



## Our Lady's Sabbath Lights



### OUR LADY OF GUISBOROUGH

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### OUR LADY OF GUISBOROUGH

Do not press me to leave you,  
Where you go, I will go.



## Sabbath Lights

### Introduction

The practice of dedicating Saturday to Our Lady is very old. It reflects the close relation between the mystery of Mary and the mystery of Israel. The Church's pattern of prayer for Sundays and solemnities follows the Jewish pattern of measuring days from sunset to sunset. Our Lady's Saturday corresponds to the Jewish Sabbath, Friday sunset to Saturday sunset. The Church has been encouraged by Popes and Councils to examine and cherish its Jewish roots. It is in this spirit that the following prayers and meditations are offered.

### A Mother's Prayer

On entering the Shrine make the sign of the Cross, with holy water, and say this prayer  
Father, may this water remind us  
Of the tears of Mary,  
And of all mothers who suffer grief and anxiety.  
Take their tears and put them in your bottle.  
Use them to cleanse our hands and hearts,  
That we might serve You.  
Use them to soften the hard-hearted,  
That they might heed the cries of the poor.  
Use them to water the garden of our heart,  
That we might produce deeds of loving kindness.  
Use them to wash the sleep from our eyes  
That we might see your light.

### Mother of God and my Mother

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother "Woman, here is your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." **And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.**

### Mary's Acceptance

Mary, you stood at the cross  
Where the cruel wind blew,  
And witnessed the dying glow  
Of the candle of God.  
The shadows lengthen.  
Now, as a mother, it is your task  
To welcome and accept the Sabbath  
On behalf of your family.  
To be commanded to be full of joy at such a time!  
To light candles for each child at such a time!  
To experience a foretaste of the world to come  
At such a time!  
Will you welcome and accept the Sabbath?  
Do you know that if just one Sabbath is properly kept,  
The Messiah will come?  
Do you know that the Red Sea did not open  
Until one person put their foot into the water?  
O what a part you had Mary,  
In the Resurrection and in our salvation,  
When you kindled the Sabbath light, and said the blessing,  
When the light of the world was extinguished,  
And all was darkness.

### Lighting the Sabbath Candles

Holy Mary,  
Mother of God and my Mother,  
As I light these candles in your honour,  
I ask you to come to my home  
And light the Sabbath Candles for me.  
Let me hear your voice in blessing, saying,  
"Blessed are You, the Lord our God,  
King of the Universe, who has sanctified us  
With His commandments,  
And commanded us to kindle the Sabbath light."

### The consolation of Our Lady of Pity

May the Almighty comfort you, Mary,  
Among the other mourners for Zion and Jerusalem.  
"May His great Name be exalted and sanctified  
In the world which He created,  
According to His will!  
May He establish His kingdom during your lifetime  
And during your days,  
And during the the lifetime of all the House of Israel,  
Speedily and very soon! And say, Amen.

### Out Father...