

The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made flesh

And dwelt among us

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray

Pour forth we beseech you, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts; that we to whom the incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an angel, may, by his passion and cross be brought to the glory of his resurrection.

Through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.



Why do we pray the Angelus?

We pray the Angelus to remember when the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary with a very important message from God, she had been chosen to be the mother of Jesus. Jesus is truly God and comes as a human person, a baby. Mary said to the angel that she would do whatever He asked of her.

What do the words of the Angelus mean?

The words we pray tell the story and we repeat Mary's reply to the angel. It is like a conversation. The Hail Mary, reminds us again of Angel Gabriel's visit and also of Elizabeth's greeting when she welcomed Mary.

Verse 1: The Angel appears and gives the message, explaining to Mary that her baby will be special and the power of the Holy Spirit will be upon her.

Verse 2: Mary replies with perfect obedience and courage. She knew difficulties would lie ahead but she trusted completely in God.

Verse 3: Mary's response brought about the Incarnation. God came to earth as a real human being, lived, died and rose again.

In the final prayer, we ask God to help us live as Jesus taught us and pray that we will be happy with him forever in heaven.