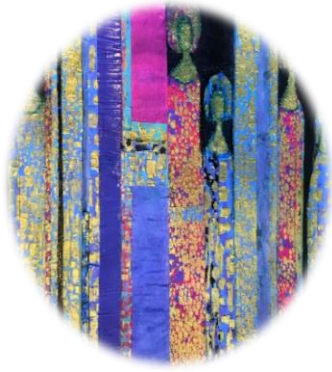




**Presentation Day
21 November 2023**

*On this Presentation Day
we unite in prayer with Presentation people around the world
honouring Mary of the Presentation
who was embraced by Nano as inspiration and guide.*

We pray with Mary's loving parents, Joachim and Anne, who, in gratitude and love,
did not keep her for themselves but shared her with the world as blessing...

Loving God, bless all parents that they are enabled to love and provide.

We pray with the child Mary 'who danced with joy with her feet' in her embrace of life,
its mysteries and its hope-filled horizons ...

Loving God, bless all children that they may 'dance with joy' and live in hope.

We pray with the teenage Mary who faced unexpected choice and challenge
with courage and said yes to life...

Loving God, bless young people as they discern and decide, making their way in life.

We pray with the friend Mary, who reached out in care and support
of her cousin Elizabeth...

Loving God, bless those who are unknown, lonely, excluded, unwell.

We pray with the mother Mary,
who birthed and loved her child Jesus into life and let him go...
who grieved at the death of her beloved son...
who gathered with her community to live on in the world
embodying Jesus' radical love and inclusion...

**Loving God, bless all people
in our living and our yearning
our celebrating and our mourning
that we may bring to birth
love, justice and peace
in our world.
Amen.**

