



“’Tis the Month of our Mother....”

By Marge Loenser

“’Tis the month of our Mother, the blessed and beautiful days, when our lips and our spirits are flowing with love and with praise....”

Beautifully, this hymn echoes back to me from St. Elizabeth’s grammar school. I remember lining up in procession to sing and pray the rosary. Yes, May the month of Mary, is here already! What better way to start the month than celebrating the spouse of Mary, St. Joseph, the worker? How I would love to go back in time to watch St. Joseph showing Jesus how to use the tools of his trade. “Now, now son, watch your fingers! Hand me that lathe and then go see what Mother has prepared for the meal.” How humble our Lord Jesus was to allow Himself to be human and submit to all authority; to perform everyday tasks with love and grace; to obey His parents and be present to all his family in everything, their hardships and their joys. Thank you, Lord, for your example, for your submission to Your heavenly Father.

On Sunday, May 9 we celebrate Mothers' Day. On this day we honor our mothers with flowers, cards and gifts and thank God for all they have done for us. For those of us who have lost our Mothers, we think back fondly on all those years they were there for us, and we say a prayer that they sit with Jesus at His table. We ask that they continue to look after us with their prayers.

May 13 is the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. **St Mark (16:15-18)**, tells us that before Jesus ascended, **He said: "Go into the world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved."** *Whoever does not believe, will be condemned. He tells them of the power they will have and the miracles they will perform.* Then Jesus was taken up to heaven. I can picture this scene, and if I put myself in it, I see me running after Him, saying, "Wait! Wait! Take me with You.!" But that's just my emotional reaction – I'm sure the disciples were kneeling with arms outstretched in deep rapture, crying tears of joy and sadness and contemplating what all this means. Jesus promised His Holy Spirit and when Pentecost comes, they will be filled with the Spirit and they will preach boldly, speak in tongues and thousands will be converted that very day!

On May 13 we also think of the miracles of Fatima, and our blessed Mother's messages. She spoke of allegiance to the Holy Trinity, the Eucharist, penance, the need to pray the rosary and to make sacrifices for the conversion of sinners. More than ever, we need to pray the rosary. After the Holy Mass it is one of the most important prayers of the church.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us continue to pray for each other and for the end of the pandemic. Pray for our country, that we may once more be united under God. God bless you, Love Marge



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