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## 1st of January

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (B)

#### Collect

**O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary bestowed on the human race the grace of eternal salvation, grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.**

#### 1st. READING (Numbers 6:22-27)

The LORD said to Moses, 23 "Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them: 24 ""The LORD bless you and keep you; 25 the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; 26 the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace." '27 "So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8)

R. May God bless us in his mercy./  
May God have pity on us and bless us; may he let his face shine upon us. So may your way be known upon earth; among all nations, your salvation./ May the nations be glad and exult because you rule the peoples in equity; the nations on the earth you guide./ May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you! May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

#### 2nd. READING (Gal 4:4-7)

But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent his Son, made of a woman, made under the law: That he might redeem them who were under the law: that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because you are sons, God hath sent the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying: Abba, Father. Therefore now he is not a servant, but a son. And if a son, an heir also through God.

#### GOSPEL (Lk 2:16-21)

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told to them. When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

#### Prayer over the Offerings

**O God, who in your kindness begin all good things and bring them to fulfillment, grant to us, who find joy in the Solemnity of the holy Mother of God, that, just as we glory in the beginnings of your grace, so one day we may rejoice in its completion. Through Christ our Lord.**

#### Prayer after Communion

**We have received this heavenly Sacrament with joy, O Lord: grant, we pray, that it may lead us to eternal life, for we rejoice to proclaim the blessed ever-Virgin Mary Mother of your Son and Mother of the Church. Through Christ our Lord.**