

# Mary, Mother of Mercy - Prayer for October, 2016

**Mercy:**  
the bridge that connects  
GOD and HUMANS  
opening our hearts  
to the hope  
of being loved forever  
despite  
our sinfulness.  
-Pope Francis

**Call to Prayer:** As this Year of Mercy draws to a close, let us look to Mary who “attests that the mercy of the Son of God knows no bounds and extends to everyone, without exception.” *Misericordiae Vultus, Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, 11 April 2015*

**Leader:** O God, come to our assistance

**ALL:** O Lord, make haste to help us.

**Leader:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,

**ALL:** As it was in the beginning, is now and ever  
shall be world without end. Amen.

## Hymn: “Hail, Holy Queen” verses 1-2



1. Hail, ho - ly Queen en - throned a - bove; O Ma - ri - a! Hail,  
2. Our life, our sweet - ness here be - low, O Ma - ri - a! Our  
3. And when our life - breath leaves us, O Ma - ri - a! Show



1. moth - er of mer - cy and of love. }  
2. hope in sor - row and in woe. } O Ma - ri - a! Tri - umph,  
3. us thy Son, Christ Je - sus. }



all ye cher - u - bim; Sing with us, ye ser - a - phim! Heav'n and earth re -



sound the hymn: Sal - ve, sal - ve, sal - ve, Re - gi - na!

Text: 84 84 with refrain; *Salve, Regina, mater misericordiae*, ca. 1080; tr. anon. in *Roman Hymnal*, 1884.  
Music: Melchior Ludwig Herold, 1753–1810; *Choralmelodien zum Heiligen Gesänge*, 1808.



**Antiphon:** ALL: Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs. (Matthew 5: 7)

**Reader 1:** *I have trust in your mercy; my heart rejoices in your salvation. I will sing to you, O God, because you have dealt bountifully with me.* Psalm 13: 5, 6

**Reader 2:** *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in Your house, O God, forever.* Psalm 23: 6

**Reader 3:** *Remember, O God, your tender mercies and your loving kindnesses; for they have been ever of old.* Psalm 25: 6

**Reader 4:** *Let your mercy, O God, be upon us, for we hope in you.* Psalm 33: 22

**Reader 1:** *I will praise you, O God, among the people; I will sing to you among the nations, for your mercy is great ... Be exalted, O God; let your glory be above all.* Psalm 57: 9-11

**Reader 2:** *O God, you are good; your mercy is everlasting to all generations.* Psalm 100: 5

**Reader 3:** *You are merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy, O God. ... Great is your mercy toward those who fear you.* Psalm 103: 8, 11

**Reader 4:** *I give thanks to you, O God. You are good and your mercy endures forever.* Psalm 136:1

**ALL:** Glory be to the Father ...

**ALL:** Blest be ... (Repeat antiphon above.)

**Reading:** The four ways in which Mary is rightly called our "Mother of Mercy" [are]: First of all, Mary is Mother of Mercy because, *through her Immaculate Conception, God made her the created masterpiece of His Mercy in the world.* Second, we can call her Mother of Mercy because *she was the one chosen by God to be the Mother of our merciful Savior, Mercy Incarnate; she literally brought Divine Mercy Himself to birth in our world.* Third, [she is] Mother of Mercy because *she showed us the way to live as disciples of Jesus Christ; she set the shining example for us of true Christian discipleship and this was a great work of mercy she did for us all.* Finally, Mary is our Mother of Mercy because, *from heaven, she continues to come to our aid with her intercessory prayers, nurturing and caring for all of our needs, both of body and of soul.* In the end, Mary has been and always will be our Mother of Mercy! adapted from Robert Stackpole, STD  
<http://www.thedivinemercy.org/news/Why-Do-We-Call-Mary-Mother-Of-Mercy-3369>

MARY  
Mother of Mercy



EAR OF MERCY  
Mary Mother of Mercy

**Reflection:** "Why does the Church call Mary the 'Queen of Mercy'? It is because we believe that she opens the abyss of the mercy of God to whomsoever she will, when she wills and as she wills ..." (*Virgin Wholly Marvelous*) Pope Francis also praises Mary's role as the prime example of Divine Mercy, "She treasured divine mercy in her heart in perfect harmony with her Son Jesus. Her hymn of praise, sung at the threshold of the home of Elizabeth, was dedicated to the mercy of God which extends from 'generation to generation.'" ([Luke 1: 50] *Misericordiae Vultus*) So we turn to Mary, our Mother of Mercy, and our gracious advocate who prays for us every day so we may end our journey in the heart of Jesus. Loyola Press, *Moments of Mercy*, August 15

**Ponder and Share:**

- +When have you looked to Mary seeking mercy and her intercession?
- +When did you offer respect, extend mercy to a poor person due to his/her requests?

**Response:** ALL: "Mother of Mercy be with us every day so we may share your compassion with others and arrive with all in the Father's heavenly presence." David Supple, OSB, *Virgin Wholly Marvelous*

**Closing Prayer: Mary's Magnificat** (Alternate sides, please.)

- I. My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior because He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaid.
- II. For behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed; because He who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is His name and His mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear Him.
  - I. He has shown might with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart. He has put down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.
  - II. He has filled the hungry with good things and the rich He has sent away empty. He has given help to Israel, his servant, mindful of His mercy even as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his posterity forever.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen. Luke 1: 46-55  
<http://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/magnificat.html>

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**Prayer Texts**

- Luke 23: 34 "Father, forgive them ..."
- Ephesians 1: 7 "... in Christ ... our sins [are] forgiven ..."
- John 1: 9 "... trusted to forgive ..."

prepared for the Ladies of Charity by Sr. Carol Schumer, D.C., October, 2016

