from this world to Christ; she shines among the saints like the sun among the stars.

**V:** The angels are joyful, the archangels rejoice for the exaltation of Mary.

**R:** She shines among the Saints like the sun among the stars.

Or:

Let us rejoice with the Mother of God,  
let us unite in chorus with the angels  
and celebrate this feast of feasts:  
the Assumption of the ever Virgin.  
On earth she was the treasure and example of virgins;  
in heaven she intercedes for all.  
Favored by God, she obtains for us gifts of the Spirit  
and with her words she teaches wisdom.  
Our earth, the Mother of God always Virgin, has blossomed.  
While she was on earth, she watched over all,  
she was like a universal providence for all the faithful.  
Assumed into heaven, interceding for us,  
she became a secure refuge for the human race,  
with her son and God.

*Teotekno of Livia, VI-VII century*

## ● GUANELLIAN READING

**2R:** From the book "O Father! O Mother! 1st and 2nd course,  
by Blessed Aloysius Guanella

On this day the saints in heaven and the just on earth exult.  
A creature of earth reaches heaven and for this reason there  
is jubilation among the blessed. The earth aims at the  
triumph of a sister who has reached glory and enjoys  
gladness in thinking of the honor and protection which  
comes from her to us. She who ascends on this day is not a  
common creature, she is a woman of great excellence,  
glorious and Immaculate. She is the mother of the Word  
Incarnate. The Lord Most High has pledged himself to  
honor Mary in her admirable transit. That mortal body did  
not remain a prey to corruption for one moment, because  
she gave her flesh and blood to the most holy Body of the  
Redeemer. For this the Lord sends multitudes of angelic



bands, so that they may take up the soul and body of the Immaculate ~~Body~~ <sup>Body</sup> of Mary. So in Paradise there is an unutterable triumph. On earth there is joy... because Mary enjoys ancient, full, and sublime honor.

We find ourselves on this solemn day with a lively flame of love. This flame of holy love is Blessed Mary. Becoming aware of her, she cannot contain in herself the whirl of flames, because they are a holy love which are consumed. On this most solemn day in an act of purest love she leaves this earth. "To heaven, to heaven," cries the spirit of Mary and she is directed there. "To heaven, to heaven!" cries the soul of Mary to her body and she calls on the virtue of the Almighty. He sends the angels to lift her uncorrupted body. Mary ascends on high in body and soul and celebrates in exclaiming: "To paradise, to paradise, where the flame of love is greater!" Meanwhile she looks on us from on high. Is it possible that she does not regard the earth that sheltered her for 72 years? Mary looks on her own who still live here below. Is it possible that the heart of a mother is not tender at the sight of her children who are miserable? How much it moves her, how much! We ourselves are moved at the great love of Mary. The Blessed Virgin Mary finds love in herself, in God, and in the depths of the earth. She does all for Love.

We immediately see that the most beautiful consolation of children is to contemplate that flame of love that burns ardently in the heart of a mother. Mary loves us with the same love with which she loves God, therefore, she loves us with intense love, with genuine love. It is rare that a child comprehends all the affection of his parents. Impossible is it then that a child of earth fully understands the choice of Mary, our mother and the Mother of God. But we will not cease to repeat: "Mary, we are happy that you have so great a heart to love. We are happy for you, as we celebrate the event for ourselves, we exult in it for the glory that it derives from God and the blessed in paradise."

- FOR LIFE

**L:** Look to paradise, where life is true and blessed: You are a child of saints, is it possible that sadness dwells in you? Recommend yourself to the Virgin and say to her: "Sweet Heart of Mary, be my salvation." Then comfort your soul in thinking of the true life that awaits you where Jesus reigns with Mary and his saints.

- CONCLUSION (page 9)

- INTENTION FOR THE DAY

God of glory,  
to your children journeying toward heaven,  
— grant us to trust with sure hope in the guidance and  
intercession of Mary, our mother, with her heart  
inflamed with love for God and for all humanity.

# SOLEMNITY OF OUR LADY OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE

- REMEMBERING (*communitarian or individually*)

*From the homilies of the Servant of God, Monsignor Aurelio Bacciarini of Nov. 16, 1924 and Nov. 15, 1925, at the Mother House, S. Maria di Lora (Como) to the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence.*

**L:** Let us celebrate “the Feast of Our Lady of Providence.” She is the Madonna of Father Aloysius Guanella, our Father: how many times he knelt here and looked at this Madonna, as a son looks at his Mother in the hour of need and sorrow! She is the Patroness of the houses of Father Aloysius Guanella, wherever they are, here or beyond the sea, they raise their voice in prayer to this gentle Mother, and they come in spirit to this altar, where devotion to our Lady of Providence has its most tender and living center.

Draw near to this altar, at the feet of this wonderful Lady. What can we do today, but unite our voices with the voices of all our houses and ask for grace and mercy? Therefore there comes spontaneously to my lips the beautiful prayer of the Church: “Holy Mary, help souls that lack courage, strengthen the weak, pray for all people, accompany the clergy and intercede for consecrated women.”

## *Silent Reflection*

**All:** Holy Mary, aid the suffering,  
help those who lack faith,  
guide the weak,  
pray for all people,  
accompany the clergy and intercede  
for consecrated women.

Let those who celebrate  
your memory experience  
your generous help.

- R:** Yes, all. Not only those who reside in the house, not only the sons and daughters of Father Guanella, scattered everywhere, who surround your altars, but to all, clergy and people, just and sinners, the faithful and the unbelievers, may they have a ray of your grace and your goodness, and may all approach you, and Jesus, and through Him reach heaven, to bless you eternally, O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

● HYMN: *Salve, Regina*

- R:** Is not the joy we experience around the altar of Our Lady of Providence perhaps too much? How beautiful this altar is! It seems that Our Lady has descended from paradise in the midst of her daughters... Can you imagine what she says to you today? It seems to me, first of all, that Our Lady tells you those beautiful words she said to Bernadette Soubiroux, when she appeared to her at Lourdes: "O my daughter, remember that I will not reward you in this life, but in the next!" So do not trust in the world... look to Paradise. O Father Aloysius! it was you who said: "O Paradise! When will the hour of Paradise come?" Give us your detachment from the vanities of this life, from the things of earth! Grant that our hopes, like yours, may never be in the world, but in the Lord and in Paradise! Again: what does Our Lady of Providence say to her daughters? She says this: "The time of my suffering was short, but the crown eternal." Yes, the suffering is short, but the joy eternal, paradise eternal, of which St. Paul says: "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has the mind understood the infinite reward that God has prepared for those who love him in this life." Engrave in your heart these great maxims

of faith; and they will help you to cut off earthly attachments and to fortify yourselves in the holy way of the cross. And finally, what does Our Lady of Providence say to her daughters? She says: "My foundations are in the holy mountains. I have placed my feet on the pinnacle of sanctity. If you want to be worthy of me, you must follow me with daily and incessant effort, to the mount of perfection."

If a religious congregation tends to perfection, it is a garden in the Church of God, it is an image of paradise, it is a delicious oasis in this very unfortunate land ploughed by numerous injustices. It is a great consolation of the heart of God, it is a cenacle of the Holy Spirit, where they are prepared for eternity, the bands that will sing the loudest praises of the Lamb, Jesus, King of the Saints.

If instead a congregation lives without the fervor of perfection, without thirst for sanctity, it will be a garden of useless herbs, it will be a family of listless souls who will give little glory to the Lord and will profit very little for the glory of the Kingdom of God. Daughters of St. Mary of Providence, act so that your Congregation may always walk toward perfection - toward sanctity.

### *Silent Reflection*

**All:** Holy Virgin, look on us your Daughters:

Grant that we may follow you on the way of perfection!

Crush under your feet and extinguish

in us every attachment to the world,

so that we may live, for him alone,

for the Kingdom of his Heart,

for the souls redeemed by Him!

## THE LITANY OF OUR LADY OF PROVIDENCE

**L:** Lord, have mercy on us,  
Christ, have mercy on us,  
Lord, have mercy on us,

**All:** Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

**L:** Chosen one,  
Beloved daughter,  
Spouse filled with grace,  
House of the Lord,  
Mount of holiness,  
Abyss of perfection,

**All:** pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

**L:** Enclosed garden,  
Sealed fountain,  
Flame of divine love,  
Immaculate Conception,  
Full of grace,  
Mary, all beautiful and holy,

**All:** pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

**L:** Descendant of the royal race  
of David,  
Virgin of Nazareth,  
Spouse of Joseph,  
Dawn of salvation,

**All:** pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

Woman who saves,  
Our life and our salvation,

pray for us.  
pray for us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

**L:** Handmaid of the Lord,  
Blessed One who gave us the Savior,  
Disciple of the Lord,  
Heavenly image of divine fervor,  
Model of divine love,  
Perfume of virtue,

**All:** pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

**L:** Immaculate and holy Virgin,  
Unique and perfect Virgin,  
Blessed Virgin,  
Fruitful Virgin,  
Virgin and Mother of God,  
Mother of Jesus Christ,

**All:** pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

**L:** Woman of faith,  
Woman of hope,  
Woman of love,  
Woman most admirable,  
Woman of humility and patience,  
Model of mothers and families,

**All:** pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.  
pray for us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

**L:** Mother of humanity,  
Our Mother and sister,

**All:** pray for us.  
pray for us.

Provident Mother,	pray for us.
Mother who loves,	pray for us.
Mother with a generous heart,	pray for us.
Mother most powerful,	pray for us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

<b>L:</b> Advocate of sinners,	<b>All:</b> pray for us.
Mother of mercy,	pray for us.
Mother who seeks her lost children,	pray for us.
Untiring pilgrim,	pray for us.
First evangelizer,	pray for us.
Mother trusting in the Providence of God,	pray for us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

<b>L:</b> Omnipotent by grace,	<b>All:</b> pray for us.
Co-redemptrix of the human race,	pray for us.
Mediatrice of salvation,	pray for us.
Mother who consented to the death of Jesus,	pray for us.
Mother who followed Jesus even to the Cross,	pray for us.
Queen of martyrs,	pray for us.

**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

<b>L:</b> Mary, you let yourself be guided by the Spirit,	<b>All:</b> pray for us.
Mary, sign of predestination,	pray for us.
Mary, glorious in the Church,	pray for us.
Mary, gate of heaven,	pray for us.
Mary, who sits on a throne of peace in Paradise,	pray for us.



**All:** Our Lady of Providence,  
protect us.

**L:** Lord, Savior of all,  
Christ, light that illumines  
the world,  
Lord, bread that sustains  
the life of humanity,

**All:** have mercy on us.

have mercy on us.

have mercy on us.

# HYMNS TO OUR LADY OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE

---

## 1. O MARIA DI PROVVIDENZA

---

O Maria, o Maria di provvidenza,  
tu che vedi e provvedi a tanti mali,  
deh, distendi le tue grandi ali  
su di noi e sopra il nostro Istituto.  
La tua santa protezione  
ci difenda dai mali e dai perigli.  
Coi consigli e col tuo santo amor  
ci guidi nella vita e ci proteggi ognor.

O Madre nostra, ascoltaci:  
veglia sempre su di noi,  
proteggi le tue figlie  
ed i loro superiori.

---

## 2. CANTO ALLA PROVVIDENZA

---

Serviti di quest'umile ancella,  
affinché si prodighi per te.  
Tu che sei bimbo, Redentore e Padre,  
sono qui, ti abbraccio con amor.

**Rit.** Dolce Madre della Provvidenza,

che avesti cura del Signore,  
nel tuo soave manto, dondoli e contempli  
il Re celestial che ti esaltò.

Ben lo so che hai altri fratelli,  
lascia che mi curi anche di loro.  
Sai quanti rischi se sono lontani,  
o Signor, li amo come te. **Rit.**

Guarda a noi, o Madre della vita,  
gli occhi tuoi son teneri d'amor.  
Tu sei sollievo per chiunque ti implori,  
donaci la tua gran carità. **Rit.**

---

### 3. O DOLCE NOME MARIA, MARIA

---

O dolce nome Maria, Maria,  
Speme e conforto dell'anima mia,  
col cuor sul labbro finché vivrò,  
o dolce nome t'invocherò.

Nel mar crudele di questa vita,  
se la mia nave adra smarrita.  
A te mia stella me volgerò,  
o dolce nome t'invocherò.

Tu sei la stella che fuga i venti,  
che doma e placa l'onde frementi.  
Che mille e mille navi salvo,  
o dolce nome t'invocherò.

---

## 4. MARIA DI PROVVIDENZA

---

Madre di Provvidenza,  
Noi t'offriamo il cuore,  
noi t'offriamo il fiore,  
Madre di purità.

**Rit.** Portaci tutti in cielo,  
Madre di Provvidenza,  
Regina di clemenza,  
Prega per noi Gesù!

Maria ti chiameremo,  
nell'ora del dolore,  
quando il nostro cuore,  
l'affanno troverà.

---

## 5. DOLCE CARA MADRE NOSTRA

---

Dolce cara Madre nostra.  
Di Provvidenza tu sei Regina.

**Rit.** Madre ascoltaci, prega per noi,  
prega per noi, prega per noi.

O Maria di Provvidenza  
Madre nostra Ausiliatrice.  
Nelle delizie e nel dolore,  
Tu sei rifugio al peccatore.

---

## 6. O LADY OF PROVIDENCE, HAIL

---

O come to the throne of grace.  
O come to the heart most pure,  
To Mary our hope in life,  
In whom salvation is sure.

**Chorus:** O Lady of Providence, hail,  
Immaculate Mother of Grace,  
O pray for us, help us today,  
Thou hope of the human race.

The Rosary white and gold,  
We take from thy Virgin hand,  
A pledge of the power of God,  
To heal and strengthen our land.

Immaculate heart we kneel,  
To consecrate all to Thee,  
The present, its pain and joy,  
The future, all it may be.

---

## 7. HAIL TO THEE O LADY OF PROVIDENCE

---

Hail to thee O Lady of Providence  
Queen and Mother hear our prayer,  
Bless us, guard us, ever keep us,  
In thy providential care.

O Lady of Providence,  
O pray for us, pray for us.  
Queen and Mother, pray for us.  
Queen and Mother, pray for us.

## DIVINE PROVIDENCE

You should acknowledge the Providence of God in all your actions, both great and small. Acknowledge her in every good impulse of your mind and every emotion of your heart. Acknowledge her in every action you undertake for you are a daughter of a great mother, Divine Providence.

Never do the least harm to this mother. Greet her as the queen of your house, and do not bring into it anyone not acceptable to her. Nor should you close your door to anyone whom you know to be dear to Divine Providence. Never do her harm, no matter how slight. Do not put into the last place in the house those who should be first, that is, the poorest and the most abject and abandoned. For the Lord is the guardian of orphans and of the abandoned.

Have no fear of hardship or poverty, for the invitation, yes, even the command, to prefer the most abandoned, comes from God, who expressly said, "Receive those who are abandoned and look after them for my sake, and I will reward you." Do no harm to Divine Providence and do not prefer to her a person introduced by the powerful and the rich. Such individuals should not place human pretenses above the will of God. According to a divine statement, "Those who recognize Jesus Christ in the needy and poverty-stricken are most blessed because the Lord will free them on the Last Day."

You who are apostles of love and missionaries "you who have the courage to give the most and best you possess to the needs in body and spirit" you should not doubt that anything will be lacking to you. You are from this time forward assured of these things. The Most High who clothes the flowers in glorious hues will also clothe you, and he who nourishes the birds and feeds the worms of the earth will not forget you. Are you not of

far greater value than the birds of the air and the worms of the earth? You who have left your country and relatives and everything to follow Jesus Christ will receive a hundred times more and will have as the greatest gift eternal life.

FATHER ALOYSIUS GUANELLA

## CHAPLET OF THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

**L:** — O God, come to my assistance.

**All:** — O Lord, make haste to help me.

**L:** — Glory...

**L:** Heart of Jesus,

Heart of Mary,

Glorious St. Joseph,

Seraphic St. Theresa,

Blessed Aloysius Guanella,

Blessed Clare Bosatta,

Most Holy Providence of God,

*(10 times)*

**All:** have pity on us.

pray for us.

pray for us.

pray for us.

pray for us.

pray for us.

provide for us.

Recite (3) Hail Mary's after the fifth decade

**All:** Most Holy Trinity, through the precious Blood of Jesus,  
I ask for this grace...

Holy Mary, angels and saints of Heaven, intercede for us.

**L:** Glory...

**All:** Eternal Father, aid us; Son of God, provide for us; Holy  
Spirit, inspire us.

Heart of Jesus, source of mercy, true tabernacle of the Most



Holy Trinity, with great trust we present our petitions to  
you. Grant us the grace we ask for.

Angel of God...

Glory... (*in honor of St. Joseph*)

Eternal rest...

## NOTES

- \* For the Guanellian publications, "In the Month of Flower" and "O Father! O Mother!" see Aloysius Guanella, "Works, Writings for the Liturgical Year," V. 1, Guanellian House of Studies, Editor - New Frontiers, Rome, 1992.
- \* The daily practice (FOR LIFE) were taken from the publication, "In the Month of Flowers."
- \* For "Father Guanella speaks to us of Our Lady of Providence" and for the traditional chaplet of the Providence of God, see the booklet "Our Lady of Divine Providence," House of Divine Providence, Como, 1946.
- \* The Litany of Our Lady of Providence has been compiled from the publication, "O Father! O Mother!" 1st, 2nd and 3rd Course, and "In the Month of Flowers" (previously cited).
- \* The invocations to Our Lady of Providence have been taken from the Guide of the Daughters of St. Mary of Providence, 1911, (A. Guanella) writings for the Congregations, V.4, Guanellian Center of Studies, Editor - New Frontiers, Rome, 1988, pp. 410.
- \* The homilies of the Servant of God, Bishop Aurelio Bacciarini have been published under the title, "The Praises of Our Lady of Providence," 2nd Edition, by the Printing Press of Artigianelli, Como.
- \* The maxims of Blessed Aloysius Guanella have been taken from "The Little Way" Ed. Ancora, Milan 1962.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction . . . . .	page 5
Conclusion . . . . .	» 9
1 <sup>st</sup> day: Immaculate full of grace . . . . .	» 13
2 <sup>nd</sup> day: Listening Virgin . . . . .	» 18
3 <sup>rd</sup> day: Servant of the redemption . . . . .	» 23
4 <sup>th</sup> day: Virgin Mother of God . . . . .	» 28
5 <sup>th</sup> day: Offering Virgin . . . . .	» 33
6 <sup>th</sup> day: Mediatrix of salvation . . . . .	» 38
7 <sup>th</sup> day: Queen of Martyrs . . . . .	» 43
8 <sup>th</sup> day: Mother of the Church . . . . .	» 48
9 <sup>th</sup> day: Sign of secure hope . . . . .	» 53
Solemnity of Our Lady of Divine Providence . . . . .	» 59
The Litany of our Lady of Providence . . . . .	» 62
Hymns to Our Lady of Divine Providence . . . . .	» 66
Notes . . . . .	» 74

3F PHOTOPRESS SNC  
di Fantasticini Stefano & F.lli  
Viale di Valle Aurelia, 105  
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March 1998