

May 15 ~ MARY: AT CANA

"In the Gospel, St. John has recorded a wonderful phrase of our Lady. At the wedding of Cana she turned to the waiters and said: 'Do whatever he tells you.' That is what it is all about -- getting people to face Jesus and ask him: 'Lord, what do you want me to do?' " 21

Let us offer to our Mother today: *Prompt obedience, when we are called or asked to do some errand or some act of service.*

May 16 ~ MARY: AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS

"We find her on Calvary, at the foot of the cross, praying. This is nothing new for Mary. She has always acted like this, in fulfilling her duties and looking after her home. As she went about the things of this earth, she kept her attention on God." 22

Let us offer to our Mother today: *An act of contrition, said many times, asking her to offer our sorrow for our sins to Jesus crucified.*

May 17 ~ MARY: THE SORROWING MOTHER

"Our Lady is there listening to the words of her Son, united to him in his suffering, when he cried out 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' What could she do? She united herself fully with the redemptive love of her Son and offered to the Father her immense sorrow, which pierced her pure heart like a sharp-edged sword." 23

Let us offer to our Mother today: *The mortification of keeping quiet about any pain or discomfort, any inconvenience or disappointment, uniting it with her pain as she stood by her crucified Son.*

May 18 ~ MARY: THE CO-REDEMPTRIX

"It is with good reason that the popes have called Mary co-redemptrix. 'So fully, in union with her suffering and dying Son, did she suffer and nearly die; so fully, for the sake of the salvation of all souls, did she abdicate the rights of a mother over her Son, and immolate him, insofar as it was in her power, to satisfy the justice of God, that it can rightly be said that she redeemed mankind together with Christ.' This gives us a deeper understanding of that moment in the Passion of our Lord on which we shall never tire of meditating: *Stabat autem iuxta crucem Iesu mater eius*, 'There, standing by the cross of Jesus, was his mother.'" 24

Let us offer to our Mother today: *Five small hidden sacrifices in honor of the five major wounds of our Lord.*

May 19 ~ MARY: HER FAITH

"If our faith is weak, we should turn to Mary. St. John tells us that it was because of the miracle that Christ performed, at his mother's request, at the marriage feast at Cana, that 'his disciples learned to believe in him.' Our Mother is always interceding with her Son, so that he may attend to our needs and show himself to us in such a way that we can cry out, 'You are the Son of God!' " 25

Let us offer to our Mother today: *The "Memorare" for the person in our family who most needs the help of our Lady.*

May 20 ~ MARY: OUR HOPE

"Our Lady, a full participant in the work of our salvation, follows in the footsteps of her son: the poverty of Bethlehem, the everyday work of a hidden life in Nazareth, the manifestation of his divinity in Cana of Galilee, the tortures of his passion, the divine sacrifice on the cross, the eternal blessedness of paradise. "All of this affects us directly, because this supernatural itinerary is the way we are to follow. Mary shows us that we can walk this path with confidence. She has preceded us on the way of imitating Christ; her glorification is the firm hope of our own salvation. For these reasons we call her 'our hope, cause of our joy.' " 26

Let us offer to our Mother today: *A smile when we do not feel like smiling.*

May 21~ MARY'S PRAYER

"Let us ask the Blessed Virgin to make us contemplatives, to teach us to recognize the constant calls from God at the door of our heart. Let us ask her now: Our Mother, you brought to earth Jesus, who reveals the love of our Father God. Help us to recognize him in the midst of the cares of each day. Stir up our mind and will so that we may listen to the voice of God, to the calls of grace." 27

Let us offer to our Mother today: *A visit to Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament.*

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