

## Honoring Our Lady During the Month of May and St. Joseph, Patron of Workers



May is the month dedicated to Mary. The Church traditionally celebrates First Holy Communion for the young and May Crownings during this month. It is the time of the year when winter is laid to rest and flowers spring forth, painting the landscape with the vibrant colors of new life. Praying the family rosary is a special act of devotion to Mary during this month and every month. Families are encouraged to enthrone a statue of Our Lady in a place of honor in their homes, and to build a Mary altar and a Mary garden and to crown Our Lady's statue with a crown of flowers, symbolizing her many virtues and splendors of grace, a custom as old as Greek and Roman traditions of making crowns of ivy leaves and foliage to honor someone. The flowers most associated with Mary are the rose, the most beautiful of flowers, and the lily, symbolizing her purity. She is identified as the Mystical Rose because of her hidden feminine wisdom. Since the third century Mary has been seen as the "rose without thorns," as thorns represent the fall and original sin. The thorns, however, may speak well to her terrible anguish as Mother of the Redeemer Who suffered so in atonement for sin. Special meals and special prayers in her honor, especially on Saturday, a day dedicated to her, are encouraged. Mary's blue is the color of choice to honor her. Making these traditions of the Church a custom in our own homes helps us to participate more deeply in the life of the Church. We should give Mary these honors because she is God's Mother, the Queen-Mother of Jesus, Mother of the Church, and our Mother, Queen of heaven and earth who loves us dearly. She is our Mother of Mercy and love! And she is our Patroness, the Immaculate Conception!

Since the 16<sup>th</sup> century the Church has assigned a special devotion to each month of the year, based on a significant feast during that month. January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus, feast day January 3. February honors the Holy Family, feast day of the Presentation of Jesus on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. March is dedicated to St. Joseph whose feast day is March 19<sup>th</sup>. April honors the Blessed Sacrament because the gifts of the Eucharist and the priesthood were instituted on Holy Thursday. May is Mary's month, feast day of the Visitation on May 31. The feast day of the Sacred Heart is in June, so the month is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus, feast day July 1<sup>st</sup>. August honors the Immaculate Heart of Mary with the feast days of her Assumption on the 15<sup>th</sup> and the Queenship of Mary on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. September honors Our Lady's Seven Sorrows, feast day September 15. The Nativity of Mary, September 8, and the feast day of her Holy Name, September 12<sup>th</sup>, further augment September's dedication to her. October was declared the month of the rosary in 1883 by Pope Leo XIII, called the "Rosary Pope" after having written 11 encyclicals on the rosary. Pope Pius V established the feast of Our Lady of Victory on October 7<sup>th</sup> in honor of the Christian victory over the Turkish forces in the Battle of Lepanto, October 7, 1571. Pope Gregory XIII later changed the feast day to that of the Holy Rosary as that victory was won

through the power of the rosary! November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in purgatory, feast day November 1<sup>st</sup>, and December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, feast day December 8<sup>th</sup>. The Prayer to the Immaculate Conception in Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil's Diary, OUR LADY OF AMERICA, recognizes Mary's supreme role as Queen-Mother in the Jewish tradition, seated at the right hand of her King-Son, King of the Universe. It begins... *O Immaculate Mother, Queen of our country...*

<https://www.pietrafitness.com/pietra-fitness-blog/church-dedications-each-month>

<https://sites.google.com/mcsmanila.edu.ph/the-clarionette/feature/a-month-of-devotion-and-prayer-exploring-the-holy-rosary?authuser=0&pli=1>

Mary's month fittingly begins with a feast honoring her holy Spouse, St. Joseph the Worker. It celebrates the headship of Joseph over the Holy Family, the dignity of work by which we share in God's creative power, and our call to imitate Joseph's fatherly love for his family, and all God's family, as protector, provider, guardian, and guide. Jesus and Mary, greater in nature than St. Joseph, humbly obeyed him and recognized him as having God's authority over them. It is this combined blessing of a father, so like the heavenly father, and a mother, so perfectly designed by God to care for all of us with the unfathomable love of her Divine Spouse that we celebrate whenever we honor one or the other in this earthly trinity. It is fitting that we consecrate our lives to Mother Mary and to St. Joseph in imitation of their holy lives lived out in the humble home of Nazareth, God's paradise on earth.

This month, at the conclusion of the family rosary, let us pray these two simple prayers to Mary and to St. Joseph. Let us memorize them so we can say them every day, with love and devotion.

**O Mary, my queen and my mother,  
I give myself entirely to you;  
and to show my devotion to you,  
I consecrate to you this day,  
my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart,  
my whole being without reserve.  
Wherefore, good mother,  
as I am your own,  
keep me, guard me,  
as your property and possession.  
Amen.**

**O my beloved St. Joseph, adopt me  
as your child. Take charge of my  
salvation; watch over me day and  
night; preserve me from the  
occasions of sin; obtain for me purity  
of body. Through your intercession  
with Jesus, grant me a spirit of  
sacrifice, humility, self-denial,  
burning love for Jesus in the Blessed  
Sacrament, and a sweet and tender  
love for Mary my mother. Saint  
Joseph, be with me living, be with me  
dying, and obtain for me a favorable  
judgment from Jesus, my merciful  
Savior. Amen.**

It behooves us, following the traditions of the Church, to enthrone Our Lady in our own homes and to venerate her there, especially this month of May. Our Lady appeared to Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil on September 26, 1956 and asked to be *enthroned in every home and then God would grant us peace*. We have a special

discount on the statue of Our Lady of America for home enthronement. *Will you give Our Lady a place of honor in your home for Mother's Day?*

## Special Discounts in May...

**to honor Our Lady of America!**

*Our Heavenly Mother asks that she be enthroned and honored in every home!*



**“When a picture or statue of myself as Our Lady of America is placed in the home and honored there, then will my Son bless His people with peace.” (Diary, Pg. 36.)**

**Mothers are the heart of the home! Honor Our Lady with a gift of her statue to any woman for Mother's day, or any day, so she may enthrone Our Lady in her home and obtain the special blessings of Jesus and St. Joseph for all her family and make her home another Nazareth, God's paradise on earth.**

## From now until May 31<sup>st</sup> ....

1. Statues are offered *with FREE shipping, \$60 and no \$15 charge to ship.*
2. Sister Mildred Mary Neuzil's Diary of Our Lady's messages will be half-price at \$2.00 each instead of \$4.00.
3. Holy cards of Our Lady of America, Our Lady of the Divine Indwelling and Our Lady of America Prayer Leaflets will be \$10 per packet of 100.

Order online at [www.ourladyofamerica.com](http://www.ourladyofamerica.com) .

Pay with PayPal or with credit card or with check by mail.

***“ My children must know my desires!”***

**Help us bring Christ's peace to the world as promised by Our Lady of America.**

Copyright© Our Lady of America Devotion, Tiffin, Ohio, May 1, 2023.  
All rights reserved.