# Virgo prius ac posterius, Gabrielis ab ore, sumens illud Ave, peccatorum miserere.

The Mother of God is virgin in the heart, in the spirit, in the body. She is virgin in the body for She has never been of any man, neither with the thought nor the desire. Neither before the conceiving of Jesus through the work of the Holy Spirit nor after delivering. Her body was handed over to God forever. She is virgin in her soul for She has never committed one only sin, not even venial. Her soul has always and entirely been of her God. She is virgin in her spirit for her thoughts never belonged to the creature. She has kept the thoughts of God and meditated them perennially. She is virgin in the heart for not even one desire for the things of this world has touched her at all. Instead, we are of this world and of its things: pleasures, smoke, alcohol, drug, power, concupiscence, vainglory, sloth, abuse of power, sinful holidays, luxury, opulence, refinement, brand, front pages of magazine, thirst for money, every other vice and sin. For such things we sell our souls, our body and our spirit to evil. The virginity of the Mother of God is of most pure and most high holiness. She is Most Holy, Entirely Holy, Immaculate, the Virgin of all virgins. This is her glory.

The Mother of God has believed in the proclamation of the Angel who gave Her the good news of the Incarnation of the Son of the Most High. The difference is abyssal in that, too. Today we deny the own existence of the Angels. Saint Stephen, before being stoned, addresses to the Jews of his time this way: *"You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always oppose the holy Spirit; you are just like your ancestors. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They put to death those who foretold the coming of the righteous one, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become. You received the law as transmitted by angels, but you did not observe it."* (Act 7,51-53). Zechariah himself did not believe in the words of the Angel Gabriel when he announced the birth of John the Baptist in the temple of Jerusalem: *“The angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right of the altar of incense. Zechariah was troubled by what he saw, and fear came upon him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, because your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall name him John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of (the) Lord. He will drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will be filled with the holy Spirit even from his mother's womb, and he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. He will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of fathers toward children and the disobedient to the understanding of the righteous, to prepare a people fit for the Lord." Then Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." And the angel said to him in reply, "I am Gabriel, who stand before God. I was sent to speak to you and to announce to you this good news. But now you will be speechless and unable to talk until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled at their proper time."* (Lk 1,11-20). Let us ask: why has always accepted the will of God in her heart? We can answer through an image taken by the old cameras. In the past – before the digital era – a film roll was inserted in the camera, that contained a light-sensitive film in it. As soon as the shutter was opened for a few tenth of a second, the film was immediately exposed to the light and therefore to the figures captured by the lens. Jesus says it: “*Blessed the pure of heart for they will see God*.” The heart of light is impregnated with light, the heart of truth is *exposed* to truth. The heart filled with grace and with truth accepts the entire grace and truth coming from God in itself. While the heart of sin is refractory to every light and every light. This heart is only “exposed” to falsity, lie, mistake darkness. The heart of the Virgin Mary, entirely filled with God, accepts God even in each of his little manifestation. The God who is inside Her always “captures” the God who comes to Her from out of Her. This is the mystery of the Virgin Mary. What does the heart that invokes the Virgin Mary ask Her? That She may have piety on us sinners. The Church always sees the Virgin Mary as the Refuge of the sinners. She knows that the Mother of God wants the salvation of every soul and this is why She intercedes before her Son, asking for mercy, piety, compassion, redemption for all of us. She is the Mother in whose hands her Son has placed all the treasures of his mercy. We must always turn to Her if we want to abandon the sin and begin a new life.

Now let us ask: who is the One whom the Virgin Mary turns her prayer to? To the Only Begotten Son of the Father, of whom She is the ever-virgin Mother. And also: whom do we ask to have piety on the sinners? To Her who is the Mother of the Son of the Most High, of the eternal Word who was made flesh in her womb through the work of the Holy Spirit. If we say that Jesus is a man as all the other men, we also make Mary a woman as all the other women. What is the consequence of such false faith? Our prayer is declared false, as well. With this false faith we would pray a woman as all the other women, so that she may intercede before a man as all the other men. One shall realize that it is as if we turned our prayer to a stone. If we want our prayer to be effective, we must raise it from the purity of our faith. If our faith is false, our prayer will be false, too. Today, being our faith false, our prayer is false as well. Today we pray a false God and each of our prayer is false. But also the man who prays is false. He is false for there is no longer any sin by now. It is useless to ask the Mother of God to pray for us, sinners, since before the God we say to believe in we are all justified and blessed in our sins. Angels, Saints, intercede for us before our heavenly Mother, the Mother of Redemption, the Refuge of the sinners, our Advocate, our Rescuer.