

Day 26: Mary, Queen of Heaven

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:

*"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you."
-Jeremiah 1:15*

"Up to this time, the divine Mary has been unknown, and that is the reason Jesus Christ is not known as He ought to be." -St. Louis de Montfort-

We may have never made this correlation but can surely attest to both statements. One, Mary is often unknown or forgotten. For many, Mary has been left at Jesus' Nativity. She is acknowledged for giving birth to Jesus and nothing more. Secondly, in our secular society, Jesus is often considered old news. Someone once important. Vaguely one may recall who He claimed to be and the works He performed. When questioned, who is Jesus? Many might respond with a confidence, *"He was God."* However, our generation seems to have insufficiently reflected upon the Incarnate Word, Jesus. The fact that Jesus- truly God, breathed with human lungs, walked on human feet, and worked with human hands. Man has not forgotten that Jesus is God however he has lost sight of the fact that He became man for love of all mankind. Not just for those He knew or for those that were living at that time. Who might remind us of the intensity of this great mystery- God made man for love of me? How about she who experienced this mystery most intimately? Let us enter into the Immaculate Heart of Mary, so that we may discover the great love of God the Father, found in His Incarnate Son.

	<i>Mary</i>	<i>Jesus</i>	<i>I am</i>
1	Creature	God Incarnate	Created
2	Chosen	Divine Providence	Called
3	Queen Mother	King of Heaven and Earth	A Royal Son/Daughter

1. God the Son, Jesus Christ, is uncreated along with the two other Persons of the Holy Trinity. He is, always has been, and always will be. We like Mary are creatures, *"our life is over like a sigh. Our span is seventy years or eighty for those who are strong. And most of these are emptiness and pain. They pass swiftly and we*

are gone. . . Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.” –Psalm 90- We understand we are frail, however still we have the tendency to deify our humanity. *“I’ve got this. . . I don’t need any help. . .I’ll do it later. . . I’ve got all the time in the world.”* We have made ourselves a god. Yet if Jesus, the uncreated one, was made Incarnate (*in, carne- in the flesh*), we creatures must begin to ask, *“What am I doing? Where did I come from? And where am I going?”* Mary the representative of all creation, takes God into her own hands where He reveals to us His tender love.

2. Mary’s predilection demonstrates the attentive providence of Almighty God. He who is all powerful is also perfectly patient. He chose to wait for the consent of a young Virgin to begin His greatest masterpiece. Mary reminds us that God also chooses and waits for you and me to participate in His great work.

3. *“Mary is the Queen of heaven and earth by grace, as Jesus is the King of them by nature and by conquest.”* Our Queen Mother teaches us our royal dignity. She also proposes to us who we can become with the help of God’s grace and her Motherly aid.

Reflection Questions: *Who am I? What am I made for? Who is Mary to the world? Who is Mary for heaven? For me? Who is Jesus to the world? Who is Jesus for heaven? For me? What are my frailties and limits? Contemplate on Mary holding baby Jesus in her arms at Bethlehem. What is God asking of me today?*

-Today’s Prayer-

*An Offering of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary
O Jesus, only Son of God, only Son of Mary,
I offer Thee the most loving Heart of Thy divine Mother,
which is more precious and pleasing to Thee than all hearts.*

*O Mary, Mother of Jesus,
I offer Thee the most adorable Heart of Thy well-beloved Son,
who is the life and love and joy of Thy Heart.*

*Blessed be the Most Loving Heart
and Sweet Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ
and the most glorious
Virgin Mary, His Mother,
in eternity and forever.
Amen.*

---St. John Eudes