

***MOTHER AND CHILD***

***A PRAYER***

**Lord Jesus Christ,  
when you embraced our nature  
in the womb of Mary, Your Mother,  
the first to greet You was  
the unborn child, John the Baptist.**

**He danced for You,  
and You made him holy  
with the life of Your Spirit.**

**Jesus, Lord and Saviour,  
protect the children of Ireland.**

**May they never be evicted  
from that warm, safe place  
beneath a mother's heart. Amen.**



*When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,*

*the child leaped in her womb*

*and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit...*

*She exclaimed, "As soon as the sound of your  
greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb*

*leaped for joy." (Luke 1:42-43)*