

MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD AND OUR MOTHER

Preparation: Cover a small table or a cardboard box with a simple cloth, place a candle, a vase of flowers and an image of Mary, rosary beads or open Grow in Love Book pages 54&55 etc.



Sign of the Cross: In the name of the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Prayer: During the month of May, we remember Mary the Mother of Jesus and our mother. Mary loved God, her family, her friends and neighbours. We ask Mary to pray for us that we too may grow in love. Amen.

Preparation for the Gospel:

Reader: Mary, the mother of Jesus, looked back at everything that had happened and wondered what it meant.

Mary: I remember the shepherds coming into the place where we were in Bethlehem. They gazed at the baby in such wonderment. They were good men, full of joy they kept saying that everything that had happened was planned out by God long ago. They said God had come to live among them.

Shepherds: This is God's work. The baby will save our people. God's blessing has come to all of us.

Mary: And there was Simon and Anna, a holy man and women in the temple who to see God's son. Simon blessed me and he said I would have much pain and sorrow in the future. It left me thinking what does God really want me to do.? I suppose it will unfold at time goes on.

Anna: Those of you who long for the new days that God had promised can look at this baby and know a new world is in the making.

Mary: My baby son to bring much love, peace and happiness to all people.

Reader: Mary treasured all these things in her heart.

Gospel:

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke (2:16-21)

The shepherds hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger. They told Mary and Joseph what an angel had said about the child. They were amazed at what the shepherds said. Mary remembered all these things and thought deeply about them. The shepherds went back, singing praises to God for all they heard and seen; it had been just as the angel had told them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

YouTube:

Litany of Mary:

Hail Mary full of grace

Pray for us

Hail Mary the Lord is with you

Pray for us

Hail Mary blessed among women

Pray for us

Holy Mary

Pray for us

Holy Mary mother of God

Pray for us

Holy Mary our mother too

Pray for us

Add our own



Story

Jack was eight years old when his Mum became very ill and was taken to hospital.

Jack was feeling very sad because he missed having his Mum at home.

When Jack went to see his Mum, in hospital he always had a sad face. No matter how hard one of the nurses looked at Jack and said, "*Cheer up Jack, your Mum is getting better.*"

Jack knew the nurse was right, but he still could not smile.

He hurried into his Mum room and climbed onto beside her.

As he did, he looked at the picture of Mary that hung above the bed.

His Mum saw him looking at the picture.

"*Do you know Jack*" she said quietly, "You have two mothers?"

One of them is me, right here next to you and the other is Mary in heaven."

Jack thought about this. His Mum gave him a big hug and said,

"Why don't you ask Mary, our mother, to help you when you feel sad and lonely," she said.

"Mothers always want to help."

Jack didn't say anything, but in his heart, he asked Mary to help him.

That evening when he was in bed when the light was out

He remembered the picture of Mary.

He closed his eyes and whispered to Mary,

"Help me to be happy and to be able to smile for my Mum

when I go to see her tomorrow in the hospital.

Jack closed his eyes and holding his favourite Teddy bear in his arms,
he fell fast asleep.

Next day, when he climbed up on his Mum's bed,

the first thing he saw was the picture of Mary above the bed.

Slowly without thinking, a big smile spread across his face and he gave his Mum a big hug.

Jack's smile made his Mum so much better.



Say Together

Hail Mary, Full of grace