

READINGS AND PRAYERS
FOR
QUINCEAÑERAS

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord came to me thus:

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I dedicated you,
a prophet to the nations I appointed you.

“Ah, Lord God!” I said,
“I know not how to speak; I am too young.”

But the Lord answered me,
Say not, “I am too young.”
To whomever I send you, you shall go,
whatever I command you, you shall speak.
Have no fear before them,
because I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord.

Then the Lord extended his hand and touched my mouth, saying,
See, I place my words in your mouth!
This day I set you over nations and over kingdoms,
To root up and to tear down,
to destroy and to demolish, to build and to plant.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Mary set out

and traveled to the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,

the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
"Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.

Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be fulfilled."

And Mary said:

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
and has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children forever."

Mary remained with her about three months
and then returned to her home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Priest or Deacon:

We commend our cares and concerns to God, through the person of Christ. Our response to the following prayers is “Lord, hear our prayer.”

Reader:

For our Holy Father, Francis, our bishop Kevin, our parish priests, and all those who have dedicated their life to the service of God's people, that they may continue to follow faithfully their vocation. We pray to the Lord.

All respond: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader:

For our civic rulers that they may perform their duties with justice and compassion for the good of all. We pray to the Lord.

All respond: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader:

For N._____, who is celebrating her quinceañera today, that she may continue with happiness and generosity in the way of the Lord. We pray to the Lord.

All respond: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader:

For the youth, particularly the “faith companions” of N._____, that they may have the necessary strength to live according to their Christian principles. We pray to the Lord.

All respond: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader:

For the sick and the poor in our community, that they may experience God's love for them as those around them respond to their needs. We pray to the Lord.

All respond: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader:

For all our faithful departed, that they may enjoy the vision of God in heaven. We pray to the Lord.

All respond: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader:

For all our personal intentions that are deep in our hearts and for all those for whom we should pray, that they may receive the graces they need. We pray to the Lord.

All respond: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest or Deacon:

Loving Creator,
we come before you with faith and love
to praise your goodness and to acknowledge our need.
We ask you to hear the prayers we make
in the name of Jesus the Lord.

All respond: Amen.

**AN ACT OF THANKSGIVING AND
OF PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO LEAD A CHRISTIAN LIFE**

Quinceañera:

Heavenly Father,

I thank you for the gift of life
for creating me in your image and likeness
and for calling me to be your daughter through baptism.

Thank you for sending your Son Jesus to save me
and your Holy Spirit to sanctify me.

To that which in your goodness and love
you will for me, I say “yes,”

With your grace I commit myself
to serve my brothers and sisters all my life.

Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, I dedicate myself to you.

Since you are my model of faith,
help me to continue learning from you what I need
to be a Christian woman.

Help me to hear the Word of God as you did,
holding it in my heart and loving others,
so that, as I walk with Jesus in this life,
I may worship Him with you in all eternity.

Amen.