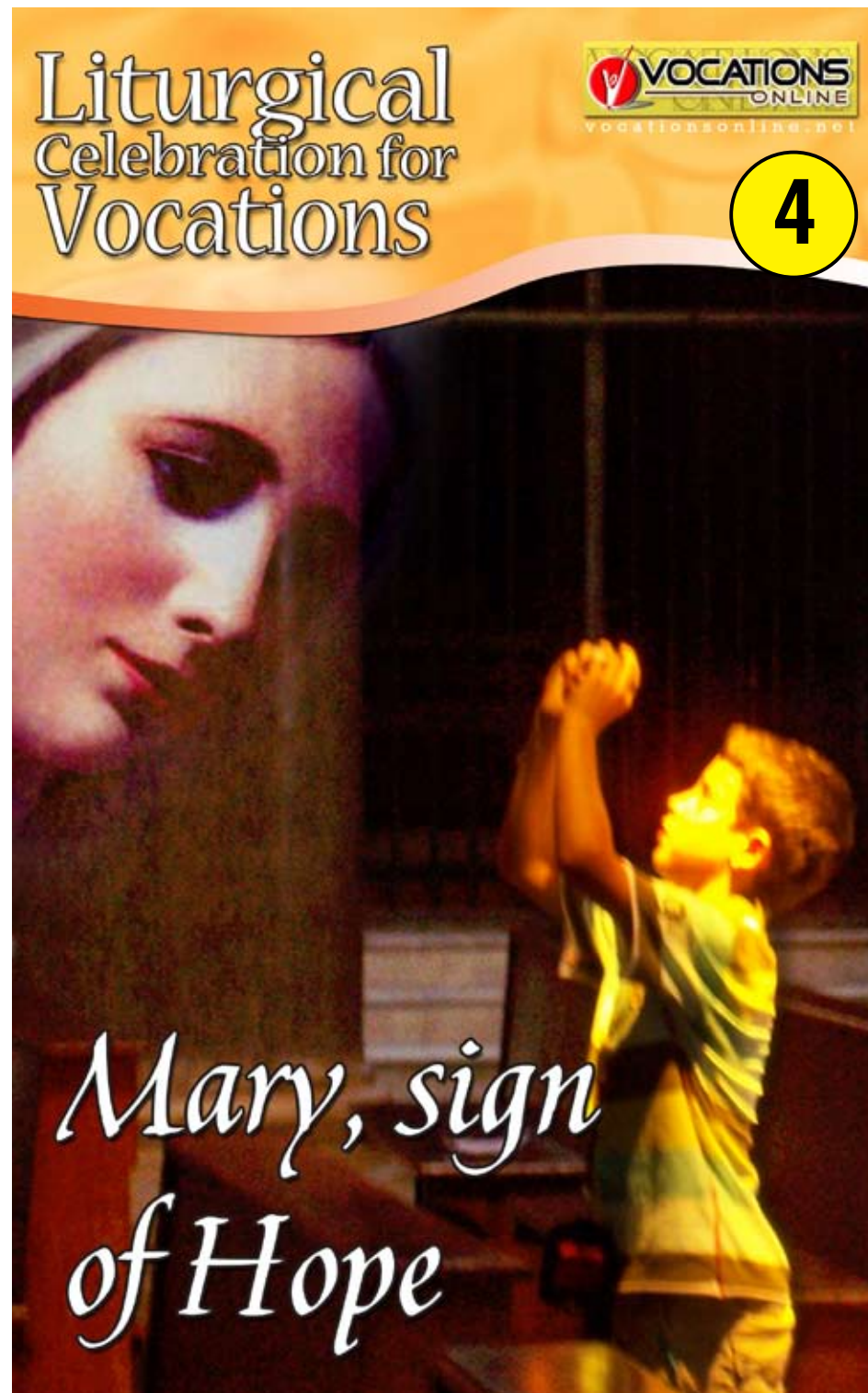


Meditation Song

Guide: Let us kneel and pray together.

All: Mary, Immaculate Virgin, you are the Teacher of every perfection, teach us holy virtues so that we may be pleasing to the God of virtues. Give us living faith, firm hope, ardent charity, prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance. Most humble Virgin, give us humility of heart and deeds. Give us prompt obedience, meekness, patience, and spirit of poverty. Most pure Virgin, make our soul pure so that Jesus may live in us; give us perfect consent to the Divine will and the holy final perseverance. Amen.” (Fr. Annibale Ma Di Francia)

Final Song



Liturgical Celebration for Vocations

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4

Mary, sign of Hope

The image is a cover for a liturgical celebration. It features a warm, golden-brown background. At the top left, the title "Liturgical Celebration for Vocations" is written in a large, stylized, white font with a drop shadow. To the right of the title is a logo for "VOCATIONS ONLINE" with the website address "vocationsonline.net" below it. In the top right corner, the number "4" is enclosed in a yellow circle. The central part of the cover is a photograph showing a close-up of a woman's face on the left, looking down with a serene expression. On the right, a young boy is shown from the side, kneeling and praying with his hands clasped in front of him, illuminated by a soft, golden light. At the bottom of the cover, the text "Mary, sign of Hope" is written in a white, elegant script font.

Proclamation Song

Introduction

Guide: The first page of holy Scripture underline the dignity of humans. Both woman and man have this great mission: to be image of God for each other, an image of his fidelity, his goodness, his tender love.

Reader: From the book of Genesis 1:26-27; 3:14-17; 3:14-15 (seated)

Pause

Guide: The one who will win evil will be Jesus Christ, the new Adam: but the promise of the Savior is introduced by the image of the humble and courageous woman who is set as sign against the evil one, against all those who in arrogance and pride refuse to adore God and will not love their fellowmen. God promises that the offspring of the Woman will manifest all the goodness and faithfulness of God. He will be the visible God and the new Eve will be His companion in her humility purity.

Mary surely lived most intensely the charism of the Virgin who lives fully in vigilant expectation for the coming of the Lord. Mary is the great sign of promise, the new Eve. Let us reflect and appreciate the charism of vigilance and readiness of which Mary is model.

The Lord comes day by day through many gifts and in the needs of our fellow humans. He calls us and urges us to be with him and to honor his coming. Blessed are we if we follow Mary in her vigilance and readiness.

Pause

Song (standing)

Reader: From the Gospel of Luke 2:19, 33-35, 51-52, 8:19-21, 11:27-28 (standing)

Pause (seated)

Guide: Mary concentrated her highest, operative attention and her contemplation the Word Incarnate, whom she had continually before her eyes and in her heart. She was therefore a woman of silence and reflection, of hidden and indestructible fidelity, of total availability to the will of God.

No one was more closely united to Christ than she because no one was more faithful to the Word of God.

The consecrated Religious fix their gaze on Jesus as Mary did; we have to be attentive to his Word as it is spoken and celebrated in the Eucharist. Pope Paul VI warns the Religious that without a genuine Eucharistic piety there is no real dedication in the apostolate, nor is there, in any real sense fidelity to vocation.

Vatican Council II in the concluding paragraph of the Decree on religious life, solemnly invites religious to entrust themselves to the Virgin Mary to make daily progress in their program of sanctity, thus bringing into the world a rich harvest of fruits (P.C. 25)

Pope Paul VI prays: "May the most loving mother of the Lord, after whose example you consecrated your life to God, obtain for you in the daily course of life that unchangeable joy which only Jesus can confer. Would that your life, patterned after her maternal affection by which all should be inspired to cooperate in the Church's apostolic mission of regenerating mankind." (E.T. 56)

Silent Reflection