



Queen of the May

Bring flowers of the rarest, bring blossoms the fairest,
From garden and woodland and hillside and dale;

Our full hearts are swelling, our glad voices telling
The praise of the loveliest flower of the vale!

Chorus:

O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today!

Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May.

O Mary we crown thee with blossoms today,

Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May.

Their lady they name thee, their mistress proclaim thee,
Ah, grant that thy children on earth be as true.

As long as the bowers are radiant with flowers,
As long as the azure shall keep its bright hue.

Chorus:

Sing gaily in chorus; the bright angels o'er us,
Re-echo the strains we begin upon earth;
Their harps are repeating, the notes of our greeting,

For Mary herself is the cause of our mirth.

Chorus:

A May Altar.

Choose a room in the home where you can set up your altar.

Perhaps a corner of the hallway or an area in a bedroom. Find a flat surface that will act as your altar; a small table or chest of drawers is ideal. You could cover the altar with a cloth, but this isn't essential.

An image of Mary will be your centrepiece. Use a small statue if you have one, or a picture of Mary from a prayer card or prayer book, or a set of rosary beads or a small crucifix placed on the altar can also help with devotions. Have a chair or stool nearby to encourage family members to stop by and perhaps pray to Mary during the day. If you have any prayer or Mass cards with images of Mary, these could also be placed on the altar. On May 13th we celebrate Our Lady of Fatima.

On May 31st we celebrate the Visit of Mary to her cousin, Elizabeth. Both were expecting. Mary, God's own Son and Elizabeth, John the Baptist who would baptise Jesus and prepare the way for Jesus to begin his work of preaching. On the occasion of that visit, Mary prays her song of praise, the Magnificat which gives praise and thanks to God for all that he has done for Mary and for others.

Queen of Heaven/Regina Coeli

This prayer may be prayed each day instead of the Angelus during the Easter Season, that is, from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday.
Queen of heaven, rejoice, Alleluia.

Regina coeli, laetare, alleluia

For he whom you were worthy to bear, Alleluia.

Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia

Has risen as he said, Alleluia.

Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia.

Pray for us to God, Alleluia.

Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia

For the Lord has truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us pray,

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday, May 13th: We Celebrate Our Lady of Fatima

This year we celebrate the 105th anniversary of the appearance of Our Lady at Fatima, Portugal, Fatima is a village in the very centre of Portugal, about 70 miles (112 Km) north of Lisbon. Our Lady appeared to the 3 children – 10 year old Lucia dos Santos, and her cousins, Francisco (9) and Jacinta (7). The lady wore a white mantle edged with gold and held a rosary in her hand. She asked them to devote themselves to the Holy Trinity and to pray the rosary every day for peace in the world and an end to the war. Over six months she appeared to them on the 13th of each month with the exception of August (19th).

Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima.

Our Lady of Fatima, you appeared to the children, Francisco, Jacinta and Lucy.

Through them you call us to faith, conversion, peace and hope, and especially, to pray the rosary for the needs of the whole world.

May we know your motherly care in our lives.

With your help, may our faith grow stronger

and may we turn again to Jesus your Son.

May we work for peace and be filled with hope for a better world.

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us.

Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us.

St. John Paul II, pray for us. St. Francisco, pray for us.

St. Jacinta, pray for us. Blessed Lucy, pray for us.