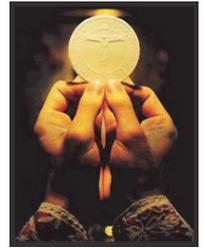




# THERE IS NO GREATER GIFT!



As we enter the Month of May, let us vie with one another to excel to the limit of our ability to honor, love, imitate and exalt the Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth. The practice of honoring Mary in the month of May comes to us from the Golden Age of Faith, the 13<sup>th</sup> Century, a time when great cathedrals were being built and most of them were dedicated to the Mother of God. The Jesuits established the Sodality of Mary as a Lay Order in the Church, promoting personal consecration to Mary by placing themselves under Her care and protection, that She might lead them safely to Her Divine Son.

The practice of keeping the month of May for Mary was granted an indulgence by Pope Pius VII in 1815 and, in 1859, Pope Pius IX granted a Plenary Indulgence to this practice. When the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to St. Catherine Labouré in Rue du Bac, She asked that a special organization be founded in the Church for the very purpose of promoting the May devotions and spreading the Miraculous Medal.

The Children of Mary was founded by the Vincentian Order, and the Daughters of Charity spread the devotion primarily through the schools. The French Revolution took its toll and it was a long while before the devotion requested by Our Lady was once again revived. Today, the devotion flourishes throughout the world. During the month of May, let us enshrine Mary's image, procure Her glory and extend the service of our Queen and Mother! In all the major apparitions of Mary, the Mother of God appeared to ask of Her humble seers the favor of having a church built on that hallowed ground where pilgrims would come to venerate and honor Her by their attendance at Holy Mass and the reception of the Sacraments, thus rendering to God the Father eternal glory, thanksgiving and reparation for the sins of mankind. **"Build on this spot a chapel."** This is the cause most dear to the Heart of Our Mother. Listen to Her pleas and hasten to Her requests. She is our Patroness, Advocate, Mistress and Mother!

In honor and obedience, thanksgiving and petition, entrust all your loved ones to Mary through your gift of a special Bouquet of 31 days of Sacred Liturgies. Crown Her with the roses empurpled in the Precious Blood of Her Divine Son, the Source of all Salvation! A lovely Mass card will be sent out to you for each one you enroll.

**SUGGESTED STIPEND DONATION: \$5.00 EACH for Enrollment in the MAY Bouquet of thirty one days of Masses for your Loved Ones: PRINT VERY CLEARLY EACH NAME!**

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