

The month of May from the very earliest of days has been dedicated to Mary in many countries and cultures. In this time of pandemic, Archbishops and Bishops across Canada and the US are renewing the consecration of their dioceses to Mary, to entrust us to her protection and to ask her intercession in the battle against COVID 19.

May is the season of new life as Mary is the bearer of New Life: Jesus. There are many ways to celebrate and honour Mary in your homes.

Here are a few resources to assist you:

Mary explained in 2 minutes: A Busted Halo video:

<https://bustedhalo.com/video/mary-in-two-minutes>

International Marian Research Institute. There is so much to explore on this website about Mary that it will keep you busy for hours.

<https://udayton.edu/imri/>

Marian Prayers:

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/marian-prayers-72>

Marian Resources for all ages:

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/saints/saints-activities/resource-collections/marian-resources/>

A Marian Playlist and a list of great books about Mary for Children here:

<https://www.looktohimandberadiant.com/2015/05/favorite-books-about-mary-playlist.html>

Free Printables: Mary, Mother of God

<https://www.sadlier.com/religion/blog/the-month-of-mary-catholic-free-printable-mary-mother-of-god-activities-devotions-to-mother-mary-may-crowning-of-mary>

Mary Crafts and Creations:

<https://www.catholicicing.com/mary-kids-activities/>

In this season of growing consider planting a Marian garden of your own. Here are some common Marian flowers but did you know that there are over 1,100 flowers named to honour her?:

<https://teachingcatholickids.com/common-marian-flowers/>

Canada54 – 54 day novena. For more information and to commit to this great movement of intercession.

<https://www.subscribepage.com/d3y9l9#todIsZhlWjslhDqRVejAPTxfFYKuqfKXO>

The final thing I share with you is something I created myself (a larger photo is attached). I love to do creative journaling as a means of prayer and in these times of isolation I find myself doing this more. (One of the blessings I give thanks for!) **I challenge you to make one of your own and share it with me.** If I get enough I will make a “Prayers to Mary” slideshow and share it with you. There is no ‘right’ way to do this but these are the steps I used:



1. Put yourself in the presence of God
2. Find a picture of Mary that speaks to you. (Magazines, postcards, photographs of statues, print off the internet are all great sources).
3. Tear the picture out or cut if you prefer clean lines
4. Create a background. I blotched my paper with a wet tea bag, but you can use pastels, crayons, tissue paper -- whatever you are inspired to try.
5. Cut flowers out of magazines- enough to go around your picture.
6. Go back to your background and write out a favorite prayer to Mary or find a new one you have not prayed before. Write it out with marker repeating it as many times as needed to fill the page.
7. Arrange the flowers and Mary and glue to your page.
8. Say a closing prayer thanking Mary for her intercession.

Please know I hold you in constant prayer. If there is anything I can do to support you please do not hesitate to ask.

Peace in the Risen Christ,
Gwen

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