



Our Lady of...

Trivia Question: In the Catholic Church, May is the month of ???

Answer: May is the month of Mary!

Why is May the month of Mary? The idea of a month dedicated specifically to Mary can be traced back to baroque times. It's common for parishes to have a daily recitation of the Rosary during May, and many erect a special May altar with a statue or picture of Mary as a reminder of Mary's month. Additionally, it's a long-standing tradition to crown the statue of Mary during May – a custom known as May Crowning. At Sacred Heart, we typically celebrate May Crowning after the 1st Communion Mass, the first Sunday in May.

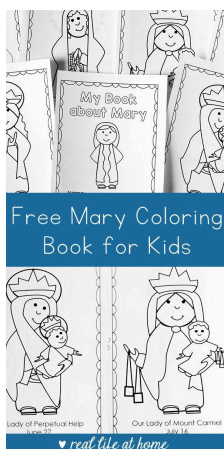
But May altars and crownings aren't just "church" things. We can and should be doing the same in our homes. When we echo the customs and traditions of the Church in our homes – our domestic churches – we participate more fully in the life of the Church.

If you haven't already, we encourage you to erect a prayer altar/corner/table/shelf in your home, giving Mary a special spot. It can be a statue or picture, but place there some representation of our Blessed Mother. Make it appealing and a real tribute to her beauty and virtue. Then, crown Mary or add flowers to your prayer corner. It will serve as a simple reminder of our focus this month. Please share pictures of your home prayer altars in the comments! (ncregister.com/blog/why-is-may-the-month-of-mary)

Activity for Kids:

Real Life at Home: Mary Coloring Book

Here is a great free printable with coloring pages of different images of Mary, along with the feast day.



Our Lady Who Wept. Our very own Brother Joseph (alumnus

Ray Freyaldenhoven) and Luz Elena Sandoval-Lord from Holy Family Mission tell the story of the Apparition of Our Lady of La Salette in this podcast. The irony of Mary's visit to the two simple French children high above the tree line in La Salette, France, is that the tears she shed were not for herself; she cried for us, her children. What an example she is, the suffering servant. What a heart she has. No wonder there is such devotion to her Immaculate Heart. It is so big; there's enough room in her heart for the whole world.

Lady of La Salette



Activity for Kids:

Shining Light Dolls: Mary Around the World Catholic kids book story time

Join the author, Chantal Baros, as she reads her award winning and bestselling book, "The Virgin Mary Around the World!". Take a journey around the world and visit eleven different Marian apparition sites, including Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Fatima and more!



Tomorrow, May 8th, is the Feast of Our Lady of Luján, Patroness of Argentina. Pope Francis visited this beautiful shrine in 2013.

If you are not familiar with the amazing story of Our Lady of Lujan, enjoy this article [Our Lady of Lujan](#)

