

SECOND SECRET

MAY THE INCARNATION of Thine only begotten Son, O Lord, come to help us: He whose birth from a maiden did not spoil but sealed her virginity: may He, on this festival of her Nativity, cleanse us from sin and make our offering pleasing in Thy sight, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth ...

UNIGENITI TUI, Dómine, nobis succúrrat humánitas: ut, qui natus de Vírgine, matris integritátem non mínuit, sed sacrávit; in Nativitátis ejus solénniis, nostris nos piáculis éxuens, oblatiónem nostrum tibi fáciat accéptam Jesus Christus Dóminus noster: Qui tecum vivit et regnat ...

SECOND POSTCOMMUNION

WE have received, O Lord, the Sacraments offered on this yearly feast: grant, we beseech Thee, that they may bestow on us remedies both for this present life and for life eternal. Through our Lord ...

SÚMPSIMUS, Dómine, celebratís ánnuæ votíva sacraménta: præsta, quæsumus; ut et temporális vitæ nobis remédia præbeant, et ætérnæ. Per Dóminum nostrum ...

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At the time of Mary's birth, the whole world was plunged in darkness. The heathen nations were steeped in vice and pride. The Jews, beloved of God, had strayed from Him. Everywhere there was sin and gloom, no bright spot on the face of the earth. But when Mary was born, a light arose amid the darkness: the dawn of the glorious day that was to usher in the Redeemer.

So, too, the darkness of the sinner's soul is dispersed by Mary's holy influence. Where the love of her is born in the soul, all becomes full of light, and Jesus comes to make His habitation there. Mary, in the first hour of her life, brought more glory to God than all the Saints of the Old Testament. In her were made perfect the obedience of Abraham, the chastity of Joseph, the patience of Job, the meekness of Moses, the prudence of Josue. It is because she is the model and pattern of these and all other virtues that she can communicate them to us.

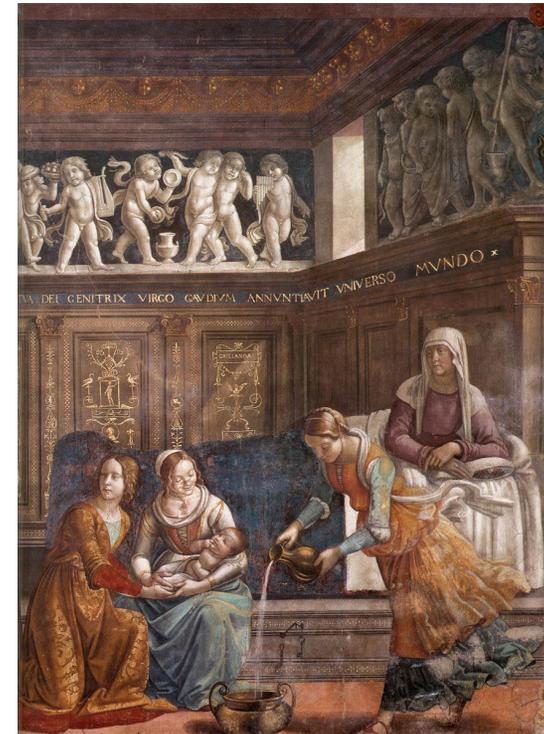
Commentary by Fr. Sylvester Juergens S.M. (1894-1969).

Illustration: *The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary* (detail), 1486-1490, by Domenico Ghirlandaio (1449-1494).

Proper Prayers of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form

ADDENDUM:

COMMEMORATION OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



SECOND COLLECT

FÁMULIS TUIS, quæsumus, Dómine, cœléstis grátiae munus impertire: ut, quibus beátæ Vírginis partus éxstitit salutis exórdium; Nativitátis ejus votiva solénnitas, pacis tríbuat incrementum. Per Dóminum nostrum Jesum Christum Fílium tuum, qui tecum vivit et regnat in unitáte Spíritus Sancti, Deus, per ómnia sœcula sæculórum.

BESTOW upon Thy servants, we beseech Thee, O Lord, the gift of Thy heavenly grace: that as the childbearing of the Blessed Virgin was the beginning of our salvation, so the solemn feast of her Nativity may bring us an increase of peace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ ...

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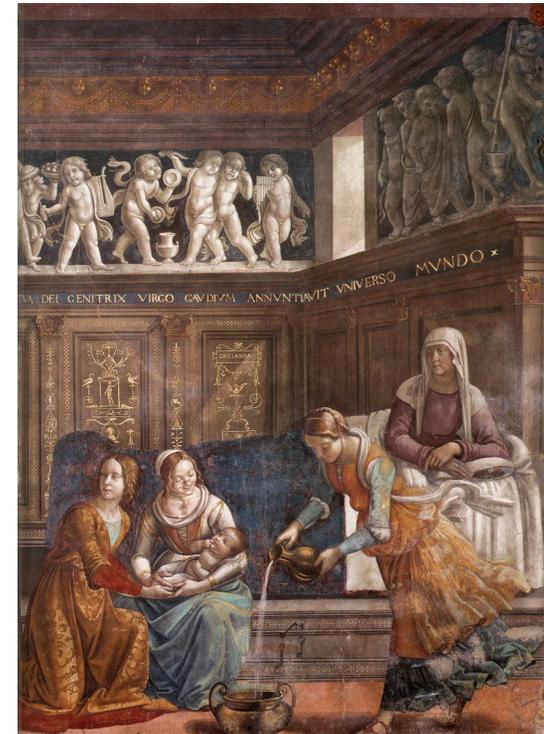
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