

# Ministry Praise

## Mary, Our Divine Mother

*A blessing for mind, body and spirit for Moms of all sorts, sizes and shapes*

*O Mothers*, one and all, some of you have carried your children in your womb. Others of you have welcomed babies who came to you from another birth mother. May the love you poured forth return to you in plenitude.

*O Mothers*, do not live in regret of what you wished you would have done, or what you did do and wished you had not. Remember, you tried to do your best in the circumstances.

*O Mothers*, those of you for whom much of your life with your children is before you, do not imagine you can do this alone. It takes a lot of leaning on the Divine Mother. May you draw strength daily from her kindly sustenance.



*O Mothers*, do not forget to care for yourself. Find what gladdens your heart. Be good to your body and spirit. Remember, you are worthy of care and attention. May you have the vitality it takes to give generously of yourself.

*O Mothers*, you who have gone on to another sphere of life, we welcome our memories of you and remember how much you mean to us. May the peace you now have flow into the weary and troubled hearts of mothers everywhere.

*O Mothers*, for the countless times your hard work was never thanked or acknowledged, was rejected or taken for granted, may you know yourself loved and appreciated today.

*O Mothers*, we call today on the Divine Mother to draw you to her spacious heart, to replenish what needs revitalization in you. May you know her comfort, peace and tender embrace. May you hear the Divine Mother's song of love humming in you. Amen.

(Adapted from "Prayer Seeds" by Joyce Rupp)

## MARY, Our Model in Prayer

She is the Mother of our Savior, Jesus Christ, Mother of the Church, and Mother to all of us.

She is the most important woman in the history of the human race. Heavenly Father, may we be strengthened by the Spirit to be like Mary, to ponder your Word in our hearts, to obey your will, to love your Son and to sing your praises every day. Amen.



## To The Queen of Peace

Glorious Queen of Peace, grant us peace in our hearts, harmony in our families and concord throughout the world. Immaculate Mother, as patroness of our beloved country, watch over us and protect us with your motherly love. Please take care of our Holy Father as he works to reconcile the nations in peace.



**CARRY THE ROSARY  
WITH YOU  
EVERYWHERE  
AND IT WILL CARRY YOU  
THROUGH ANYTHING.**



## Prayer to Mary in Time of Need

Heavenly Mother, I come to you with confidence and trust. Aware that God already knows my difficulties, and mindful of your great compassion and love, I entrust all my petitions to your motherly care, especially these requests I now place before you. (Here mention your urgent petitions.)

Because, as the Mother of our Savior, you took care of Jesus in His times of need, I am encouraged to follow in your steps and bring my personal concerns to you.

In asking these favors of Almighty God, I sincerely seek to imitate your holy example and humbly bow before the Divine Will, accepting in faith all that God chooses for me. Amen.



## For Good Health

Holy Mary, mother of Jesus, I ask you to watch over all my loved ones with Motherly affection and care. I especially pray for the gift of good health of mind and body for my family, my relatives, my friends and myself. Blessed Mother, when we are ill, help us to bear patiently with sickness and suffering.



## A Farmer's Prayer to Mary

O Blessed Lady of the Fields, who loved the land of your native Galilee, who watched the tiller and the shepherd of the flock go out and return from Nazareth, who lived with and loved the rural folk of the village, look down graciously upon the fields and pastures, this your adopted land.

Make our homes sanctuaries of Christ as was your home.

Make our fields fertile and abundant in the harvest.

Help us to understand more fully the dignity of our toil and the merit it acquires when offered through you to your divine Son, Jesus Christ, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

## *Our Needs, Worries and Concerns*

With reverence and love, let us lay before our God  
our burdens and prayers

† For our parish, that we may continue to be a strong community of faith and a source of support for many, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

† For those who are attending “Alpha” that it may answer their questions and banish their doubts, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

† For all lay ministers in our parish. Shower blessings on them for their continuing service, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

† For those receiving Jesus for the first time. May the Eucharist become an important part of their lives, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

† For those charged with civil authority, that they show Christian compassion to the poor and the marginalized, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

† For blessings on all Mothers this Mother’s Day, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

† For our graduates, both Seniors and Grade 8. May they always remember their “home” here at At. John’s as a foundation for their life, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

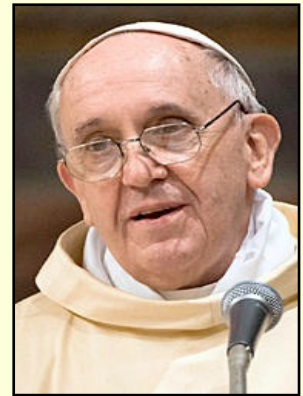
† For Deacon Tony as he is ordained on May 27, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

† For our Armed Forces, that through Mary, Mother of God, they may be protected from harm, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

† For the sick and suffering, the lonely and depressed and all those having a difficult time in life. May they know that Jesus is there with healing compassion, we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

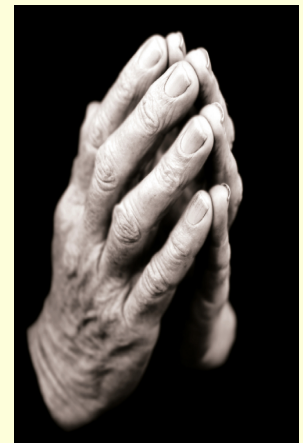
† For our beloved deceased and for the intentions written in the “Book,” we pray: *Hear us, O Lord.*

We give thanks to the Lord  
for He is good!



### Words by Pope Francis

“Mothers are indispensable to society, showing the world what it means to generously give oneself for others, to respect life and to display tenderness and moral strength.”



### Those Who Found Eternal Rest Recently

Norman J. Knippen  
Cletus M. Vonderwell  
John Grone



## PSALM 104

Praise the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God,  
how great You are!  
You are clothed with majesty and glory;  
You cover yourself with light.

You have set the earth firmly on its foundations,  
and it will never be moved.  
You make springs flow in the valleys, and  
rivers run between the hills.

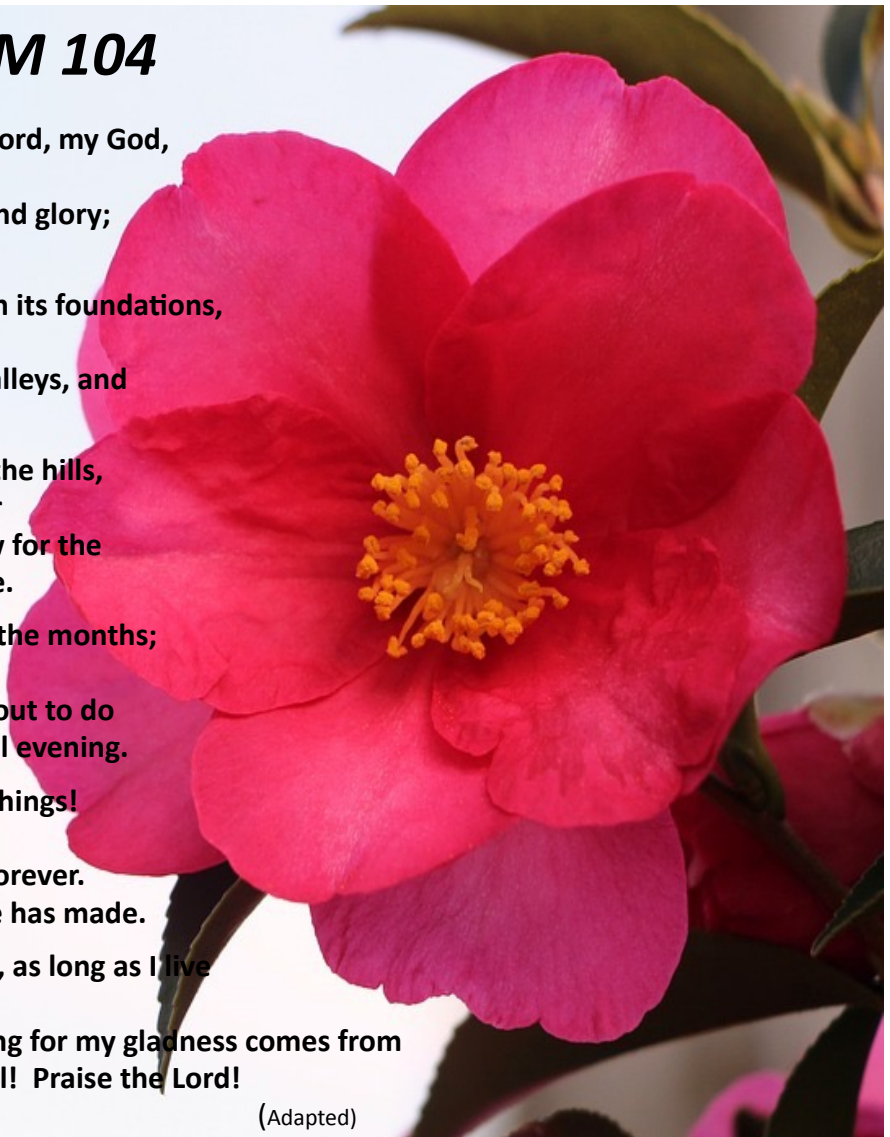
From the sky You send rain on the hills,  
and the earth is filled with your  
blessings. You make grass grow for the  
cattle and plants for man to use.

You created the moon to mark the months;  
the sun knows the time to set.  
When the sun rises, people go out to do  
their work and keep working till evening.

Lord, You have made so many things!  
How wisely You made them all!  
May the glory of the Lord last forever.  
May He be happy with what He has made.

I will sing to the Lord all my life, as long as I live  
I will sing praises to my God.  
May He be pleased with my song for my gladness comes from  
Him. Praise the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord!

(Adapted)



### A Prayer in Spring

by Robert Frost

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers today;  
And give us not to think so far away  
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here  
All simply in the springing of the year.

And make us happy in the darting bird  
That suddenly above the bees is heard,  
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,  
And off a blossom in mid-air stands still.

Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,  
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;  
And make us happy in the happy bees,  
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.

For this is love and nothing else is love,  
The which it is reserved for God above  
To sanctify to what far ends He will,  
But which it only needs that we fulfill.

## **MAY 7 - GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY**

### **Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters,

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil.

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.

### **May 4 – St. Peregrine – “Cancer Saint”**

O great St. Peregrine, you have been called “The Wonder Worker” because of the numerous miracles which you obtained from God for those who have turned to you in their need. For so many years you bore in your own flesh this cancerous disease that destroys the very fiber of our being. You turned to God when the power of human beings could do no more, and you were favored with the vision of Jesus coming down from His Cross to heal your affliction. I now ask God to heal these sick persons I entrust to you. (*mention their names*). Aided by your powerful intercession I shall sing with Mary a hymn of gratitude to God for His great goodness and mercy. Amen.

### **PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

Dear God, thank you for your Son, Jesus, our Good Shepherd,  
who leads us to fullness of life.

By our baptism we are called by name  
to continue the mission of Jesus.

Give us the grace to listen with an open heart  
to the voice of Jesus and to respond generously  
with a joyful spirit.

Strengthen the men and women you called to serve  
through marriage, the single life,

the diaconate, priesthood and the consecrated life.

Guide all who are discerning their Christian vocation.

We offer this prayer through Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **We Remember in May**

### **MEMORIAL DAY – MAY 29**

**We walked among the crosses where our fallen soldiers lay.  
And listened to the bugle as TAPS began to play.  
The chaplain led a prayer; we stood with heads bowed low.  
And I thought of fallen comrades I had known so long ago.  
They came from every city across this fertile land.  
That we might live in freedom they lie here 'neath the sand.  
I felt a little guilty; My sacrifice was small.  
I only lost a little time but these men lost their all.  
Now the services are over for this Memorial Day.  
To the names upon these crosses I just want to say,  
Thanks for what you've given. No one could ask for more.  
May you rest with God in heaven from now through evermore.**

### **BLESSING OF OUR GRADUATES**

**God of our beginnings, we thank you for the gifts of our graduates; their excitement,  
their wonder and curiosity. Their contributions have enriched and challenged us  
and we have become a richer and more diverse community.**

**As they step forward into the world that awaits, comfort their fears with the full knowledge of your divine  
presence. Strengthen their resolve to walk in the footsteps of Jesus as modern-day disciples  
in a world that needs their spirit.**

**Guide their feet as they move through life, protecting them from the pitfalls of darkness while they  
help to lead future generations into the promise of your light.**

**We ask this blessing upon each of them, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**(From the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry)**

### **May 25 – INTERNATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY**

**Mary, your own son was missing in the Temple. And you experienced the pain and suffering of a parent  
weeping for her child, looking frantically for the lost one. Hear the cries of too many parents whose children  
are missing in an unsafe world.**

**Christ, you are the Shepherd who would not give up looking for even one small lost lamb. Give solace to those  
who have searched long with heavy hearts for their missing child; Give them hope as well as comfort.**

**And for the lost children, we pray that somehow, in their suffering, they too, may be given hope to hold on to,  
that they may be given comfort in the dark nights. Rescue your children, God, Father and Mother to all.  
Rescue those who have been taken from homes and schools, lost on refugee trails, separated from families in  
conflicts. Hear the weeping and bring home our children. Amen.**