

## Reading for Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary - May 31st

### Reading 1, *Romans 12:9-16*

<sup>9</sup> Let love be without any pretence. Avoid what is evil; stick to what is good. <sup>10</sup> In brotherly love let your feelings of deep affection for one another come to expression and regard others as more important than yourself. <sup>11</sup> In the service of the Lord, work not halfheartedly but with conscientiousness and an eager spirit. <sup>12</sup> Be joyful in hope, persevere in hardship; keep praying regularly; <sup>13</sup> share with any of God's holy people who are in need; look for opportunities to be hospitable. <sup>14</sup> Bless your persecutors; never curse them, bless them. <sup>15</sup> Rejoice with others when they rejoice, and be sad with those in sorrow. <sup>16</sup> Give the same consideration to all others alike. Pay no regard to social standing, but meet humble people on their own terms. Do not congratulate yourself on your own wisdom.

### Responsorial Psalm, *Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6*

<sup>2</sup> Look, he is the God of my salvation: I shall have faith and not be afraid, for Yahweh is my strength and my song, he has been my salvation.'

<sup>3</sup> Joyfully you will draw water from the springs of salvation

<sup>4</sup> and, that day, you will say, 'Praise Yahweh, invoke his name. Proclaim his deeds to the people, declare his name sublime.

<sup>5</sup> Sing of Yahweh, for his works are majestic, make them known throughout the world. <sup>6</sup> Cry and shout for joy, you who live in Zion, For the Holy One of Israel is among you in his greatness.'

## **Gospel, Luke 1:39-56**

<sup>39</sup> Mary set out at that time and went as quickly as she could into the hill country to a town in Judah. <sup>40</sup> She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> Now it happened that as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

<sup>42</sup> She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? <sup>44</sup> Look, the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. <sup>45</sup> Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

<sup>46</sup> And Mary said: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; <sup>48</sup> because he has looked upon the humiliation of his servant. Yes, from now onwards all generations will call me blessed, <sup>49</sup> for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, <sup>50</sup> and his faithful love extends age after age to those who fear him. <sup>51</sup> He has used the power of his arm, he has routed the arrogant of heart. <sup>52</sup> He has pulled down princes from their thrones and raised high the lowly. <sup>53</sup> He has filled the starving with good things, sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup> He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his faithful love <sup>55</sup> - according to the promise he made to our ancestors -- of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever. <sup>56</sup> Mary stayed with her some three months and then went home.