

Old Testament Reading:
Isaiah 7:10–17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz,
¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God;
let it be deep as Sheol or high as
heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not
ask, and I will not put the LORD to
the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then,
O house of David! Is it too little for
you to weary men, that you weary
my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord
himself will give you a sign. Behold,
the virgin shall conceive and bear a
son, and shall call his name Imman-
uel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey
when he knows how to refuse the
evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For
before the boy knows how to refuse
the evil and choose the good, the
land whose two kings you dread will
be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring
upon you and upon your people and
upon your father’s house such days
as have not come since the day that
Ephraim departed from Judah—the
king of Assyria.”

Epistle: Romans 1:1–7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus,
called to be an apostle, set apart for
the gospel of God, ²which he prom-
ised beforehand through his prophets
in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning
his Son, who was descended from
David according to the flesh ⁴and was
declared to be the Son of God in power
according to the Spirit of holiness by
his resurrection from the dead, Jesus
Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we
have received grace and apostleship

to bring about the obedience of faith
for the sake of his name among all
the nations, ⁶including you who are
called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved
by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God
our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18–25

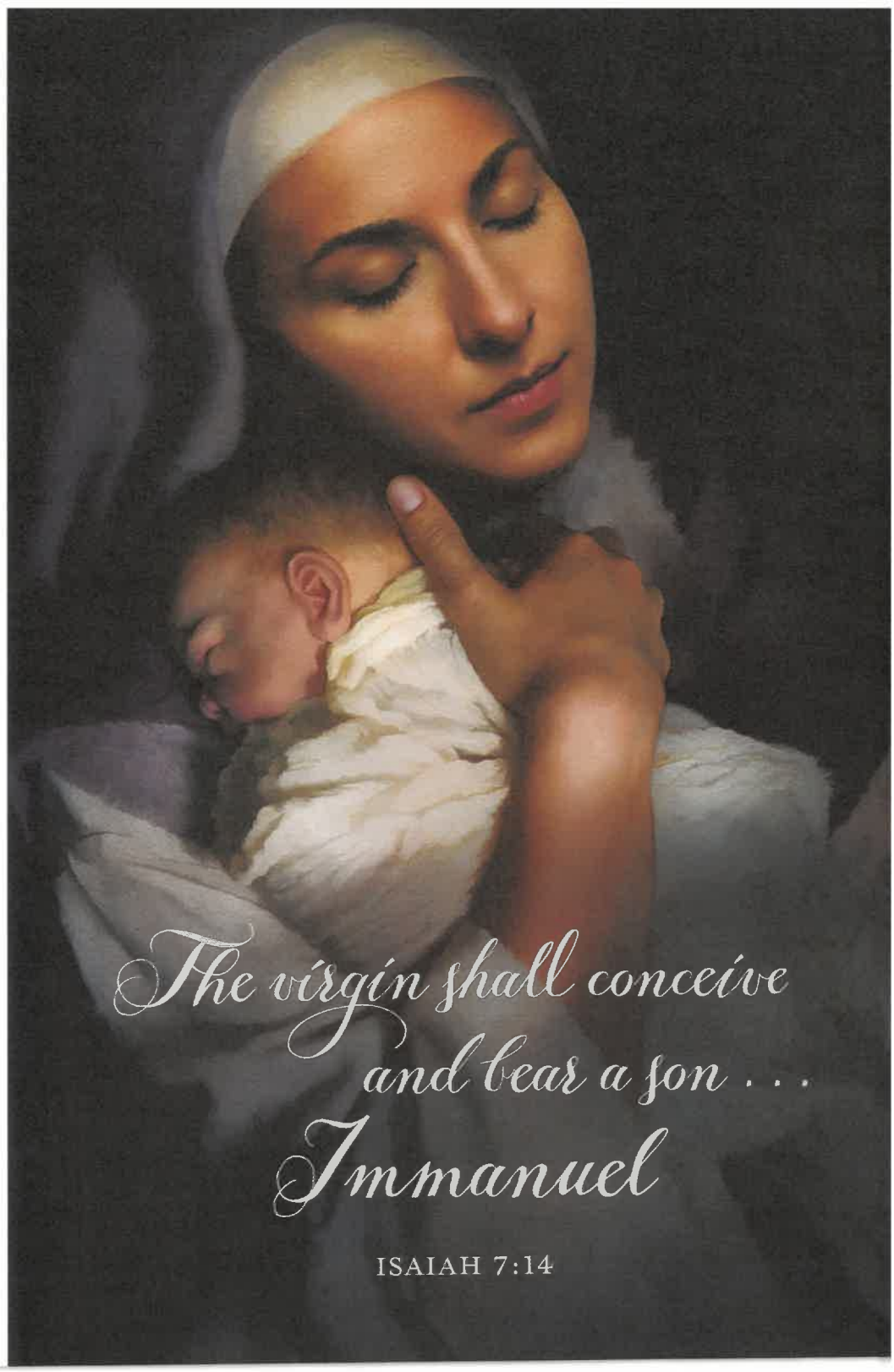
¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ
took place in this way. When his
mother Mary had been betrothed to
Joseph, before they came together
she was found to be with child from
the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband
Joseph, being a just man and unwill-
ing to put her to shame, resolved
to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he
considered these things, behold, an
angel of the Lord appeared to him
in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of
David, do not fear to take Mary as
your wife, for that which is con-
ceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
²¹She will bear a son, and you shall
call his name Jesus, for he will save
his people from their sins.” ²²All this
took place to fulfill what the Lord
had spoken by the prophet:

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive
and bear a son,
and they shall call his name
Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When
Joseph woke from sleep, he did as
the angel of the Lord commanded
him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her
not until she had given birth to a son.
And he called his name Jesus.



About the Cover: The sign of a virgin conceiving and giving birth was given despite King Ahaz’s refusal to ask. However, for all who believe, Immanuel—“God with us”—is the gift of salvation! God has come to be with us, not to condemn, but to save through His cross (John 3:17). As Mary treasured up the things concerning her Son in her heart, may we treasure Christ in our lives as well (Luke 2:19, 51).



*The virgin shall conceive
and bear a son . . .
Immanuel*

ISAIAH 7:14