

# Crowning of Mary

Learn About Mother Mary, the May Crowning, and  
Dedicate a Prayer to Her.



# What Do You Know About Mother Mary?

Use the Mind Web below to share what you already know or have learned about Mother Mary. Feel free to add more text boxes if you need more space.



What I  
know about  
Mother  
Mary



# What is the May Crowning?

During the month of May, Catholics from all around the world celebrate the Virgin Mary. In fact, the month of May is named for and dedicated to Mother Mary. It is common for Catholics to participate in a ritual called **The Crowning of Mary**, or **May Crowning** on May 1st.

The May Crowning is a celebration that is signified by a **procession**. A procession is when participants walk from one place to another during a liturgy. They carefully walk one after another, often from the back of a church to the front, or to the altar. During a procession, participants may pause to say special prayers depending on the celebration. They may also carry special objects, such as torches, banners, statues, or other types of offerings or gifts. The choir is also often involved in a procession.

During the Crowning of Mary, a statue of Mary is blessed and "crowned" with a garland or wreath of flowers. This honours Mother Mary the Queen of May. Many flowers are associated with Mother Mary, and often people plant "Mary gardens," which are small, special gardens that are planted around a statue of Mother Mary.



# May Crowning Reading Response

1. When does the Crowning of Mary take place?
2. What is a procession?
3. What do participants carry during a procession?
4. What happens during the Crowning of Mary?
5. What is a Mary garden?

# Flowers for Mary

During the May Crowning, families often bring flowers for Mother Mary, or create wreaths to place upon Mary's head. Watch the video below to learn how to make a simple clover chain, for an easy May Crowning.



# Luke 1:26 - 36: The Virgin Mary

During Elizabeth's sixth month of pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to a woman who lived in Nazareth, a town in Galilee. She was engaged to marry a man named Joseph from the family of David. Her name was Mary.

The angel came to her and said, "Greetings! The Lord has blessed you and is with you."

But Mary was very confused by what the angel said. Mary wondered, "What does this mean?"

The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary, because God is pleased with you. You will become pregnant. You will give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and people will call him the Son of God. The Lord God will give him the throne of King David, his ancestor. He will rule over the people of Jacob forever. His kingdom will never end."

Mary said to the angel, "How will this happen? I do not understand. How will I have this baby?"

# Luke 1:26 - 36: The Virgin Mary

The angel said to Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of God will cover you. The baby will be holy. He will be called the Son of God, and his conception will be a miracle."

"Now listen!" the angel continued, "Elizabeth, your relative, is very old. But she is also pregnant with a son. Everyone thought she could not have a baby, but she has been pregnant for six months. God can do everything!"

Mary said, "I am the servant girl of the Lord. Let this happen to me as you say!" Then the angel went away.



# The Virgin Mary Reading Response

1. What news did the angel Gabriel share with Mary?
2. What was Mary's reaction to this news?
3. How do you think Mary felt after the angel Gabriel spoke with her?  
Why?
4. Why do you think God chose Mary to be the mother of His son Jesus?





# Prayers for May Crowning

After Mary is crowned, it is typical to recite prayers in Mary's honour, or to recite prayers to Mother Mary herself. A common prayer is the Hail Mary. Take some time to recite these prayers with your family members.

Hail Mary, full of grace.  
The Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou amongst  
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.



# Songs for May Crowning

You may also sing special songs that are dedicated to Mother Mary after her crowning. We call these songs Marian hymns.



# Prayer Writing with ACTS

A.C.T.S is an acronym that describes four elements of prayer. It stands for Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication

## Adoration

We tell Mother Mary how special she is and how much we love her. We use words of praise to describe how wonderful Mary is.

Example: "Mother Mary you are so special and wonderful. You look over us and care for us."

## Confession

We reflect on our sins and transgressions, and tell Mary and God how we have hurt them.

Example: "I apologize for not always being honest. I apologize for not showing kindness to those around me."

# Prayer Writing with ACTS

## Thanksgiving

We thank God, Mother Mary, or both, for all that was given to us and for their love. We express our gratitude for all that is good in our lives and in the world.

Example: "Thank you for providing us with a safe place to live. Thank you for friends and family. Thank you for sending your son Jesus Christ to die on the cross for us."

## Supplication

We ask God and/or Mother Mary for something we want or need. We pray for our own needs and for the needs of others.

Example: "Please help those in the world who are suffering. Please provide my friends and family with happiness and good health."

# ACTS Template

Use the spaces below to plan out your own ACTS prayer. Be sure to include all 4 parts of ACTS. You may use the below sentence starters, or write your own. Refer to the descriptions above if you need assistance.

**Adoration** (Dear Mother Mary, you are ...)

**Confession** (I apologize for ...)

# ACTS Template

**Thanksgiving** (Thank you for ...)

**Confession** (Please help me with ...)

# ACTS Prayer

You can write your full ACTS Prayer here or another paper.

