

**St. Stephen's Mystagogy
Hour of Adoration for May**

I. Opening Prayer of Blessing and Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament *(Kneel)*

My Lord Jesus Christ,
I believe that You are really here in this Sacrament.

Night and day You remain here, compassionate and loving.
You call, You wait for, You welcome,
everyone who comes to visit You.

I thank You, Jesus my Divine Redeemer
for coming upon the earth for our sake
and for instituting this most Blessed Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist
in order to remain with us until the end of the world.

I thank You for hiding Yourself under the accidents of Bread and Wine,
For obscuring Your infinite majesty and beauty, which Your Angels delight to behold,
so that I might have courage to approach the throne of Your mercy.

Awaken in me such confidence in Your Presence
that I may stay recollected and fervent in this time of adoration.

Receive my desire to be united with You,
And send the Holy Spirit to transform my poor mumbled prayers,
into burning, powerful intercessions before the Father. Amen.

II. Placing of Intentions for the Hour

III. Hymn of Praise - "Bring Flowers of the Fairest" *(Stand)*

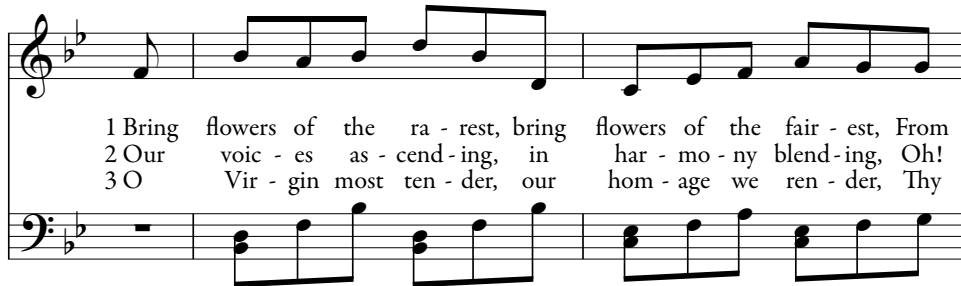
*While the hymn is being sung, please bring the flowers symbolizing your mother and other intentions,
and place them in the vases before Our Blessed Mother.*



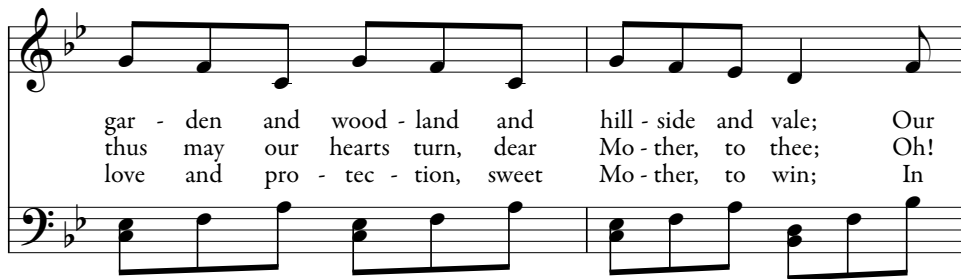
The most famous of the May Crowning hymns, this was first published in 1871 as "Crowning Hymn" written by Mary E. Walsh for the Sisters of Notre Dame. Phrases from the hymn were derived from a 13th Century Latin chant popularized in England and Ireland.

BRING FLOWERS OF THE RAREST

CROWNING HYMN - MARY E. WALSH



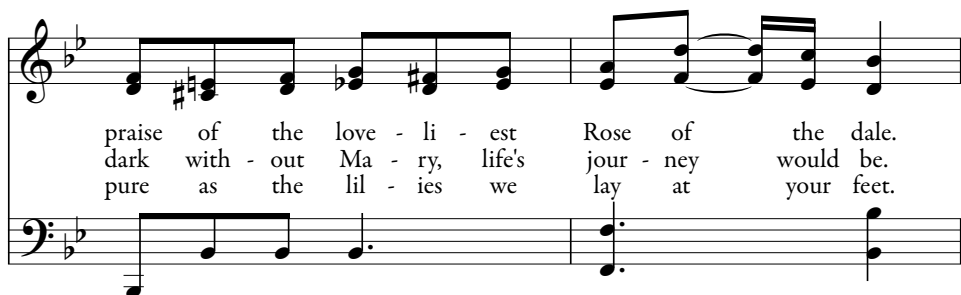
1 Bring flowers of the ra - rest, bring flowers of the fair - est, From
2 Our voic - es as - cend - ing, in har - mo - ny blend - ing, Oh!
3 O Vir - gin most ten - der, our hom - age we ren - der, Thy




gar - den and wood - land and hill - side and vale; Our
thus may our hearts turn, dear Mo - ther, to thee; Oh!
love and pro - tec - tion, sweet Mo - ther, to win; In



full hearts are swell - ing, our glad voic - es tell - ing The
thus shall we prove thee how tru - ly I love thee, How
dan - ger de - fend us, in sor - row be - friend us, As



praise of the love - li - est Rose of the dale.
dark with - out Ma - ry, life's jour - ney would be.
pure as the lil - ies we lay at your feet.



O Ma - ry! we crown thee with blos - soms to - day

Queen of the An - gels, Queen of the May, O

Ma - ry we crown thee with blos - soms to - day,

Queen of the Ang - els, Queen of the May.

IV. Dedication to Mary, Mother of God, by St. Augustine of Hippo (354-430) (Kneel)

This ancient prayer from the great Doctor of Grace shows that particular veneration of Mary as “Theotokos” (Mother of God) was already well-established in the Church by the fourth century.

O Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, we offer ourselves to your loving care.
 Today, we choose you as our mother, guide, and protector.
 Help us to always be faithful to Your Son,
 And to desire, say, and do, only what is pleasing to Him.
 O Most tender and loving Mother, we beg you,
 through the goodness of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Divine Son,
 To keep us especially close to you, and to obtain for us
 the grace and strength to live a holy life, a life of goodness, purity, and love,
 Offered to God in thanksgiving and praise.
 Stay with us at all times, O Blessed Virgin Mary,
 and especially at the hour of our death.
 Protect us from the Evil One, the enemy of our souls.
 Guide us safely into the presence of Jesus, so that with you and all the saints,
 We may share His life, love, and happiness, forever and ever. Amen.

V. Reading from St. Bernard of Clairvaux: “Homily on the Name of Mary” (Sit)

St. Bernard of Clairvaux, the towering figure who dominated and transformed the 12th Century, bears the title “The Honeysweet Doctor” primarily for his lyrical and loving homilies on the Blessed Virgin.

(Reading followed by 10 minutes of silent prayer and reflection)

VI. Response to the Reading: The Litany of Loretto

Leader: Lord have mercy.

ALL: Christ have mercy.

Leader: Lord have mercy. Christ hear us.

ALL: Christ graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven, (*Respond to following, "Have Mercy on us."*)

God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

God the Holy Spirit,

Holy Trinity, one God,

Holy Mary, (*Respond to all, "Pray for us."*)

Holy Mother of God,

Holy Virgin of virgins,

Mother of Christ,

Mother of the Church,

Mother of Mercy,

Mother of divine grace,

Mother of Hope,

Mother most pure,

Mother most chaste,

Mother inviolate,

Mother undefiled,

Mother most amiable,

Mother admirable,

Mother of good counsel,

Mother of our Creator,

Mother of our Savior,

Virgin most prudent,

Virgin most venerable,

Virgin most renowned,

Virgin most powerful,

Virgin most merciful,

Virgin most faithful,

Mirror of justice,

Seat of wisdom,

Cause of our joy,

Spiritual vessel,

Vessel of honor,

Singular vessel of devotion,

Mystical rose,

Tower of David,

Tower of ivory,

House of gold,

Ark of the covenant,

Gate of heaven,

Morning star,

Health of the sick,

Refuge of sinners,

Solace of Migrants,

Comfort of the afflicted,

Help of Christians,

Queen of Angels,

Queen of Patriarchs,

Queen of Prophets,

Queen of Apostles,

Queen of Martyrs,

Queen of Confessors,

Queen of Virgins,

Queen of all Saints,

Queen conceived without original sin,

Queen assumed into heaven,

Queen of the most holy Rosary,

Queen of families,

Queen of peace.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, **(ALL) spare us, O Lord.**

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, **(ALL) graciously hear us, O Lord.**

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, **(ALL) have mercy on us.**

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

(ALL) That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

(Leader) Let us pray. Grant, we beseech thee, O Lord God, that we, your servants, may enjoy perpetual health of mind and body; and by the glorious intercession of the Blessed Mary, ever Virgin, may be delivered from present sorrow, and obtain eternal joy.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

VII. Invocation of the Holy Spirit and Examination of Conscience *(Kneel)*

Holy Spirit, powerful Consoler,
 sacred Bond of the Father and the Son,
 Hope of the afflicted,
 descend into my heart
 and establish in it Your loving dominion.
 Enkindle in my tepid soul the fire of Your Love
 so that I may be wholly subject to You.
 Give me Your wisdom and knowledge to know the
 natures of all things and especially my own acts;
 Fill me with understanding
 To fathom my heart and its motivations.
 Infuse me with Your good counsel, to know what to do.

Give me the courage to see myself as you see me.
 Give me a spirit of piety and the desire to please
 You above all things.
 Give me reverence to live always in Your presence.
 Come and purify me,
 Let no evil desire take possession of me.
 Come to me, Glory of the living,
 and Hope of the dying.
 Lead me by Your grace
 that I may always be pleasing to you. Amen.

Examination of Conscience *(Sit or kneel - 10 minutes of שושיח ופיקוד.)*

(The Examination of conscience is a review of one's past thoughts, words, actions, and omissions for the purpose of ascertaining their conformity with, or deviation from God's law. Catholic tradition encourages using the Ten Commandments as a guide, or the Beatitudes, or the virtues and vices.)

Prayer of Petition for Forgiveness *(Kneel)*

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You,
 and I detest all my sins because of Your just punishments,
 but most of all, because they offend You, my God,
 Who art all-good and deserving of all my love.
 I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace,
 To confess my sins, to do penance, to sin no more,
 and to avoid in the near occasion of sin. Amen.

VIII. Compline (Night Prayer) from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary *(Stand)*

(Leader) God, come to my assistance.

(All make the Sign of the Cross)

(All) Lord, make haste to help me.

(Leader) Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

(All make a profound bow) as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

PSALMODY *(Sit)*

Antiphon 1: *(Leader)* Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Psalm 122

(L = Left side. R = Right side)

(L) I rejoiced when I heard them say:

Let us go to God's house.
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

(R) Jerusalem is built as a city
strongly compact.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.

(L) For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgment
of the house of David.

(R) For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
"Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls!
In your palaces, peace!"

(L) For love of my brethren and friends
I say: Peace upon you.
For love of the house of the Lord
I will ask for your good.

(ALL) Glory to

Antiphon 1 – **(ALL) Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.**

Antiphon 2 *(Leader)* *I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you have said.*

Psalm 127

(L) If the Lord does not build the house,
in vain do its builders labor;
if the Lord does not watch over the city,
in vain does the watchman keep vigil.

(R) In vain is your earlier rising,
your going later to rest,
you who toil for the bread you eat,
when he pours gifts on his beloved while they slumber.

(L) Truly sons are a gift from the Lord,
a blessing, the fruit of the womb.
Indeed the sons of youth
are like arrows in the hand of a warrior.

(R) O the happiness of the man
who has filled his quiver with these arrows!
He will have no cause for shame
when he disputes with his foes in the gateways.

(ALL) Glory to...

Antiphon 2 **(ALL)** *I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me as you have said.*

Antiphon 3 *(Leader)* *Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.*

Canticle - See Revelation 19:1-7 - The wedding of the lamb

(ALL) Alleluia.

**Salvation, glory, and power to our God:
his judgments are honest and true. Alleluia.
Sing praise to our God, all you his servants,
all who worship him reverently, great and small. Alleluia.
The Lord our all-powerful God is King;
Let us rejoice, sing praise, and give him glory. Alleluia.
The wedding feast of the Lamb has begun,
and his bride is prepared to welcome him. Alleluia. Glory...**

Antiphon 3 **(ALL) Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.**

READING. *(Leader 2) Luke 1: 39-45*

Mary rising up in those days, went with haste into the hill country, into a town of Judah. And she entered into the house of Zacharia, and saluted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the infant leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she cried out with a loud voice, and said: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how is it that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed are you who has believed, because those things that have been revealed to you by the Lord shall be accomplished."
(Reflection for 2 minutes)

RESPONSORY. *(Stand)*

(Leader 2) Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

- **(ALL) Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.**

(Leader 2) Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

- **(ALL) The Lord is with you.**

(Leader 2) Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

- **(ALL) Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.**

Antiphon (Leader 2) Mary heard the word of God and kept it; she pondered it in her heart.

MAGNIFICAT (by John Michael Talbot) – Sung by Jessica

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord
And my spirit exalts in God my savior
For he has looked with mercy on my lowliness
And my name will be forever exalted
For the mighty God has done great things for me
And His mercy will read from age to age.
(Refrain ALL) And holy, holy, holy is His name

He has mercy in every generation
He has revealed His power and His glory
He has cast down the mighty in their arrogance
And has lifted up the meek and the lowly
He has come to help His servant Israel
He remembered His promise to our fathers
(Refrain ALL) And holy, holy, holy is His name

And holy, holy, holy is His name

And holy, holy, holy is His name

Antiphon (ALL) Mary heard the word of God and kept it; she pondered it in her heart.

INTERCESSIONS

(Leader 2) Let us praise God, our almighty Father, who wished that Mary, his Son's mother, be

celebrated by each generation. Now in need we ask:

(ALL) - Mary, full of grace, intercede for us.

(Leader 2) O God, worker of miracles, you made the immaculate Virgin Mary share, body and soul, in your Son's glory in heaven,

(ALL) - direct the hearts of your children to that same glory.

(Leader 2) Heavenly Father, You made Mary our mother. Through her intercession grant strength to the weak, comfort to the sorrowing, pardon to sinners,

(ALL) - Salvation and peace to all.

(Leader 2) Spirit of Love, You made Mary full of grace,

(ALL) - grant all men the joyful abundance of your grace.

(Leader 2) Jesus, Son of Mary, make your Church of one mind and one heart in love,

(ALL) - and help all those who believe to be one in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus.

(Leader 2) Holy Trinity, One God, You crowned Mary queen of heaven,

- may all the dead rejoice in your kingdom with the saints for ever.

(ALL) Our Father...

Closing PRAYER

(Leader 2) Father,

may the prayers of the Virgin Mary protect us
and help us to reach Christ her Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

(Sign of the Cross)

(Leader 2) May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life.

(ALL) Amen.

Closing Hymn: "Salve Regina" (*Breaking Bread* #697)