

# May Crowning Service

## Opening Song

*Immaculate Mary*

## Sign of the Cross

## Introduction

**Leader:** My dear brothers and sisters, we have gathered here in joy for the solemn crowning of this statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This image reminds us of the close ties of Mary to Christ and his Church. First of all, she is Christ's Mother, the Mother of the visible image of the invisible God. But she is also the image and the model of the Church, and she is its exemplar. In May the Church joyously contemplates the image of all that the Church itself desires and hopes wholly to be. The Church recognizes in Mary the model of the path and the practice it must follow to reach complete union with Christ. As the Spouse of Christ, the Church raises its eyes to Mary, the exemplar it must look to in carrying out the work of the apostolate. We should strive to take part in this service with the greatest intensity and reverent devotion.

## Crowning of Mary

Singing *Bring Flowers of the Rarest* and *On This Day O Beautiful Mother* while the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Volunteers Crown Mary

## Reading

**First Reading:** Isaiah 9:1-6

**Gospel According** to Luke: 1:42-50

Elizabeth cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my savior.  
For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness;  
Behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.  
The Mighty One has done great things for me,  
And holy is his name.  
His mercy is from age to age  
to those who fear him."

## **Intercessions**

**Leader:** Let us glorify our Savior, who chose to be born of the Virgin Mary and let us pray to him, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

**Reader:** Savior of the world, by your redeeming power you preserved your Mother from every stain of sin; keep watch over us that we may not sin. For this we pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Our Lord and Redeemer, you dwelt within the Immaculate Virgin Mary and made her the sanctuary of the Holy Spirit; make us temples of the same Spirit for ever. For this we pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Christ our Priest, your Mother stood at the foot of the cross; grant through her intercession that we may rejoice to share in your passion. For this we pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

King of Kings, you lifted up your Mother, body and soul, into heaven; help us fix our thoughts and hearts on the things above. For this we pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Lord of heaven and earth, you crowned Mary and set her at your right hand as queen; make us worthy to share also in this glory. For this we pray to the Lord: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Leader:** As we are gathered here together like the apostles with the Mother of Jesus, let us offer the prayer Jesus taught us.

Our Father ...

## **PRAYER OF BLESSING**

**Leader:** Lord God,  
We acknowledge your infinite glory  
And the abundance of your gifts.  
Before the foundation of the world,  
you appointed Christ  
The beginning and end of all things.

You chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
as the Mother and companion of your Son,  
the image and model of your Church,  
the Mother and advocate of us all.

She is the new Eve,  
through whom you restored

what the first Eve had lost.  
She is the daughter of Zion,  
who echoed in her heart  
the longings of the patriarchs  
and the hopes of Israel.

She is the poor and lowly servant,  
who trusted solely in her Lord.

In her flesh she was his Mother,  
in her person, his disciple,  
in her love, his servant.

Father,  
May your children who gather by this statue of Mary  
know her protection  
and trace in their hearts the pattern of her holiness.

Bless them with faith and hope, love and humility;  
bless them with strength in hardship and self-respect in poverty;  
bless them with patience in adversity and kindheartedness in times of plenty.

May they search for peace,  
strive for justice,  
and realize your love,  
as they pursue their journey through life  
toward your heavenly city,  
where the Blessed Virgin Mary  
intercedes as Mother and reigns as Queen.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Act of Consecration**

Act of Consecration (please pray together)  
(by John Paul II, at Fatima on May 13, 1982)

We have recourse to your protection, Holy Mother of God,  
before you, Mother of Christ, before your Immaculate Heart,  
we today unite ourselves with our Redeemer in this consecration  
for the world and for people which only in His Divine Heart have  
the power to pardon and to secure reparation. Embrace with the  
love of mother and handmaid this human world of ours which we  
entrust and consecrate to you for we are greatly concerned with  
the earthly and eternal destiny of individuals and peoples. In a

special way we entrust and consecrate to you these individuals and nations which particularly need to be entrusted and consecrated. Mother of the Church, enlighten the people of God of the Roman Catholic Church. Help us to live with the whole truth of the consecration of Christ for the entire human family of the modern world. May your Immaculate Heart reveal for all, the light of hope.

### **Closing Prayer**

Leader: Let us ask Mary's intercession as we pray.

Hail Mary ...

### **Sign of the Cross**

### **Closing Song**

*Hail, Holy Queen*