

SPROUTING SEEDS...

St. Martin de Porres

May 2019

What place does the Blessed Virgin Mary have in my life?

excerpt from “Mary, Mother of Mercy” by Msgr. Peter J. Vaghi in *The Priest*

Mary experiences at the depth of her very being the mercy of her dead and risen Son as his mother. She participated intimately in the mystery of his love, from his birth and placement in the wood of a manger to her standing by the wood of the cross from which our salvation was won. And from the cross, she has in addition been given to us as Mother, Mother of the Church, our Mother, at the same time holding the title Mother of Mercy. As our Mother, she intercedes for us when we seek her intercession from her merciful heart.

But how often do we prayerfully reflect on the meaning of that title, Mother of Mercy?

“Let us address her in the words of the *Salve, Regina* [an 11th-century prayer], ever ancient and new, so that she may never tire of turning her merciful eyes upon us, and make us worthy to contemplate the face of mercy, her Son Jesus” (MV, No. 24).

Reflect, then, on the words in reference to mercy, as we pray:

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 toward us;
And after this our exile,
Show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving,
O sweet Virgin Mary.
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ, thy Son.

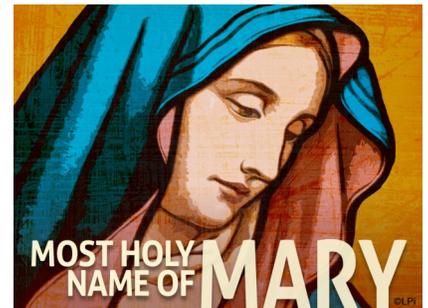
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Hail Mary

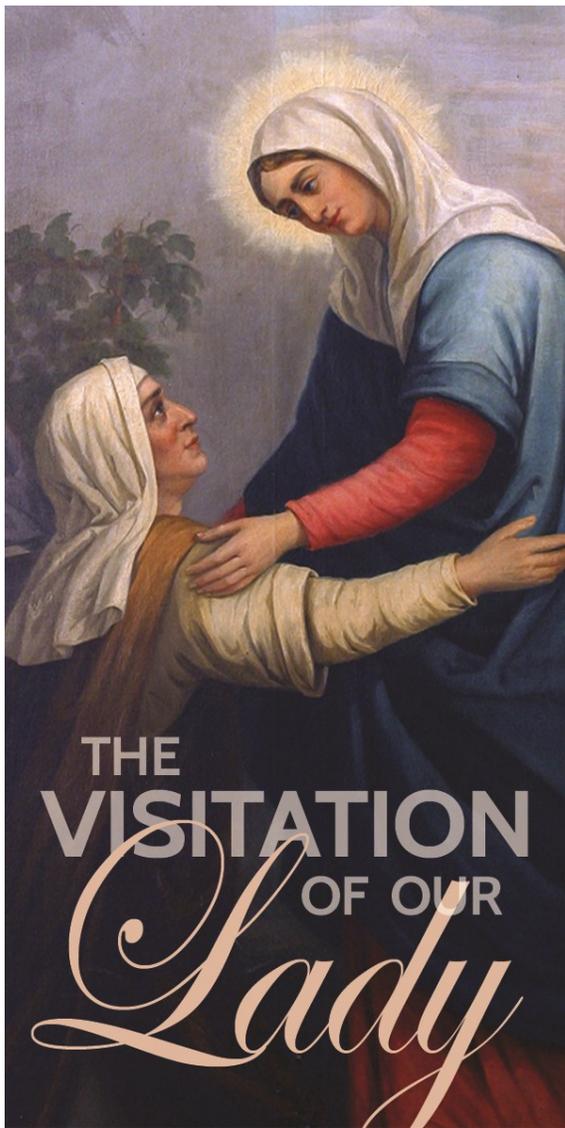
Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

This traditional prayer asking for the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary is also forms the basis of the Rosary.



Names of Mary

Holy Mother of God
Mother of the Poor
Our Lady of Fatima
Our Lady of Lourdes
Our Lady Queen of Peace
Queen of All Saints
Our Lady of the Rosary
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
The Immaculate Conception



Feast Days of Mary

January 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God *

January 8 – Our Lady of Prompt Succor

February 2 – Presentation of the Lord

February 11– Our Lady of Lourdes

March 25 – Annunciation

May 13 – Our Lady of Fatima

May 31 – Visitation

June 27 – Our Mother of Perpetual Help

July 16 – Our Lady of Mount Carmel

August 15 – Assumption *

August 22 – Queenship of Mary

September 8 – Birth of Mary

September 12 – The Most Holy Name of Mary

September 15 – Our Lady of Sorrows

October 7 – Our Lady of the Rosary

November 21 – Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 8 – Immaculate Conception *

December 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe

*Holy Day of Obligation



What's the Word?

Intercession- A type of prayer in which one asks God's blessings for others. When we ask saints or Mary to intercede we are not praying to them, rather than praying through them and asking them to pray with us and for us to our Lord.