



*May - Month of Mary*

*dedicated to*

*Our Lady*

## **Prayer for Parish**

Lord Jesus Christ, you who love us and deepen in us the knowledge of your name and your love, open all doors and make known the way of salvation, you call us to take time and to be with you in prayer, to draw close to you and to seek your will.

You desire to purify our hearts and to lead us to repentance draw us together as a community and help us to open our hearts to appreciate the gift of each other.

Bless our Parish Community and all those we love. May your grace lead us to a new Pentecost in our lives to go and proclaim the Good News to all and a deeper desire to live the mission of the Church.

Amen.

## **May - Month of Mary, the month dedicated to Our Lady**

May is the month of Mary! We encourage everyone to renew and deepen your relationship with our spiritual mother. We welcome everyone to join us and participate in the May Devotion after Mass in front of Our Lady Shine during this special month.

*Try to pray the Rosary daily and remember your heavenly  
Mother loves you.*

## How to Pray the Rosary

### 1. Begin by making the Sign of the Cross

- † Recite the [Apostles' Creed](#)
- † Pray the [Lord's Prayer](#)
- † Pray 3 [Hail Mary's](#)
- † Pray the [Glory Be](#)

### 2. For each Mystery:

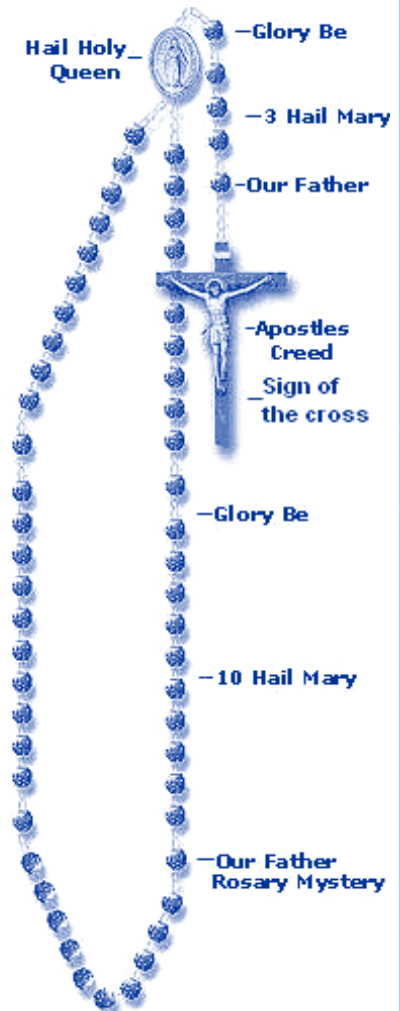
- † Announce the mystery that is to be reflected upon
- † Pray the [Our Father](#) at the start of each decade
- † Pray 10 [Hail Mary's](#) (one decade)
- † Finish the decade with [Glory Be](#)
- † After each decade pray the [Fatima Prayer](#)

### 3. To conclude:

- † After the five decades of the Rosary pray the [Hail Holy Queen](#) and [concluding prayer](#)

### The Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.





# Let us Pray

## Joyful Mysteries (Monday & Saturday)

### 1. The Annunciation (*Lk 1:30-31*)

“Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear his Son, and you shall call His name Jesus.”

*Fruit of the Mystery - Humility*

### 2. The Visitation (*Lk 1:42-43*)

“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?”

*Fruit of the Mystery - Love thy Neighbour*

### 3. The Birth of Our Lord (*Lk 2:7*)

Mary gave birth to her first-born Son and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Poverty*

### 4. The Presentation of Our Lord (*Lk 2:22-23*)

And when the days of her purification were filled according to the Law of Moses, they took Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord -

*Fruit of the Mystery - Obedience*

### 5. The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple (*Lk 2:46*)

And it came to pass after three days, that they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Joy in Finding Jesus*



# Let us Pray

## Sorrowful Mysteries (Tuesday & Friday)

### 1. The Agony in the Garden (*Lk 22: 44 - 45*)

And his sweat became as drops of blood running down upon the ground. And rising from prayer He came to the disciples, and found them sleeping.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Sorrow for Sin*

### 2. Scouring at the Pillar (*Mk 15: 15*)

Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas: and having scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Purity*

### 3. The Crowning with Thorns (*Mt 27:28-29*)

And they stripped Him and put on Him a scarlet cloak: and plaiting a crown of thorns they put it on His head, and reed into His right hand:

*Fruit of the Mystery - Courage*

### 4. The Carrying of the Cross (*Jn 19:17*)

They took Jesus, and He went out, bearing His own cross, to the place of the skull, which is called in Hebrew, Golgotha.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Patience*

### 5. The Crucifixion & Death of Our Lord (*Lk 23:46*)

Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit My Spirit!" And having said this He breathed His Last.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Perseverance.*



# Let us Pray

## Glorious Mysteries (Wednesday & Sunday)

### 1. The Resurrection (Mt 28:5 - 6)

“Do not be afraid: for I know that you seek  
Jesus who was crucified.

He is not here: for He has risen, as He said.”

*Fruit of the Mystery - Faith*

### 2. The Ascension (Mk 16: 19)

So, then the Lord after He had spoken to them,  
was taken up into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Hope*

### 3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2: 4)

Any they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in  
foreign tongues, even as the Holy Spirit prompted them to speak.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Love of God*

### 4. The Assumption (1 Th 4: 14 - 17)

Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again,  
even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those  
who have fallen asleep...and so we shall always be with the Lord.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Grace of a Happy Death*

### 5. The Coronation (Rev 12:1)

A great sign appeared in heaven, a woman clothed  
with the sun, with the moon under her feet,  
and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Trust in Mary's Intercession.*



# Let us Pray

## Luminous Mysteries (Thursday)

### 1. The Baptism of Our Lord (MK 1:10)

The Spirit descended like a dove on Him.  
And a voice came from heaven.

“You are my Son, the Beloved; and with  
You I am well pleased.”

*Fruit of the Mystery - Openness to the Holy Spirit*

### 2. The Wedding Feast at Cana (Jn 2:11)

Jesus changed water into wine, the first of His signs,  
and revealed His glory; and His disciples believed in Him.

*Fruit of the Mystery - To Jesus Through Mary*

### 3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God (Mk 1:15)

“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;  
repent, and believe in the good news.”

*Fruit of the Mystery - Repentance and Trust in God*

### 4. The Transfiguration (Mt 17:2)

And He was transfigured before them,  
and His face shone like the sun,  
and His clothes became dazzling white.

*Fruit of the Mystery - Desire for Holiness*

### 5. The Institution of the Eucharist (Lk 22:19)

He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them,  
saying. “This is my body, which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

*Fruit of the Mystery - Adoration.*

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

Amen.





## **The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen

## **The Hail Mary**

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are 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.

## **Glory Be**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## Fatima Prayer

O My Jesus, forgive us our sins, and save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to heaven, especially those who most need thy mercy.

## Hail Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears! Turn, then, thy most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us, and after this, our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

*Verse:* Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

*Response:* That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

*Let us Pray:* O God, whose only begotten Son, by his life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech thee, that by meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen

## Why pray as a family?

We are all familiar with the adage – the family that prays together, stays together. When teaching on the importance of family prayer, John Paul II emphasised the rosary which “by age old tradition, has shown itself particularly effective as a prayer which brings families together”. He noted that “today, families seldom manage to come together, and the rare occasions when they do, are often taken up with watching television.” He exhorted families to “rather fill their minds with different images” – images of our Redeemer and our Blessed Mother and by so doing “reproduce something of the atmosphere of the household of Nazareth.” Reflecting on the life of Jesus Christ through the rosary brings his truth and peace into our families and our homes.



## Month of Mary – May Devotions

"God wills that all his gifts should come to us through Mary"

(St. Bernard)

It was in Rome, towards the end of the eighteenth century, one fine evening in May. A child of the poor gathered his companions around him and led them to a statue of Mary, before which a lamp was burning, as is the custom in that holy city. There, these fresh young voices sang the Litany of our Lady. The next day, the little group, followed by other children, again gathered at the feet of the Mother of God. Next came their mothers, to join the little assembly. Soon, other groups were formed, and the devotion rapidly became popular. Holy souls, troubled by the disorderly conduct which always increases and becomes graver at the return of the pleasant springtime, saw in these growing practices the hand of God, and they cooperated with the designs of Providence by approving and promoting this new devotion, as a public and solemn act of reparation. The Month of Mary was founded. 5

"This is the month in which, in the churches and individual homes, the most affectionate and fervent homage of prayers and devotions from the hearts of Christians are raised to Mary. It is also the month in which from his throne descend upon us the most generous and abundant gifts of the Divine Mercy." 6

In our own times, we Catholics, wanting to be close to her always, offer her special presents in May: pilgrimages, visits to churches dedicated to her, little sacrifices in her honor, periods of study and well-finished work offered up to her, and a more attentive recitation of the rosary.



# 1

## MARY: THE MOTHER OF GOD

"When the Blessed Virgin said yes, freely, to the plans revealed to her by the Creator, the divine Word assumed a human nature -- a rational soul and a body - which was formed in the most pure womb of Mary.

The divine nature and the human were united in a single Person: Jesus Christ, true God and, thenceforth, true man; the only begotten and eternal son of the Father and from that moment on, as man, the true son of Mary. This is why our Lady is the mother of the Incarnate Word, of the second person of the Blessed Trinity, who has united our human nature to himself for ever, without any confusion of the two natures. The greatest praise we can give to the Blessed Virgin is to address her loudly and clearly by the name that expresses her very highest dignity: 'Mother of God'." 7

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*"Mother of God, your petitions are most powerful."*

# 2

## MARY: THE MOST PERFECT CREATURE

"She who is full of grace, the object of God's pleasure, exalted above all the angels and the saints, lived an ordinary life. "Mary is as much a creature as we are, with a heart like ours, made for joy and mirth as well as

suffering and tears. Before Gabriel communicates to her God's plan, our Lady does not know that she has been chosen from all eternity to be the mother of the Messiah. She sees herself as a lowly creature. That is why she can acknowledge, with full humility, that 'he who is mighty has done great things' for her." 8

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*Many glances of affection and many words of love, when we see her image or picture in our home, in the church, or anywhere.*

3

### MARY AND THE BLESSED TRINITY

"Through the Incarnation of our Lord in her immaculate womb, Mary, the Daughter of God the Father, is also the Spouse of God the Holy Spirit and the Mother of God the Son." 9

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*"Hail Mary" each time the clock strikes another hour.*

4

### MARY'S FAMILY: THE TRINITY ON EARTH

"It is only natural that the Church rejoice as one contemplates the modest home of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. We read in the hymn from Matins on the feast of the Holy Family: 'It is pleasing to recall the humble house of Nazareth and its slender resources. It is pleas-ing to

tell again in song Jesus' hidden life. Jesus grows up in hid-den seclusion, to be trained in Joseph's unpretentious trade. The loving mother sits beside her dear Son, the good wife by her husband, content if her loving attention can ease and comfort them in their weariness.' " 10

Let us offer to our Mother our Resolution of the day: *A loving review of her life with Jesus, as we recite the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary.*

5

### MARY: HER IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

How would we have acted, if we could have chosen our own mother? I'm sure we would have chosen the one we have, adorn-ing her with every possible grace. That is what Christ did. Christ being all powerful, all wise, Love

itself, his power carried out his will. This is the clearest reason why our Lord granted his mother, from the very moment of her Immaculate Conception, all possible privileges. She was free from the power of Satan. She is beautiful, spotless and pure in soul and body." 11

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*The renewal of our baptismal vows.*

# 6

## MARY: THE FIRST TABERNACLE

"If you seek Mary, you will find Jesus. And you will learn a bit more about what is in the heart of God, who humbles himself, discarding all manifestations of his power and majesty to take the form of a servant.

Speaking in human terms, we could say that God outdoes himself, because he goes much further than he needs to go in order to save us. The only way to measure what he does is to say that it cannot be measured; it comes from a madness of love which leads him to take on our flesh and bear the weight of our sins." 12

*Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:*

*The Angelus recited punctually at noon and with great affection.*

# 7

## MARY: OUR MODEL IN ORDINARY LIFE

"We can't forget that Mary spent nearly every day of her life just like millions of other women who look after their families, bring up their children, and take care of their houses. Mary sanctifies the ordinary, everyday

things -- what some people wrongly regard as unimportant and insignificant: everyday work, looking after those closest to you, visits to friends and relatives. What a blessed ordinariness, that can be so full of love of God." 13

*Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:*

*Affectionate details of service and attention to those closest to us.*



8

## MARY: MOTHER OF CHRIST

"Jesus Christus, Deus homo: Jesus Christ, God man. This is one of the 'mighty works of God,' which we should reflect upon and thank him for. He has come to bring 'peace on earth to men of good will,' to all who want to unite their wills to the holy will of God -- not just the rich, not just the poor, but everyone: all the brethren. We are all brothers in Jesus, children of God, brothers of Christ. His mother is our mother ." 14

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*Jesus himself, when we receive him in holy Communion*

9

## MARY: WELCOMING THE SHEPHERDS

"You must look at the Child in the manger. He is our Love. Look at him, realizing that the whole thing is a mystery. We need to accept this mystery on faith and use our faith to explore it very deeply. To do this, we must have the humble attitude of a Christian soul." 15

Let us offer to our Mother our Resolution of the day:

*Small hidden sacrifices, especially those that go against the grain.*

10

## MARY: PRESENTING JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

"She teaches us to have charity. Remember the scene of the pre-sentation of Jesus in the temple. An old man, Simeon, said to Mary, 'Behold: This child is destined to bring about the fall of many and the rise of many in

Israel-and to be a sign, which people will refuse to acknowledge, so that the thoughts of many hearts shall be made manifest. As for your own soul, it shall have a sword pierce it.' So great is Mary's love for all mankind that she, too, fulfilled Christ's words: 'Greater love has no man than this, that he should lay down his life for his friends.' " 16

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*A pilgrimage to one of her shrines.*



11

## MARY: WELCOMING THE MAGI

"Going into the house, they saw the child with Mary, his mother. Our Lady is always near her Son. The Magi are not received by a king on a high throne, but by a child in the arms of his mother. Let us ask the Mother of God, who is our mother, to pre-prepare for us the way that leads to the fullness of love .... Her sweet heart knows the surest path for finding Christ." 17

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*A visit to a poor person to communicate our Lady's concern for that person.*

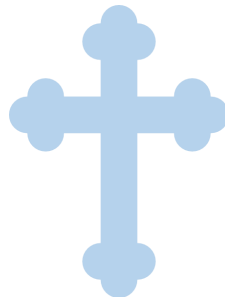
12

## MARY: HER FLIGHT TO EGYPT WITH JOSEPH AND THE CHILD JESUS

"The mystery of Mary helps us to see that in order to approach God, we must become little. Christ said to his disciples: 'Be-lieve me, unless you become like little children again, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.' "To become children, we must renounce our pride and self-suf-ficiency, recognizing that we can do nothing by ourselves. We must realize that we need grace and the help of God our Father to find our way and keep to it." 18

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*A visit to a lonely person to share the joy of trusting in God alone .*



13

## MARY: HER HIDDEN LIFE WITH JESUS

"I like to go back in my imagination to the years Jesus spent close to his mother, years which span almost the whole of his life on earth. I like to picture him as a little child, cared for by Mary, who kisses him and plays with him. I like to see him growing up before the loving eyes of his mother and of Joseph, his father on earth. What tenderness and care Mary and the holy Patriarch must have shown toward Jesus, as they looked after him during his childhood, all the while, silently, learning so much from him. Their souls would become more and more like the soul of that Son, who was both man and God. This is why his mother, and after her St. Joseph, understand better than anyone the feelings of the heart of Christ; and the two of them are thus the best way, I would say the only way, to reach the Saviour." 19

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*The effort of doing our ordinary work well, on time, with competence and finesse*

14

## MARY: LOSING AND FINDING THE CHILD JESUS

"The Mother of God, who looked for her Son so anxiously when he was lost (through no fault of her own) and experienced such great joy in finding him, will help us retrace our steps and put right whatever may be necessary when, because of our carelessness or our sins, we have been unable to recognize Christ. With her help, we will know the happiness of holding him in our arms once more and telling him we will never lose him again." 20

Let us offer to our Mother our Resolution of the day:

*A good, sincere, sorrowful confession of our sins and failures, in the sacrament of Penance.*

15

### MARY: AT CANA

"In the Gospel, St. John has recorded a wonderful phrase of our Lady. At the wedding of Cana she turned to the waiters and said: 'Do whatever he tells you.' That is what it is all about -- get-ting people to face Jesus and ask him:

'Lord, what do you want me to do?" 21

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*Prompt obedience, when we are called or asked to do some errand or some act of service.*

16

### MARY: AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS

"We find her on Calvary, at the foot of the cross, praying. This is nothing new for Mary. She has always acted like this, in fulfil-ling her duties and looking after her home. As she went about the things of this earth,

she kept her attention on God." 22

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*An act of contrition, said many times, asking her to offer our sorrow for our sins to Jesus crucified.*

17

### MARY: THE SORROWING MOTHER

"Our Lady is there listening to the words of her Son, united to him in his suffering, when he cried out 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' What could she do? She united herself fully with the redemp-tive

love of her Son and offered to the Father her immense sorrow, which pierced her pure heart like a sharp-edged sword." 23

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*The mortification of keeping quiet about any pain or discomfort, any inconvenience or disappointment, uniting it with her pain as she stood by her crucified Son.*

# 18

## MARY: THE CO-REDEMPTRIX

"It is with good reason that the popes have called Mary co-redemptrix. 'So fully, in union with her suffering and dying Son, did she suffer and nearly die; so fully, for the sake of the salvation of all souls, did she abdicate the rights of a mother over her Son, and im-molate him, insofar as it was in her power, to satisfy the justice of God, that it can rightly be said that she redeemed mankind to-gether with Christ.' This gives us a deeper understanding of that moment in the Passion of our Lord on which we shall never tire of meditat-ing: *Stabat autem iuxta crucem Iesu mater eius*, 'There, standing by the cross of Jesus, was his mother.'" 24

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*Five small hidden sacrifices in honour of the five major wounds of our Lord.*

# 19

## MARY: HER FAITH

"If our faith is weak, we should turn to Mary. St. John tells us that it was because of the miracle that Christ performed, at his mother 's request, at the marriage feast at Cana, that 'his disciples learned to believe in him.' Our Mother is always interceding with her Son, so that he may attend to our needs and show himself to us in such a way that we can cry out, 'You are the Son of God!' " 25

Let us offer to our Mother our Resolution of the day:

*The "Memorare" for the person in our family who most needs the help of our Lady .*



20

## MARY: OUR HOPE

"Our Lady, a full participant in the work of our salvation, follows in the footsteps of her son: the poverty of Bethlehem, the everyday work of a hidden life in Nazareth, the manifestation of his divinity in

Cana of Galilee, the tortures of his passion, the divine sacrifice on the cross, the eternal blessedness of paradise.

"All of this affects us directly, because this supernatural itinerary is the way we are to follow. Mary shows us that we can walk this path with confidence. She has preceded us on the way of imitating Christ; her glorification is the firm hope of our own salvation. For these reasons we call her 'our hope, cause of our joy.' " 26

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*A smile when we do not feel like smiling.*

21

## MARY'S PRAYER

"Let us ask the Blessed Virgin to make us contemplatives, to teach us to recognize the constant calls from God at the door of our heart. Let us ask her now: Our Mother, you brought to earth Jesus, who reveals

the love of our Father God. Help us to recognize him in the midst of the cares of each day. Stir up our mind and will so that we may listen to the voice of God, to the calls of grace." 27

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*A visit to Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.*



22

### MARY: EVER VIRGIN

"The purity, humility, and generosity of Mary are in sharp contrast to our wretchedness and selfishness.

To the extent that we realize this, we should feel moved to imitate her. We too are creatures of God,

and if we strive to imitate her fidelity, God will surely do great things in us. Our small worth is no obstacle, because God chooses what is of little value so that the power of his love may be more manifest." 28

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*The prayer "Blessed be your purity"*

23

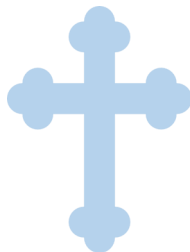
### MARY: QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES

"If we take our Lady's hand, she will make us realize more fully that all men are our brothers -- because we are all sons of that God whose daughter, spouse, and mother she is. Our neighbors' problems must be our problems. Christian fraternity should be something

very deep in the soul, so that we are indifferent to no one. Mary, who brought up Jesus and accompanied him through his life and is now beside him in heaven, will help us recognize Jesus as he crosses our path and makes himself present to us in the needs of others." 29

Let us offer to our Mother our Resolution of the day:

*A kind word, a friendly conversation, a helping hand to persons with whom we live or work.*



24

## MARY: HELP OF CHRISTIANS

"Yes, we are still pilgrims, but our Mother has gone on ahead, where she points to the reward for our efforts. She tells us that we can make it. If we are faithful, we will reach home. Not only is the Blessed Virgin our model, but she is also the Help of Christians. And as we besiege her with our petitions -- 'Show that you are our Mother' -- she cannot help but watch over her children with motherly care." 30

*Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:*

*In addition to the mysteries of the day, one more part (five decades) of the Holy Rosary.*

25

## MARY: OUR MOTHER

"Find out for yourself by personal experience the meaning of Mary's maternal love. It is not enough just to know that she is our Mother, and to think and talk about her as such. She is your Mother and you are her child. She loves you as if you were her only child in this world. Treat her accordingly. Tell her about every-thing that happens to you; honour her and love her. No one will do it for you or as well as you." 31

*Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:*

*Many affectionate thoughts and prayers, by saying "Mary, my mother" each time we pause in our work.*



# 26

## MARY: THE WAY TO JESUS

Mary does the immense favour of bringing to the cross, of placing face to face with the example of the Son of God, those who come close to her and contemplate her life. It is in this confrontation that

Christian life is decided. And here Mary intercedes for us so that our behaviour may lead to a reconciliation of the younger brother -- you and me -- with the firstborn Son of the Father. "Many conversions, many decisions to give oneself to the service of God have been preceded by an encounter with Mary. Our Lady has encouraged us to look for God, to desire to change, to lead a new life." 32

*Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:*

*Teaching someone how to say the Holy Rosary*

# 27

## MARY: MOTHER OF FAIR LOVE

"This is what explains Mary's life -- her love. A complete love, so complete that she forgets herself and is happy just to be there where God wants her, fulfilling with care what God wants her to do. That is why even her slightest action is never routine or vain

but, rather, full of meaning. Mary, our Mother, is for us both an example and a way. In the ordinary circumstances in which God wants us to live, we have to try to be like her." 33

*Let us offer to our Mother our Resolution of the day:*

*The resolution to say, before going to sleep every night, three Hail Mary's.*





28

## MARY: TAKEN UP TO HEAVEN

"Mary has gone to heaven in both body and soul, and the angels rejoice. I can imagine, too, the delight of St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse, who awaited her in paradise. Yet what of us who remain on earth? Our faith tells us that here below, in our present life, we are pilgrims, wayfarers. Our lot is one of suffer-ing, of sacrifices, and privations. Nonetheless, joy must mark the rhythm of our steps. 'Serve the Lord with joy' -- there is no other way to serve him." 34

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*A smile when someone corrects us or misjudges us.*

29

## MARY: THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN

"She lives now and is protecting us. She is there [in heaven], body and soul, with the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. She is the same person who was born in Palestine, who gave herself to God while still a child, who received the message from St. Gabriel the Ar-changel, who gave birth to our Saviour, and who stood beside him at the foot of the Cross. In her, all ideals become a reality. But we should never think that this sublime greatness of hers makes her in-accessible to us. She is the one who is full of grace and the sum of all perfections . . . and she is also our Mother." 35

Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:

*The "Hail Holy Queen" at each hour.*



# 30

## MARY: THE CHANNEL OF GRACE

"Her power before God is such that she can obtain anything that we ask for, and, like any mother, she wants to answer our prayers. Like any mother, also, she knows and understands our weaknesses. She

encourages us and makes excuses for us. She makes the way easy for us, and even when we think there is no possible solution for our worry, she always has one ready to offer us." 36

**Let us offer to our Mother our resolution of the day:**

*A visit or a conversation with a friend or relative whom we want to encourage to go to Confession.*

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## MARY SINGS OF THE LOVE OF GOD

"God is interested in even the smallest events in the lives of his creatures -- in your affairs and mine -- and he calls each of us by name. This certainty that the faith gives enables us to look at everything in a new light. And everything, while remaining exactly the same, becomes

different, because it is an expression of God's love. Our life is turned into a continuous prayer, we find ourselves with good humor and a peace that never ends, and everything we do is an act of thanksgiving running through all our day. 'My soul magnifies the Lord,' Mary sang, 'and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.'" 37

**Let us offer to our Mother our Resolution of the day:**

*The Holy Rosary said with concentration and affection.*



5. Cf. A Carthusian, *A Month with Mary*, London: Burns and Oates, 1950.

6. Paul VI, *The Month of Mary*, 1967.

7. This excerpt and the following thirty excerpts are taken from homilies of Saint Josemaría Escrivá in *Christ Is Passing By* (=CPB) and *Friends of God*(=FG), Princeton, N. J.: Scepter Publications, 1968/1973. This one is from "Mother of

God and Our Mother," FG, 274.

8. "Cause of Our Joy," CPB, 172.

9. "Mother of God and Our Mother," FG, 274.

10. "Marriage: a Christian Vocation," CPB, 22.

11. "Cause of Our Joy," CPB, 171.

12. "To Jesus through Mary," CPB, 144.

13. "To Jesus through Mary," CPB, 148.

14. "Christ Triumphs through Humility," CPB, 13.

15. "Christ Triumphs through Humility," CPB, 13.

16. "Mother of God and Our Mother," FG, 287.

17. "The Epiphany of Our Lord," CPB, 38.

18. "To Jesus through Mary," CPB, 143.

19. "Mother of God and Our Mother," FG, 281

20. "Mother of God and Our Mother," FG, 278.

21. "To Jesus through Mary," CPB, 149.

22. "A Life of Prayer," FG, 241.

23. "Mother of God and Our Mother," FG, 288.

24. "Mother of God and Our Mother," FG, 287.

25. "Mother of God and Our Mother," FG, 285.

26. "Cause of Our Joy," CPB, 176.

27. "Cause of Our Joy," CPB, 174.

28. "Cause of Our Joy," CPB, 172.

29. "To Jesus through Mary," CPB, 145.

30. "Cause of our Joy," CPB, 177.

31. "Mother of God and our Mother," FG, 293.

32. "To Jesus through Mary," CPB, 149.

33. "To Jesus through Mary," CPB, 148.

34. "Cause of our Joy," CPB, 177.

35. "Mother of God and our Mother," FG, 292.

36. "Mother of God and Our Mother," FG, 292.

37. "To Jesus through Mary," CPB, 144





## *St. Mark's Parish.*

*United in Baptism,  
Nourished by the Eucharist,  
Guided by the Holy Spirit,  
We Form a Vibrant and Caring Community,  
Living and Proclaiming the Gospel,  
Reaching Out to Those in Need,  
Journeying Together,  
Growing in Faith.*