



May





## May –The Month of Mary

*May is the month when Catholics should take time to think about Mary and reflect on how she is the Mother of Jesus and Mother to us all. During this month we should take time out from our day to think and pray to Mary, especially when we are all living through such uncertain times.*

# The History of the Month of Mary

*This custom goes back as far as the Ancient Greeks. May was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of fruitfulness.*

*In Ancient Rome, May was dedicated to Flora, the goddess of blossoms.*



# The History of the Month of Mary

In 1883 Pope Leo decided that the Month of May should be Mary's Month as May is the beginning of new life and the start of summer. Mary brought new life into the world.



# Marian Shrines

Marian shrines receive particular attention during May and are decorated with flowers. People undertake a journey to reach a particular shrine, praying the rosary along the way.

Mary is honored as the mother of Jesus and as a woman free from sin.



# Marian Shrines

*Our Lady of Walsingham*      *England*

*Our Lady of the Taper*      *Wales*

*Our Lady of Knock*      *Ireland*

*Our Lady of Lourdes*      *France*

*Our Lady of Fatima*      *Portugal*

*Our Lady of Loreto*      *Italy*

*Our Lady of Czestochowa*      *Poland*

*Our Lady of Guadalupe*      *Mexico*

*Our Lady of Lebanon*      *Lebanon*

## Ways we can celebrate Mary during May :

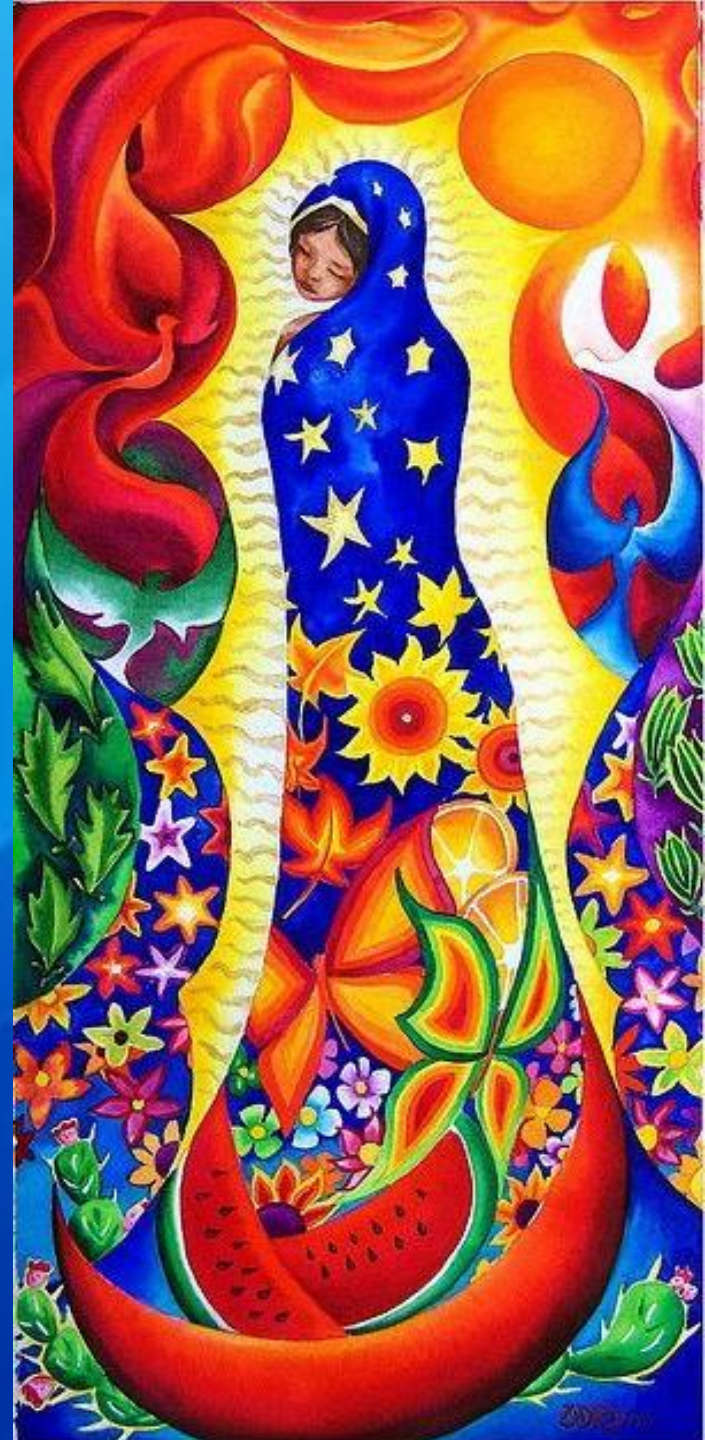
- ❖ Praying the Hail Mary
- ❖ Singing hymns to Our Lady
- ❖ Praying the Rosary
- ❖ Making an altar to Mary
- ❖ Taking part in a May Procession
- ❖ Making your own Rosary
- ❖ Bringing flowers to honour Mary
- ❖ Praying other Marian prayers like the Hail Holy Queen



## Prayers to Our Lady

The children should know the following prayers off by heart.

- ❖ Hail Mary-Whole School
- ❖ The Angelus-Years 3-6
- ❖ The Memorare Years 4-6
- ❖ The Magnificat Years 5 & 6
- ❖ Hail Holy Queen Year 6





## Hail Mary

*Hail Mary, full of grace,*

*the Lord is with thee:*

*blessed art thou among women,*

*and blessed is the fruit*

*of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,*

*pray for us sinners,*

*now and at the hour of our death.*

*Amen.*

## The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:  
*and she conceived of the Holy Spirit.*

Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord:  
*be it done to me according to your word.*

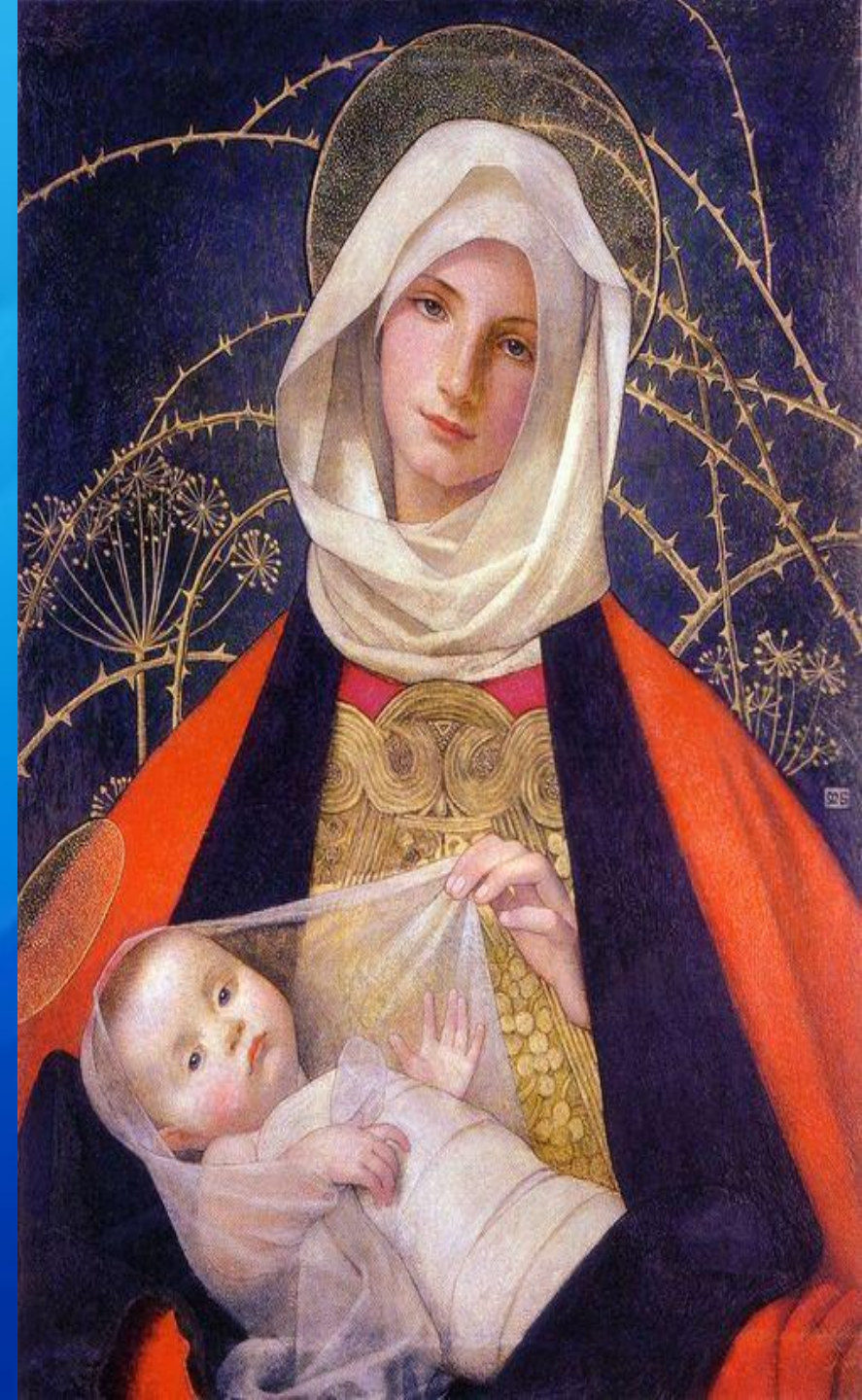
Hail Mary...

And the Word was made flesh:  
*and dwelt among us*

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:

*that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*





## The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
that never was it known  
that anyone who fled to your protection,  
implored your help or sought your  
intercession, was left unaided.

Inspired with this confidence,

I fly unto you,

O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.

To you I come, before you I stand,  
sinful and sorrowful;

O Mother of the Word Incarnate,  
despise not my petitions,

but in your mercy  
hear and answer me. Amen.

## The Magnificat

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.

He looks on his servant in her lowliness;

Henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me, holy his name.

His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted.

He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy,

The mercy promised to our fathers, to Abraham and his sons forever.

## Hail Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,  
Hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope!  
To thee do we cry poor banished children of Eve,  
To thee do we send up our sighs,  
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.  
Turn, then, most gracious advocate,  
thine eyes of mercy towards us;  
and after this, our exile,  
show unto us the blessed fruit  
of thy womb Jesus;  
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.  
Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God,  
that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

