

Mary, Image of the Church

Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. (Jn 14: 23)

There is a relationship of profound resemblance between Mary and the Church. Mary is an ideal image, the personification of the Church. She is the first among the humble and the poor, the faithful who await the Redemption. (Saint John Paul II)



In Mary the Gospel is fully realized. Our Lady is the sublime example, the perfect image and model of the Church. (L.G. 53)

At Pentecost, the Lord Jesus sent his Spirit into the Church and into the hearts of the believers. Paul makes this amazing statement to the Christians of Corinth: "We are the temple of the living God." (2 Cor 6:16). "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? (1 Cor 6:19). The whole Church is now the Temple of God and

each individual believer is also the Temple of God. We are God's house on earth! (Ressources chrétiennes)

Office of the day

Word of God – Mt 12: 46-50

While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. Someone told him, “Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.” He replied to him, “Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?” Pointing to his disciples, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.”

Refrain or silence

Reflection

Mary, who is the model of the Church and our Mother, teaches us to welcome the life she offers us, since she herself gave life to Jesus, the Savior. If the Blessed Virgin Mary can be considered an educator of the faith, it is because she herself is the most accomplished model of faith: she is the one who believed in the word of the Angel, the one who believed in the word of her Son and knew fully his identity, the one who held the Church together after the Passion, the one who intercedes

unceasingly for us in glory since her glorious Assumption. Her role is so essential and she derives it from the grace given to her by the Father: that of her Immaculate Conception. (Mgr J. Beau)

Mary was called by God to a most perfect communion with her Son. May she, the faithful Virgin, be the Mother of your Gospel journey: may she help you experience and show to the world the infinite fidelity of God himself! (Redemptionis Donum)

Let us live the Church as a mystery of faith, rooting ourselves ever more deeply in the intimacy of Jesus Christ, carrying within us this Presence, this face, this heart, this infinite tenderness. If life is more beautiful, there will be no need to name God or to speak of the Church, we will see it, we will recognize it, we will love it because it will have become, through us, what it really is: the very Presence of Jesus, the Presence of eternal Love, of eternal joy, the Presence of the one who is in the depths of our being, the life of our life. (Maurice Zundel)

Saint Marie Rivier

Daughters of the Presentation of Mary, who have left everything to follow Christ Jesus, to work for his glory, to win hearts to him, rejoice, for the Lord is in you! He loves you with a very special love, and it is he who transforms you. Not being content with always being close to us, he wants to be in us and live in our hearts as in his own home. (S.W. p. 6)

Rule of Life

Exemplary disciple of her Son, she was associated more intimately than anyone else to his work of Redemption, her heart pierced like his at the foot of the Cross. She shares his victory over death and stands next to him in the Temple of his glory. She offers us her motherly assistance to sustain our hope and her powerful mediation for the salvation of all her children on earth. C113

Canticle

We are the Temple of the living God.

Moment of prayer

Let us give thanks to the Father for his eternal plan to adopt us as his children in Christ, through the Spirit who dwells in us.

Our Father

Final prayer

Eternal Father, we celebrate your infinite mercy which makes us the temple of your Holy Spirit. Grant that we may fully realize our vocation as baptized persons, witnesses of your presence on earth, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**