The Marian Pilgrimage 7-21 May 20: Daily Devotional Guide
DAY FOURTEEN: WED 20 May 20: Our Lady of Schoenstatt



Morning Offering What I bear and endure, what I say and what I dare, what I think and what I cherish, all the merits that I gain, what I direct and what I conquer, all my joys and all my sorrows: what I am and what I have, I give to you as a gift of love. Use it so that the holy stream of graces flowing richly from the shrine may fill the souls of those who have given their hearts to Schoenstatt and gently lead there all those whom you wish to choose in kindness. Accept everything that our efforts may be fruitful which we dedicate to the Trinity.





- 1. Bring flowers of the rarest, bring blossoms the fairest, from garden and woodland and hillside and dale; our full hearts are swelling, our glad voices telling the praise of the loveliest flower of the vale.
- O Mary we crown thee, with blossoms today, Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May. (2)
- 2. Their lady they name thee, their mistress proclaim thee. Oh, grant that thy children on earth be as true as long as the bowers are radiant with flowers as long as the azure shall keep its bright hue.
- O Mary we crown thee, with blossoms today, Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May. (2)
- 3. Sing gaily in chorus, the bright angels o'er us re-echo the strains we begin upon earth; their harps are repeating the notes of their greeting, for Mary herself in the cause of our mirth.
- O Mary we crown thee, with blossoms today, Queen of the Angels and Queen of the May. (2)

The Crowning with Blossoms is still celebrated at Schoenstatt in Scotland. The usual Mass and Devotions in the May Pilgrimage cannot be observed this year due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

Usually Mary is crowned with blossoms in the Shrine after Mass. This wonderful ceremony of crowning with flowers is steeped in Catholic tradition. It offers adults and children the prospect of honouring our Blessed Mother by acknowledging her gracious role in bringing our Saviour into the world.

Mary is also the Crown of Creation. The Royal symbol of coronation was attributed to Mary for she was the perfect follower of Christ, the absolute 'crown' of creation, she being the Mother of the Son of God, the Messianic King.



Father, as your Son was raised on the cross, his mother Mary stood by him, sharing his sufferings. May your Church be united with Christ in his suffering and death and so come to share in his rising to new life, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

The Easter season includes the Marian month of May. As we continue to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus it is only fitting to celebrate his Mother and our Mother too. We recall *Mense Maio*, an encyclical of Pope Paul VI from April 1965:

"We are delighted and consoled by this pious custom associated with the month of May, which pays honour to the Blessed Virgin and brings such rich benefits to the Christian people. Since Mary is rightly to be regarded as the way by which we are led to Christ, the person who encounters Mary cannot help but encounter Christ likewise. For what other reason do we continually turn to Mary except to seek the Christ in her arms, to seek our Saviour in her, through her, and with her? To Him men are to turn amid the anxieties and perils of this world, urged on by duty and driven by the compelling needs of their heart, to find a haven of salvation, a transcendent fountain of life".





We should heed the fatherly guidance of our Holy Father, Pope Francis, who gently encourages us with his Letter to the Faithful for the Month of May, urging us to "rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home . . . either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities."

In the letter, he provides two new prayers for us to pray at the conclusion of the Rosary, but they are beautiful petitions at any time of day. Let us join him as he prays along with us "in spiritual union" during the upcoming month of Our Lady:

O Mary,

You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people", you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

We fly to your protection,

O Holy Mother of God;

Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,

O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

The Memorare Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come. before thee I stand. sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.





Prayer for the canonization of Father Joseph Kentenich:

God our Father, In Father Kentenich you have given us a father and a prophet, a witness and a herald of your message for our time, enkindled by the Holy Spirit. Give us of his fire. Give us of his founder spirit. Let his charism be so alive in us that we can shape the future of the Church and society. May his vision be our vision: In the power of the covenant of love, a new world is to arise – a world in which people form a covenant culture wherever they live and work. Father in heaven, we ask you: Accept Father Kentenich into the company of the saints recognized by the Church. Open the door to him and his mission everywhere so that he can guide many people on the way to the fullness of life, the way to you. We ask this of you, in communion with Mary, our Mother Thrice Admirable, Queen, and Victress of Schoenstatt, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Schoenstatt to conclude our Pilgrimage Journey



Divine Providence

You know the way for me, you know the time, into your hands I trustingly place mine.

Your plan is perfect, born of perfect love.

You know the way for me, that is enough.

Confidence

I trust your might, your kindness, Mother dear,
I do believe that you are always near.
Schoenstatt's great Queen, O Mother mild,
I blindly trust in you and in your Child.

Oneness with Mary
O Mother, in your holy heart
deeply inscribe each name.
And as a sign that we are yours
write it with blood and flame.
In love and childlike gratitude
your name shall also be
deeply inscribed within my heart
for all eternity.

Apostolate

Mother Thrice Admirable, Mother of Grace, teach us your enemies bravely to face, never regarding their number and might, spreading your love over the earth's dark night, so that the world through you made new, pay to your Son his homage due.

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Mother with your Child divine,
make our country wholly thine.
Help that it will never cease
to follow you and gain God's peace.
Mother and Child, united in love,
will restore it in grace from above.

Imitation of Mary

Let us walk like you through life,

let us mirror you forever,

strong and noble, meek and mild,

peace and love be our endeavour.

Walk in us through our world,

make it ready for the Lord.

Think in me, O Mother,

that my thoughts be clear and bright; speak in me, O Mother, that my speech be true and right; work in me, O Mother, my work is then well done; then holy is my labour, my rest a holy one.

You penetrate my being, fill every part of me, that all your ways and conduct in me each one can see.



Mary, in the midst of the Apostles you powerfully implore the coming of the promised Spirit, who transforms weak men and women and directs the Church on the road to victory. Open our souls for the Spirit of God

that he may change the course of the world.

Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit, you are the soul of my soul. I humbly adore you. Enlighten me, strengthen me, guide me, comfort me. Reveal your wishes to me as far as this is in accordance with the will of the Eternal Father. Show me what Eternal Love wants of me. Show me what I should do. Show me what I should suffer, Show me what I should humbly and Thought fully accept, bear and endure. Holy Spirit, show me your will and the will of the Father, for I want my whole life to be nothing else than a continuous, an everlasting yes to the wishes, to the will of God.



Queen of Heaven, rejoice. Alleluia.

For He, whom thou wast worthy to bear. Alleluia.

Has risen as He said. Alleluia.

Pray for us to God. Alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary. Alleluia.

R. Because the Lord is truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us pray

O God, Who by the Resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, hast been pleased to give joy to the whole world, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady of Schoenstatt, Pray for us