

I am celebrating my being  
sweet 15 – 16 – 17  
at the christian community  
of Saint Lucy



My dear Father God, since I was a little girl my parents  
taught me how to love you.  
Today as I feel my life vibrate in my veins, today when I am  
amazed to discover my capacity to love,  
Today when with dreams and Ideals I open myself to the world,  
Today I want to say: Thank you.

## CELEBRATION OF THE GIFT OF LIFE

### THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

Procession – Entrance song.

#### GREETING

We have come together to celebrate the fifteenth birthday of N. As we share in her joy, we also share in her gratitude.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The grace and peace of God our Father, who granted us the gift of life and made us his children through Baptism, be with you all.

**And with your spirit.**

Brothers and sisters let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God' Kingdom:

Lord have mercy.

**Lord have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ have mercy.

**Christ have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you will come in glory with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen**

Let us pray

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise.

Through 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.

**Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet 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!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**I will sing of your salvation.**

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

In your justice rescue me, free me: pay heed to me and save me.

**I will sing of your salvation.**

Be a rock where I can take refuge,

a mighty stronghold to save me;

For you are my rock, my stronghold.

Free me from the hand of the wicked.

**I will sing of your salvation.**

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,

my trust, O Lord, since my youth.

On you I have leaned from my birth,

From my mother's womb you have been my help.

**I will sing of your salvation.**

My lips will tell of your justice and day by day of your help.

O God, you have taught me from my youth

And I proclaim your wonders still.

**I will sing of your salvation.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

If anyone loves me, he will hold to my words,

and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

7:21-29

**Glory to you, o Lord.**

Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on rock. Rain came down, floods rose, gales blew and hurled themselves against that house, and it did not fall: it was founded on rock. But everyone who listens to those words of mine and does not act on them will be like a stupid man who built his house on sand. Rain came down, floods rose, gales blew and struck that house, and it fell; and what a fall it had!

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

### RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

W... when you were still an infant, your parents and godparents took you to be baptized into the new life of Jesus Christ. In your name they made a profession of faith and now that faith has drawn you to this altar. Now the Church asks you to confirm and renew your faith commitment.

Do you reject the clamor of evil and sin, so as to live in the freedom of God's children? **I do.**

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth? **I do.**

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? **I do.**

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? **I do.**



### PRAYER AND CONSECRATION

Heavenly Father, I thank you for the gift of life, for creating me in your image and likeness and for calling me to be your daughter through baptism. Thank you for sending your Son Jesus to save me and your Holy Spirit to sanctify me. To that which in your goodness and love you will for me, I say "yes," With your grace I commit myself to serve my brothers and sisters all my life.

Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, I dedicate myself to you. Since you are my model of faith, help me to continue learning from you what I need to be a Christian woman.

Help me to hear the Word of God as you did, holding it in my heart and loving others, so that, as I walk with Jesus in this life, I may worship Him with you for all eternity. Amen.

**N... may God who has begun this good work in you bring it to completion.**

*Blessing of the crown, rosary, Bible...*



## General Intercessions

Priest: We commend our cares and concerns to God, through the person of Christ, saying: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lector: For all those who have dedicated their life to the service of God's people, that they may continue to follow faithfully their vocation;

We pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For N... who is celebrating her birthday today, that she may continue with happiness and generosity in the way of the Lord; We pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the parents, grandparents and godparents of N... that they may continue to enjoy the fruit of their love in their children;

We pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the youth, particularly the "faith companions" of N... that they may have the necessary strength to live according to their Christian principles;

We pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the sick and the poor in our community, that they may experience God's love for them as those around them respond to their needs;

We pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

For all our personal intentions that are deep in our hearts and for all those for whom we should pray, that they may receive the graces they need;

We pray to the Lord:

**R. Lord, hear our prayer.**

Priest: Loving Creator, we come before you with faith and love to praise your goodness and to acknowledge our need. We ask you to hear the prayers we make in the name of Jesus the Lord.

**Amen.**

**Let us pray:** Loving God, you created all the people of the world and you know each of us by name. We thank you for N... who today celebrates her fifteenth birthday. Bless her with your love and friendship that she may grow in wisdom, knowledge, and grace. May she love her family always and be faithful to her friends. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**



## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.*

**Blessed be God for ever.**

+ Pray, brothers and sisters that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look, we pray, O Lord, on the offerings we make to your majesty, that whatever is done by us in your service may be directed above all to your glory. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- + The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**
- + Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to the Lord.**
- + Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father most holy, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, your Word through whom you made all things, whom you sent as our Savior and Redeemer, incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin.

Fulfilling your will and gaining for you a holy people, he stretched out his hands as he endured his Passion, so as to break the bonds of death and manifest the resurrection.  
And so, with the Angels and all the Saints we declare your glory, as with one voice we acclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

You are indeed Holy, O Lord, the fount of all holiness. Make holy, therefore, these gifts, we pray, by sending down your Spirit upon them like the dewfall, so that they may become for us the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the time he was betrayed and entered willingly into his Passion, he took bread and, giving thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT OF IT, FOR THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.**

In a similar way, when supper was ended, he took the chalice and, once more giving thanks, he gave it to his disciples, saying:

**TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT, FOR THIS IS THE CHALICE OF MY BLOOD, THE BLOOD OF THE NEW AND ETERNAL COVENANT, WHICH WILL BE Poured OUT FOR YOU AND FOR MANY FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.**

+ The mystery of faith.  
**We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of his Death and Resurrection, we offer you, Lord, the Bread of life and the Chalice of salvation, giving thanks that you have held us worthy to be in your presence and minister to you.

Humbly we pray that, partaking of the Body and Blood of Christ, we may be gathered into one by the Holy Spirit. Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with N. our Pope and N. our Bishop and all the clergy.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

**AMEN.**



### THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**  
**Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles: Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance to your will.  
 Who live and reign for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

- + The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And with your spirit.**
- + Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
 Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
 Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

+ The body of Christ. Amen



**Flowers to the Blessed Mother.**

Before the final blessing, the sweet XV-XVII goes in procession with her parents and godparents to offer a bouquet of flowers to the Blessed Mother. The Ave Maria is customarily sung.

### ORACION DESPUES DE LA COMUNION

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray, perfect in us what lies within them, that what we now celebrate in signs we may one day possess in truth.  
 Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

+ The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

+ N., may almighty God bless you in his kindness and pour out saving wisdom upon you.  
**Amen.**

+ May God nourish you always with the teachings of the faith and make you persevere in holy deeds.

**Amen.**

+ And may the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you forever.  
**Amen.**

The Quinceañera tradition celebrates the young girl (la Quinceañera), and recognizes her journey from childhood to maturity. Today's celebrations embrace religious customs, and the virtues of family and social responsibility. The customs highlight God, family, friends, music, food, and dance.

Where the celebration includes the Mass of Thanksgiving, the gifts are presented to the priest for a special blessing. These ceremonial items may include:

**A CROWN:** denotes a "princess" before God and the world; a triumph over childhood and ability to face the challenges ahead.

**A CROSS or MEDAL:** signifies faith - in God, in herself, and in her world.

**A BIBLE (or PRAYER BOOK) - ROSARY:** Important resources to keep the word of God in her life.

**A SHOE:** signifies new life style, in which she walks in her own shoes.

In some Hispanic cultures, the gifts are given to the Quinceañera by her "PADRINOS" (also called godparents or sponsors) specially chosen by the family. The padrinos are formally recognized, take part in the procession into the church and do the presentation of the gifts to the priest for the blessing.



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