Second Day

Introductory Verse

V/. Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
R/. May it be done to me according to your word.

Reading

Lk 1:35-38 “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.”

Commentary

To be the “handmaid of the Lord” is Mary’s secret to holiness. With these words Mary declares that she does not belong to herself but to the Lord in whom she has placed all her trust.

Mary believes and surrenders herself while advancing in the dark. Her irreversible fiat is expressed as a joyous “yes” to the Father, showing her interior freedom, trust and serenity. She does not understand, nor does she know how her mission will be carried out. With total readiness she freely responds with her “fiat”. From then on, “The will of God will be the light of her life, her peace in the midst of suffering and the source of her joy” (Paul VI).

“May it be done to me...” is the attentive Virgin’s disposition, which receives the divine Word in faith, allowing her to become the Mother of God, begetting the Word in her womb. Hers is an attitude of “acceptance and of service in regard to the divine plan, giving herself in total surrender... this is the attitude all of us consecrated souls should have, after the example of Mary of Nazareth” (cf. VC 18).

This disposition is reflected in our Constitutions: “Our love of God, union with Him and a pure intention of pleasing Him alone will help us acquire the complete and total readiness of Mary: ‘I am the handmaid of the Lord, let what you have said be done to me’.” (C 5).
NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION, August 6th – 14th

Petitions

a) Lord, through the intercession of the attentive, praying, and offering Virgin, we ask for the grace to listen and pray over your divine Word. By remaining faithful to the Gospel and the spirit of our Holy Mother Foundress, may our daily offering be pleasing to you as we dedicate ourselves to our sick brethren.

Hail Mary... Glory to the Father

b) Lord, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary who was steadfast and courageous at the foot of the Cross, we ask that as Servants of Mary, we may understand the value of accompanying our patients and bearing the Good News with your consolation and peace.

Hail Mary... Glory to the Father

c) Lord, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary who was taken up into heaven and glorified above all the choirs of angels and saints, we ask that she look upon all the Servants of Mary with motherly love. May she guide our steps and help us embody the spirit and charism lived by St. Maria Soledad so that, advancing along the path of perfect charity, we may one day come to possess the glory of heaven.

Hail Mary... Glory to the Father

Prayer

Heavenly Father, you willed your Son to be born of the holy Virgin Mary. Through her intercession grant us the grace to serve you with a pure heart, to be ever open to your divine Will, and to be obedient to your Word as she was, so we may serve our patients with joy and dedication. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

A.M.D.G.