

Celebrating Quince Años

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QUINCE AÑOS GUIDELINES

*“I CHOSE YOU BEFORE I GAVE YOU LIFE, AND BEFORE YOU WERE BORN I
SELECTED YOU TO BE A PROPHET TO THE NATIONS.” (JEREMIAH 1:5)*

The Quince Años tradition is rooted in the history, traditions and celebrations of our ancestors with Hispanic origins. It is a time to join the family in thanking God for the gift of life and in challenging our youth to live their baptismal call to service within the community. We welcome your family to our parish community for the celebration of your Quince Años. The following guidelines are parish policy for all who will celebrate this joyous event. These are not suggestions but are the requirements for all who choose to celebrate at St. Anthony's

1. In order to celebrate a Quince Años, the parent(s) must be registered and active parishioners of St Anthony of Padua Catholic Community for at least six (6) months prior to beginning this process, Preparation should begin before the candidate's 14th birthday.
2. The candidate, together with their parent(s) must complete a Quince Años Preparation Program. The padrinos and faith companions (Chambelanes y damas) are encouraged to attend these sessions also.
3. The candidate must be baptized in the Catholic faith and have made her/his First Reconciliation (Confession) and First Communion before preparing for their Quince Años. The candidate must be enrolled in a program of Religious Education and/or Confirmation preparation. (*Edge/Lifeteen*)
4. Since a Quince Años is a commitment to one's faith and the reaffirmation of the promises made at Baptism, it is an important religious celebration. We hope that the young people chosen as escorts will have an appreciation of the commitment being made by their friend and will be able to participate fully and respectfully in the liturgy. The style of dress chosen will be appropriate for any ceremony to be held in a sacred place.
5. Fees involved in the Quince Años Celebration:
 - a. Use of Church: \$500.00 (includes the rehearsal the night before & the celebration day)- this is due at the time the date is set.
 - b. Clergy honorarium: (suggested amount) \$200.00
 - c. Altar server: \$25.00 cash only
 - d. Musicians: we provide a pianist and cantor
 - i. \$200.00 - pianist
 - ii. \$150.00 - cantor
 - iii. Any outside musicians **MUST BE** approved by the STAOP Music Director, Natalie Giardina: ngiardina@staoptw.org 832-482-4125, and **MUST BE** familiar with the cues of celebrating a Catholic Mass.

6. We highly recommend that the candidate and their escorts receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) before the day of the Quince Años.
7. The role of the candidate's escort is more proper to the Fiesta than to the Mass. Therefore, the Quinceañera(o) is to be accompanied by their parent(s) in the procession, on entering and leaving, not by their escort.
8. It is a tradition for the candidate, along with their parent(s) to present flowers to Our Blessed Mother, represented in our church by the statue of Our Lady. This is to be done in the side chapel and the statue is not to be moved.
9. The throwing of flower petals, rice, confetti, bird seed, etc., is not permitted on Church property, inside or outside of the church.
10. Some appropriate gifts and symbols for the Quince Años celebration are: Bible, Crucifix, Rosary, Medal and flowers for presentation to our Lady. *Secular gifts should be reserved for the social celebration.*
11. Video recording and photography are permitted; however, video taping can only be done from the right or left side of the sanctuary at the floor level on a tripod stand. No photographer may enter the sanctuary space to take photos. (The sanctuary is the area that is raised above the main floor). Please make sure your family is aware of this policy. No artificial lighting is to be used and the use of flash photography is prohibited during the ceremony.

While it is a tradition that young ladies celebrate their Quince Años but here at St. Anthony's we are open to celebrating with young men as well.

FLOWERS, CANDLES, DÉCOR AT THE QUINCE AÑOS CEREMONY

The church building of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Community is a sacred place where we gather, we pray, and we celebrate. The architectural beauty of our church and the furnishings of the celebrations of liturgy are designed to express a sense of unity and “noble simplicity”. Decorations used at Quinceaneras should be appropriate to the space and a quality that reflects the dignity of Baptism (the Quinceañera Mass is a reaffirmation of Baptismal promises).

The following policies are provided in order that the beauty of the church be respected and maintained. Give these policies to your florist.

1. No decorations are required. The natural beauty of the church and its décor already enhance the dignity of the Quince Años ceremony.
2. Décor for weekend Masses including special seasonal décor (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter) may not be changed or moved. During these times, additional décor should be appropriate to the season. Please consult with the Liturgy Department for this information.
3. All existing plants, flowers and pedestals in the church building are to be left in place unless specific permission has been given to remove them. Contact the Liturgy Department for permission. If moved, return all items to their original place after the ceremony.
4. If flowers or plants are to be left in the Church after the Quince Años ceremony, please inform the Liturgy Department.
5. **FLOWERS:** One (1) or two (2) arrangements may be used in the sanctuary space (altar area). Sanctuary flowers should be large enough to be visible but never obstruct the action of the liturgy.
6. **POTTED PLANTS:** Plants used must have waterproof pot covers or place in saucers to protect the floor. Suggestion: Use potted plants instead of flowers and then use the potted plants in the home.
7. **PEW DECORATIONS:** Pews must not be scratched. Uses of plastic clips, tape, velcro, staples, clamps, floral pins, etc., are not allowed. Bows, greenery or floral sprays may be used only attached with a ribbon loop.

8. **FLOWER PETALS:** Flower petals (real or artificial) may not be thrown or dropped down in the aisles. Rice, birdseed, confetti, flower petals, etc., may not, under any circumstances, be thrown on the church grounds.
9. **RUNNERS:** Runners are not allowed.
10. **CANDLES:** Existing sanctuary candles are used in the Quinceañera ceremony.
11. The Church is available for floral setup on earlier than one (1) hour before the Quince Años Mass. Florists, please respect this schedule.
12. Florists are responsible to reclaim any pedestals, etc., they provide, **immediately after the ceremony.** The church should be left in the same order it was found. **Florists are also responsible for the clean-up of any left-over petals, twigs, etc.**

MUSIC AT THE QUINCE AÑOS CEREMONY

1. Music adds a special dimension to any celebration. This is especially true for a Quince Años. All music used during your Quince Años liturgy should reflect not only the love of the family, but also the love of God.
2. Careful attention must be given to the text of all songs to assure that their meaning is not superficial. Approved secular music may be used before the ceremony begins, as the guests are being seated. Once the ceremony has begun, only religious songs may be used. Congregational singing is encouraged. Your guests should be an active part of the ceremony.
3. Please plan to meet with the Director of Music or their assistant the time you set the date for the celebration of the liturgy. They will be happy to help you prepare the Quince Años liturgy and insure that all procedures are followed. Nothing should be considered finalized until after this meeting. The Director of Music will provide you with information concerning the use of a parish choir, cantors or other instruments for your Quince Años.
4. The Parish has several excellent cantors available. The cantor will be expected to sing the responsorial psalm the Gospel acclamation, and the Sanctus (Holy, Holy), Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen, the Lamb of God, in addition to the songs chosen throughout the liturgy.
5. Musicians from outside of the parish are allowed but must have experience playing a Catholic Mass, and must speak with the Music Director first and be approved.
6. If a string quartet or other instrumental group (Mariachis) is providing your music, a fee must be paid to one of our sound engineers. He/She will be present at the liturgy to set up microphones or assist with any other equipment that may be needed.
7. No recorded music is allowed.
8. If, at any point in the Quince Años preparation process, anyone changes his/her personal cell or business phone number or address, *please let the parish office know immediately!* We will be phoning you with important questions during the Quince Años preparation process.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE BE ABLE TO REACH YOU.

IF YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGES, PLEASE NOTIFY US.

Celebrating the Liturgy of the Eucharist for the Quince Años
Order for Quince Años Mass

Preparation before you arrive at the Church
Gathering Rites/Procession
Penitential Rite
Opening Prayer
Liturgy of the Word
Homily
Renewal of Baptismal promises
Profession of Faith
Presentation of Sacred Gifts to the Quinceañera
Prayer of Consecration
Presentation of Flowers to an image of Our Blessed
Virgin Mother
Prayer of the Faithful
Liturgy of the Eucharist
Prayer over the Gifts
Prayer after Communion
Dismissal/Blessing

Opening Prayer:

Presider/Sacerdote: God and Father of all gifts,
we praise you as the source of all life.
Teach us to be thankful for all
that brings us new life.
Help us to love you with all our hearts and all our strength.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God forever and ever.

ALL: Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD
**(Please refer to the appendix of readings)*

Readings for Mass (*choose one from each of the four categories below*)

Reading I

Ecclesiastes 11: 7-9 and 12:1-2
Judith 13: 18-20
Isaiah 7:10-14
Jeremiah 1: 4-10

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144
Ps 123
Ps 121
Ps 116
Ps 34
Ps 103
Ps 146

Reading II

Galatians 4:4-7
Galatians 3:27-29
Ephesians 1:3-6
1 John 4:7-11

Gospel

Luke 1: 26-38
Luke 1:46-55
Matt. 25:1-13
Luke 10: 38-42

Homily

(When the homily is over all are invited to stand. The Quinceañera's parents and Godparents light the baptismal candle and stand beside her for the renewal of Baptismal Promises)

Renewal of the Baptismal Promises

My brothers and sisters, I invite you to join this young lady in renewing her baptismal promises. In doing so she expresses of her own free will her belief in God and the Church.

Presider/Sarcedote: Do you reject sin so as to live in freedom as god's children?
Presider/Sarcedote: Do you reject the glamor of evil and refuse to be mastered by sin?
Presider/Sarcedote: Do you reject those values that place individual wants above community needs?
Presider/Sarcedote: Do you reject the false values which see money and material things as the supreme good?

Profession of Faith

Presider/Sarcedote: Do you believe in God the father almighty creator of heaven and earth?
Presider/Sarcedote: Do you believe in Jesus Christ his only Son, Our Lord, who was born of the virgin Mary, was crucified, died and was buried rose from the dead and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?
Presider/Sarcedote: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting?
Presider/Sarcedote: ***This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church We must always be proud to profess our faith in Christ, Jesus, Our Lord.***

All: Amen.

Presentation of Sacred Gifts to the Quinceañera

REMEMBER: *Appropriate Gifts to present during the mass include only:
Bible, Crucifix, Rosary and a Holy Medal*

Prayer of Consecration

*(The following prayer is to be recited aloud by the Quinceañera. The presider will assist you with a microphone at this time. **It is important that you prepare to pray this prayer and practice it.**)*

**Thank you, Almighty God, for creating me in your image.
Thank you for sending your only Son, Jesus Christ, to save me,
and your Holy Spirit to make me holy.
For your love and kindness I want to respond, YES,
and with your help to dedicate myself more
generously to serve you by being of service
to my brothers and sisters.**

**I also dedicate myself to you, Mary, Mother of Jesus. You are my model of faith.
From you, may I continue to learn what it is to be a woman and a Christian.
Help me to hear the Word of God as your did,
to keep it in my heart, and to embrace God's love.**

All: Amen

Presentation of Flowers to an image of Our Blessed Virgin Mother/Ramo a La Virgen Maria

*(The Quinceañera will take a **bouquet of flowers** to place before the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary. She goes to the statue of Our Lady with both parents, if possible and there, together they all pray the "Hail Mary".)*

Prayer of Faithful Quince Años Mass

- ❖ For Francis our pope and Daniel our bishop and all the people of God to remember that we show care and concern for each other. We pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**
- ❖ For our brother and sisters who live in poverty and hunger and oppression that all may come to celebrate at the Lord's table of creation. We pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**
- ❖ For (name) who celebrates her 15th birthday this year, may she continue to grow in faith and love before you, our God. We pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**
- ❖ For her parents and family who have supported her in her journey in life. We pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**
- ❖ For her friends and relatives who stand with her, bless them for the strength and friendship they have shown. We pray to the Lord. **ALL: Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Liturgy of the Eucharist follows as usual.

(Those who are prepared to receive Holy Communion SHOULD come forward. The celebration of this mass does not take the place of the Sunday mass, the Saturday Vigil or the Sunday evening mass. The participants in this liturgy should remember that they should also attend mass on Sunday.)

Closing Prayer

Presider/Sarcedote: Let us pray.
God, Loving Father,
in this spiritual food you nourish us with the sacrifice in the saving action of Christ your Son. By this gift of strength and joy sustain us in your service and bring us your gift of eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Final Blessing

Dismissal



These gifts would be appropriate for the Celebration of the Mass
(a Holy Bible, a Crucifix, a Rosary and a Holy Medal)

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Appendix of Readings for the Celebration of the Quince Años Liturgy

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES (1st READINGS)

Ecclesiastes 11: 7-9 and 12:1-2

Light is sweet! and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun. However many years a man may live, let him, as he enjoys them all, remember that the days of darkness will be many. All that is to come is vanity.

Rejoice, O young man, while you are young and let your heart be glad in the days of your youth. Follow the ways of your heart, the vision of your eyes; Yet understand that as regards all this God will bring you to judgment.

Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come And the years approach of which you will say, I have no pleasure in them; Before the sun is darkened. and the light, and the moon, and the stars, while the clouds return after the rain;

Judith 13: 18-20

Then Uzziah said to her: "Blessed are you, daughter, by the Most High God, above all the women on earth; and blessed be the Lord God, the creator of heaven and earth, who guided your blow at the head of the chief of our enemies. Your deed of hope will never be forgotten by those who tell of the might of God. May God make this redound to your everlasting honor, rewarding you with blessings, because you risked your life when your people were being oppressed, and you averted our disaster, walking uprightly before our God." And all the people answered, "Amen."

Isaiah 7:10-14

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God; let it be deep as the nether world, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then he said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough for you to weary men, must you also weary my God? Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

Jeremiah 1:4-10

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.

PSALMS

(The psalms are the Songs of Faith of the Hebrew people. The psalm should be sung by the Cantor at mass and not recited. The text below are the Psalms from the New American Bible. Musical versions may differ.)

PSALM 144

Blessed be the LORD, my rock, who trains my hands for battle, my fingers for war;

My safe guard and my fortress, my stronghold, my deliverer, My shield, in whom I trust, who subdues peoples under me.

LORD, what are mortals that you notice them; human beings, that you take thought of them?

They are but a breath; their days are like a passing shadow.

LORD, incline your heavens and come; touch the mountains and make them smoke.

Flash forth lightning and scatter my foes; shoot your arrows and rout them.

Reach out your hand from on high; deliver me from the many waters; rescue me from the hands of foreign foes. Their mouths speak untruth; their right hands are raised in lying oaths.

O God, a new song I will sing to you; on a ten-stringed lyre I will play for you.

You give victory to kings; you delivered David your servant. From the menacing sword deliver me; rescue me from the hands of foreign foes. Their mouths speak untruth; their right hands are raised in lying oaths.

May our sons be like plants well nurtured from their youth, Our daughters, like carved columns, shapely as those of the temple.

May our barns be full with every kind of store. May our sheep increase by thousands, by tens of thousands in our fields; may our oxen be well fattened.

May there be no breach in the walls, no exile, no outcry in our streets.

Happy the people so blessed; happy the people whose God is the LORD.

PSALM 123

A song of ascents. To you I raise my eyes, to you enthroned in heaven.

Yes, like the eyes of a servant on the hand of his master, Like the eyes of a maid on the hand of her mistress, So our eyes are on the LORD our God, till we are shown favor.

Show us favor, LORD, show us favor, for we have our fill of contempt.

We have our fill of insult from the insolent, of disdain from the arrogant.

PSALM 121

A song of ascents. I raise my eyes toward the mountains. From where will my help come?

My help comes from the LORD, the maker of heaven and earth.

God will not allow your foot to slip; your guardian does not sleep.

Truly, the guardian of Israel never slumbers nor sleeps. The LORD is your guardian; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

By day the sun cannot harm you, nor the moon by night.

The LORD will guard you from all evil, will always guard your life.

The LORD will guard your coming and going both now and forever.

PSALM 116

I love the LORD, who listened to my voice in supplication,

Who turned an ear to me on the day I called.

I was caught by the cords of death; the snares of Sheol had seized me; I felt agony and dread.

Then I called on the name of the LORD, "O LORD, save my life!"

Gracious is the LORD and just; yes, our God is merciful.

The LORD protects the simple; I was helpless, but God saved me.

Return, my soul, to your rest; the LORD has been good to you.

For my soul has been freed from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

I shall walk before the LORD in the land of the living. I kept faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted!"

I said in my alarm, "No one can be trusted!"

How can I repay the LORD for all the good done for me?

I will raise the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.

I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.

Too costly in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful.

LORD, I am your servant, your servant, the child of your maidservant; you have loosed my bonds.

I will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.

I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people,

In the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

PSALM 34

Of David, when he feigned madness before Abimelech, who forced him to depart. I will bless the LORD at all times; praise shall be always in my mouth.

My soul will glory in the LORD that the poor may hear and be glad.

Magnify the LORD with me; let us exalt his name together.

I sought the LORD, who answered me, delivered me from all my fears.

Look to God that you may be radiant with joy and your faces may not blush for shame.

In my misfortune I called, the LORD heard and saved me from all distress.

The angel of the LORD, who encamps with them, delivers all who fear God.

Learn to savor how good the LORD is; happy are those who take refuge in him.

Fear the LORD, you holy ones; nothing is lacking to those who fear him.

The powerful grow poor and hungry, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

Come, children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Who among you loves life, takes delight in prosperous days?

Keep your tongue from evil, your lips from speaking lies.

Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. The LORD has eyes for the just and ears for their cry.

The LORD'S face is against evildoers to wipe out their memory from the earth.

-When the just cry out, the LORD hears and rescues them from all distress.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted, saves those whose spirit is crushed.

Many are the troubles of the just, but the LORD delivers from them all.

God watches over all their bones; not a one shall be broken.

Evil will slay the wicked; those who hate the just are

condemned.
The LORD redeems loyal servants; no one is
condemned whose refuge is God.

PSALM 103

Bless the LORD, my soul; all my being, bless his holy
name!
Bless the LORD, my soul; do not forget all the gifts of
God,
Who pardons all your sins, heals all your ills,
Delivers your life from the pit, surrounds you with love
and compassion,
Fills your days with good things; your youth is renewed
like the eagle's.
The LORD does righteous deeds, brings justice to all
the oppressed.
His ways were revealed to Moses, mighty deeds to the
people of Israel.
Merciful and gracious is the LORD, slow to anger,
abounding in kindness.
God does not always rebuke, nurses no lasting anger,
Has not dealt with us as our sins merit, nor requited us
as our deeds deserve
As the heavens tower over the earth, so God's love
towers over the faithful.
As far as the east is from the west, so far have our sins
been removed from us.
As a father has compassion on his children, so the
LORD has compassion on the faithful.
For he knows how we are formed, remembers that we
are dust.
Our days are like the grass; like flowers of the field we
blossom.
The wind sweeps over us and we are gone; our place
knows us no more.
But the LORD'S kindness is forever, toward the faithful
from age to age. He favors the children's children
of those who keep his covenant, who take care to fulfill
its precepts.
The LORD'S throne is established in heaven; God's
royal power rules over all.
Bless the LORD, all you angels, mighty in strength and
attentive, obedient to every command.
Bless the LORD, all you hosts, ministers who do God's
will.
Bless the LORD, all creatures, everywhere in God's
domain. Bless the LORD, my soul!

PSALM 146

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, my soul; I shall praise
the LORD all my life, sing praise to my God while I
live. Put no trust in princes, in mere mortals powerless
to save. When they breathe their last, they return to the
earth; that day all their planning comes to nothing.

Happy those whose help is Jacob's God, whose hope is
in the LORD, their God,
The maker of heaven and earth, the seas and all that is
in them, Who keeps faith forever,
secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the
hungry. The LORD sets prisoners free; the LORD
gives sight to the blind. The LORD raises up those who
are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.
The LORD protects the stranger, sustains the orphan
and the widow, but thwarts the way of the wicked.
The LORD shall reign forever, your God, Zion, through
all generations! Hallelujah!

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES (2nd READINGS)

Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his
Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom
those under the law, so that we might receive adoption.
As proof that you are children, God sent the spirit of his
Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you
are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also
an heir, through God.

Galatians 3:27-29

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have
clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor
Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is not
male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's
descendant, heirs according to the promise.

Ephesians 1:3-6

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual
blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before
the foundation of the world, to be holy and without
blemish before him. In love he destined us for adoption
to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the
favor of his will, for the praise of the glory of his grace
that he granted us in the beloved.

1 John 4:7-11

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of
God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and
knows God.
Whoever is without love does not know God, for God
is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us:
God sent his only Son into the world so that we might
have life through him. In this is love: not that we have
loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as
expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we
also must love one another.

Luke 1: 26-38

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.

He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.

And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him. He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart.

He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, according to his promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Matthew 25:1-13

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.

Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Luke 10: 38-42

As they continued their journey he entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary (who) sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak. Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me." The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her.