

*The Angelus*  
*Handwriting Practice*



message of an angel may by  
His Passion and Cross be  
brought to the glory of His  
Resurrection, through the same  
Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top, middle, bottom) for tracing and writing practice.

V: Pray for us, O holy Mother  
of God.

R: That we may be made wor-  
thy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth we beseech thee O  
Lord, that we to whom the  
Incarnation of Christ Thy  
Son was made known by the

The Angelus is a sacramental and a devotion in honor of the Incarnation of our Lord, recited morning, noon and evening, to the sound of a bell. It consists of three little verses each followed by a Hail Mary. After the third Hail Mary there is a response and a prayer.

The Angelus takes its name from the first word of the Latin form of the prayer: "*Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae,*" which means, "*The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.*" That angel announced the most important news ever brought to earth. That angel spoke of the greatest fact in all history, the fact that the Son of God became man, was conceived of the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary. Mother Church wants us never to forget that fact. She wants us to think of it at least three times every day. From Catholic steeples throughout the land she calls to her children to remember prayerfully this greatest event of all time.

The Angelus devotion developed gradually. Most likely it began to form in the ancient monastic custom of reciting the "Little Office of the Blessed Virgin." In that office they often repeated the greeting of the Archangel Gabriel to Mary. The people began to use these words as a daily prayer.

St. Bonaventure, the Seraphic Doctor, in the general chapter of the Franciscan Order in Paris in 1226, and later at Assisi, ordered the triple salutation of the Blessed Virgin, called the Angelus, to be recited every evening at 6 o'clock in honor of the Incarnation.

Finally, after several changes, the Angelus took the form which it has today. If you want the biblical

*R. and dwelt among us.*

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord  
is with thee blessed art thou among  
women and blessed is the fruit of  
thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, mother of God, pray  
for us sinners now and at the hour  
of our death. Amen.*

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord  
is with thee blessed art thou among  
women and blessed is the fruit of  
thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray  
for us sinners now and at the hour  
of our death. Amen.

V: And the Word was made flesh,

background of this devotion and the words of this prayer, read the Gospel story as found in the first chapter of St. Luke from verse 26 to 42. From this passage the first half of the Hail Mary and the first and second versicles and their responses are taken, while the third versicle and response are from the Gospel according to St. John, 1:14.

The Angelus brings an indulgence of 10 years for each recitation, and a plenary indulgence once a month for those who say it three times every day. It may be said standing or kneeling. The whole Angelus, as commonly printed, has to be recited. Those who do not know the prayers by heart, or who are unable to read them, may say five Hail Marys in their place. Calling to mind the presence of God is one of the best means to perfection. The Angelus helps us to remember that God is near, by raising our thoughts to Him morning, noon and night. It revives our remembrance of the principal mysteries of our religion. In particular, it helps us recall the thrilling fact that the Son of God became man, and it helps us remember the virginal motherhood of Mary, His Mother.

The Angelus keeps us in contact with Jesus and Mary. It revives our remembrance of the basic truths of our faith. It enlivens hope. It enkindles love. It awakens gratitude.

Say the Angelus every time you hear the church bells, no matter where you are or what you are doing. Amen.

V: The Angel of the Lord declared  
unto Mary

R: And she conceived by the Holy  
Ghost.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord  
is with thee blessed art thou among  
women and blessed is the fruit of  
thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray  
for us sinners now and at the hour  
of our death. Amen.

V: Behold the handmaid of the  
Lord,

R: Be it done unto me according  
to thy Word