

MYSTERIA GAUDIOSA

“Significat igitur ‘gaudiosa’ ponderare mysteria, nempe in ultimas intrare rationes significationemque christianæ lætitiæ intimam. Significat etiam oculos in veritatem concretam dirigere Incarnationis mysterii atque etiam in mysterii salvifici doloris prænuntiationem obscuriorem. Eo ducit nos Maria ut gaudii christiani secretum comprehendamus et reminiscamur christianum nomen in primis esse *euangelion*, ‘nuntium bonum,’ quod medium suum elementum immo ipsum suum magisterium in Christi persona, qui est Verbum caro factum, unicus orbis Salvator” (Ioannis Pauli PP. II, Epistula Apostolica *Rosarium Virginis Mariæ*, 16 Octobris 2002).

The Joyful Mysteries are said on Mondays and Thursdays, and on the Sundays from Advent until Lent.

When the Luminous Mysteries are observed, the Joyful Mysteries are said on Saturdays instead of Thursdays.

Primum Mysterium Gaudiosum

ANNUNTIATIO

Et ingressus ad eam dixit: «Ave, gratia plena, Dominus tecum». Et ait angelus ei: «Ne timeas, Maria; invenisti enim gratiam apud Deum. Et ecce concipies in utero et paries filium, et vocabis nomen eius Iesum» (Luc. 1:28, 30-31).

Secundum Mysterium Gaudiosum

VISITATIO

Et factum est ut audivit salutationem Mariæ Elisabeth, exsultavit infans in utero eius, et repleta est Spiritu Sancto Elisabeth et exclamavit voce magna et dixit: «Benedicta tu inter mulieres, et benedictus fructus ventris tui» (Luc. 1:41-42).

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

“To meditate upon the ‘joyful’ mysteries, then, is to enter into the ultimate causes and the deepest meaning of Christian joy. It is to focus on the realism of the mystery of the Incarnation and on the obscure foreshadowing of the mystery of the saving Passion. Mary leads us to discover the secret of Christian joy, reminding us that Christianity is, first and foremost, *euangelion*, ‘good news,’ which has as its heart and its whole content the person of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, the one Saviour of the world” (Pope John Paul II, Apostolic Letter *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, 16 October 2002).

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The First Joyful Mystery

THE ANNUNCIATION

And he came to her and said, “Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!” And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus” (Luke 1:28, 30-31).

The Second Joyful Mystery

THE VISITATION

And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!” (Luke 1:41-42).