# Salve, radix, salve, porta ex qua mundo lux est orta

The Virgin Mary is root for the eternal Word of God has drawn his true humanity from her flesh. The old prophecies announced that: *“But a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, A spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD.”* (Is 11,1-16). This Shoot is wrapped by a vocation and a mission of great suffering. He is the sapling grown up in a parched earth of the prophecy of Isaiah: *See, my servant shall prosper, he shall be raised high and greatly exalted. Even as many were amazed at him - so marred was his look beyond that of man, and his appearance beyond that of mortals - So shall he startle many nations, because of him kings shall stand speechless; For those who have not been told shall see, those who have not heard shall ponder it. Who would believe what we have heard? To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up like a sapling before him, like a shoot from the parched earth; There was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him, nor appearance that would attract us to him.*

*He was spurned and avoided by men, a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity, One of those from whom men hide their faces, spurned, and we held him in no esteem. Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured, While we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted. But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins, Upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we were healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; But the LORD laid upon him the guilt of us all. Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; Like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth. Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away, and who would have thought any more of his destiny? When he was cut off from the land of the living, and smitten for the sin of his people, A grave was assigned him among the wicked and a burial place with evildoers, Though he had done no wrong nor spoken any falsehood. (But the LORD was pleased to crush him in infirmity.) If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him. Because of his affliction he shall see the light in fullness of days; Through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear. Therefore I will give him his portion among the great, and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty, Because he surrendered himself to death and was counted among the wicked; And he shall take away the sins of many, and win pardon for their offenses.* *(Is 52,13-53,12).*

The Revelation precisely ends with this vision of Jesus, proclaimed as true root of David: *“I am the root and offspring of David, the bright morning star.”* (Rev 22,16-17). Of the Virgin Mary not only is flesh born, though. The eternal Person of the Son of the Most High is born. Mary is true Mother of God. Truly the sun of life is born of Her to enlightens those who are in the darkness and in the shadow of death. Thus this truth is proclaimed by the Holy Spirit through the means of Zechariah, John of Baptist’s father: *“And you, child, will be called prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give his people knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God by which the daybreak from on high will visit us to shine on those who sit in darkness and death's shadow, to guide our feet into the path of peace.” (Lk 1,7-79).* Jesus is born of Her as true God and true man, since the Person who is born is true God and true man, perfect God and perfect man. However, Mary does not make the divine nature. This is eternal and She, Mary, exists in time and is through creation of God.

Mary is the gate for the Son of the Most High has come into our humanity through Her. Truly Mary is the gate of hope of whom the prophet Hosea speaks: *“So I will allure her; I will lead her into the desert and speak to her heart. From there I will give her the vineyards she had, and the valley of Achor as a door of hope. She shall respond there as in the days of her youth, when she came up from the land of Egypt. On that day, says the LORD, She shall call me "My husband," and never again "My baal."* *I will espouse you to me forever: I will espouse you in right and in justice, in love and in mercy; I will espouse you in fidelity, and you shall know the LORD.”* (Hos 2,16-25). Being made true man, the Son of the Most High embraces the human nature of his divine Person. God and the man in Christ are truly one only thing, in accordance with the dogma of the hypostatic union. The properties of both natures are communicated to the Person who lives as most true God and most true man. Thus the Council of Chalcedon states this truth: *”* *Therefore, following the holy fathers, we all with one accord teach men to acknowledge one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at once complete in Godhead and complete in manhood, truly God and truly man, consisting also of a reasonable soul and body; of one substance with the Father as regards his Godhead, and at the same time of one substance with us as regards his manhood; like us in all respects, apart from sin; as regards his Godhead, begotten of the Father before the ages, but yet as regards his manhood begotten, for us men and for our salvation, of Mary the Virgin, the God-bearer; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, recognized in two natures, without confusion, without change, without division, without separation; the distinction of natures being in no way annulled by the union, but rather the characteristics of each nature being preserved and coming together to form one person and subsistence, not as parted or separated into two persons, but one and the same Son and Only-begotten God the Word, Lord Jesus Christ; even as the prophets from earliest times spoke of him, and our Lord Jesus Christ himself taught us, and the creed of the fathers has handed down to us.”* The first symbol of the fathers is the Apostles Creed: *“I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.”* The second symbol of the fathers is the Nicene- Constantinopolitan: *“I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.”* This is why the new life, the eternal life, the eternal sun on our earth is born. Through Her life and grace come to dwell among us in the true humanity.

The Son of God is true sun of righteousness, according to the prophet Malachi: *“But for you who fear my name, there will arise the sun of justice with its healing rays; And you will gambol like calves out of the stall”* (Mal 3,19-21). He is the Light that enlightens every man, according to the Prologue of the fourth Gospel: *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.* *And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.”* (Jn 1,1-18). Jesus is most intense light of truth, righteousness, holiness, wisdom, piety, compassion, true salvation, true redemption, true justification. From Mary the true sun of earth is born. The true light which enlightens every man is born. Through Her, its Mighty Saviour, the Prince of Peace, the Holy of God, the Mighty of Israel comes, who delivers man from sin and from death. Here also what the Holy Spirit reveals through the prophet Isaiah: *“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, As they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as men make merry when dividing spoils. For the yoke that burdened them, the pole on their shoulder, And the rod of their taskmaster you have smashed, as on the day of Midian. For every boot that tramped in battle, every cloak rolled in blood, will be burned as fuel for flames. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, From David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains By judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this! ” (Is 9,1-6)*. Angels, Saints, give us the true faith in Mary, Mother of Redemption and in her Divine Son, Sun of grace and truth, peace and hope, charity and holiness, righteousness and mercy, conceived in her virginal womb through the work of the Holy Spirit.