

Day Six: *The Fruits of this Devotion*

1. Place yourself in God's presence

2. Ask Him for the grace you seek: *to acquire knowledge and esteem of Mary, your tender Mother*

3. Today's Meditation:

*“Lord, my heart and my eyes have no right to extol themselves, or to be proud, or to seek great and wonderful things. Yet even in this I am not humble; but I have lifted up and encouraged my soul by confidence: I am like a child, weaned from the pleasures of earth, and resting on its mother's lap; and **it is on this lap that all good things come to me.**” Psalm 130*

After 23 days of meditating on who we are, and who Mary is, it's good to remind ourselves of our goal, our end, and our "prize". That is, to give everything to our Mother. During this 3rd week, St. Louis De Montfort calls us "to know the effects of this royalty, of this mediation, and of this maternity".

When we reflect on the life of Jesus, we can learn of Mary's maternal love and care.

Her Royalty: In the **Presentation of Jesus in the temple**, Mary hears the words of holy Simeon: "*Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted (and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.*"-Luke 2:34. This is not a kingdom many expected, but Mary, its Queen, despite her pierced Immaculate Heart still remained constant to allow the will of God to be done.

Her Mediation: Mary accompanied **Jesus during his Public Ministry beginning at the Wedding of Cana**. "*On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.'*"

Her Maternity: Finally, Mary, **at the foot of the cross of Jesus**, submits perfectly to the will of God, as she participates in the redemption of the world by uniting her sorrow to that of Jesus. Her role as mother is one that never resists sacrifice and accompaniment, whether in the sorrows or the joys of life. She did all she could to make Jesus's life and sacrifices bear abundant fruit. She continues to produce these fruits in us through our sacrifices. She stands daily at the foot of our cross. She stands by us for the same purpose she participated in His Passion. She does not want any part of our life, our crosses and joys, to go to waste. Therefore, she offers us her own virtues, so that we may imitate her total conformity to do the will of God, as she did.

Mary, our Queen, our Intercessor, and our Mother, wishes to bear in us these fruits:

1. A portion of her profound humility "*I am the handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to thy word.*"
2. A portion of her faith, "*Let it be done to me according to thy will*"
3. She will take away from your heart, all doubt and all disorder of servile fear. "*His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him.*"
4. She will fill you with great confidence in God "*The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.*" . . . for you will not be approaching Jesus alone, but always with your Mother.

5. She will enter into your soul to praise the Blessed Trinity residing there. *"From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me--holy is his name."*
6. She will bear Jesus in your soul, in her time. *"She gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and placed him in a manger."*
7. You will give Jesus more glory in a month, than by any other practice, however difficult or long. *"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."*

Reflection Questions: *What ways can I modify my life to prefer the good things of God, rather than the pleasures of this world? Mary is my Queen. What dignity do I treat her with? I am her royal child. With what dignity do I treat myself, or allow myself to be treated? Mary is my Mediator. What graces am I in need of? What graces do I will to ask for others? Mary is my Mother. What trials can I offer her for help save souls?*

-Today's Prayer-

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him. He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart. He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy, according to his promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

-The Cantic of Mary, Luke 1:46-55