

Presentation Day Novena 2019



*We look to Mary of Nazareth
to inspire us in discipleship and
to help us discern the ways of wisdom.*

C6 Our Way of Life



But Mary treasured
up all these things,
pondering them in
her heart.



Dear Sisters, Brothers and Friends of Nano,

We wish you all a very Happy Presentation Day as we celebrate this special feast of Mary throughout our Presentation World.

We are most grateful to our Sisters of Newfoundland and Labrador for these lovely reflections which call us to ponder how the life of Mary inspires us on our journey of discipleship.

In Luke's gospel we hear "Mary treasured up all these things pondering them in her heart"... such things as the words of the angel, the words of



Elizabeth, of the shepherds in the stable, and the words of her Son whom she found preaching in the temple. She allowed each developing event, every new word to shed light on what was to unfold. She nurtured within her the capacity for inner stillness and contemplation that led her to accept her Son's call and mission and which led her to Cana, Calvary and to the upper room at Pentecost. Often, she found herself holding the tension of unknowing in her heart while trusting she would come to understand and be at peace with the Mystery that lay before her. As she pondered, her thought patterns circled like a spiral until insights, meaning and wisdom were revealed.

May this woman whose spirituality was based on surprise, the unexpected emergence of God in her life, inspire us to be disciples who cooperate with the creative energy of Mystery.

Julie Smith Aurea Sharon Lane

Congregational Leadership Team

Day 1: 12 November 2019

Mary, Mother of the Incarnation

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

Today we remember our Presentation People in New Zealand and in Latin America.

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle

Mantra

*Woman of Earth, Woman of Sky,
Hear us as with one heart we cry.
Woman of Earth, Woman of Sky,
Hear us, Teach Us, Help us love.*

Miriam K. Martin pbvm

<https://www.presentationisters.ca/resources/soundclips/womanofearth.mp3>

Call to Gather

The invitation today is to ponder Mary as archetype of the first incarnation.

Call to Ponder

In mythic imagination, Mary intuitively symbolizes the first incarnation – or Mother Earth. Not that Mary *is* the first incarnation, only that she became the natural archetype for it. Carl Jung believed that humans produce in art and story *the inner images the soul needs in order to see itself and to allow its own*

transformation. Perhaps this is why the Madonna is still the most painted subject in Western art.

Sacred Scripture:

Proverbs 8:1; Wisdom 7:7



Call to Share Prayer

Take time to reflect and respond:

*What if I/we really birthed Jesus
in our daily living?*

How do we share the bread?

*How do we best share the light in
our time of transformation?*

Sing a Suitable Hymn

Call to Give Thanks

Mother of the first Incarnation, bless us with the silence we need to know who we really are and with perseverance to our call to be “*God bearers*” to all we encounter “*in our few short days under the sun.*” www.catholic.org

Woman of Earth. . .

Day 2: 13 November 2019

Mary, Model of Transformation

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

Today we remember Presentation People in the Philippines and Thailand.

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle

Mantra

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Hear us, Teach Us, Help us love.*

Miriam K. Martin pbvm

Call to Gather

The call today is to see Mary as model of the new vision, present in us and in person after person until we are all ready to live it and spread it for the transformation of the world.

Call to Ponder

If Christ and Jesus are the archetypes of what God is doing, Mary is the archetype *of how to receive what God is doing and hand it*

on to others. In art, she is invariably offering Jesus to the observer, or inviting us to come to him.

Sacred Scripture

Luke 1:48; Jn 2:5

Call to Share Prayer

Take time to reflect and respond:
What if I/we were willing to be transformed?



Sing a Suitable Hymn

Call to Action

Today we are witnessing an immense longing for relational, mutually empowering feminine qualities at every level in our society. Feminine power at its best is deeply relational and symbolic – and thus transformative.

Call to Give Thanks

Mother of Earth, Mother of Sky, bless us with the courage we need to allow our own transformation in light of the Great Story of the Universe and our call to be, like you, Co-creators of Holy Earth.

Woman of Earth. . .

Day 3: 14 November 2019

Mary, Sower of Seeds

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

Today we remember Presentation People in Canada and the West Indies.

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle

Mantra

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Woman of Earth, Woman of Sky,
Hear us, Teach Us, Help us love.*

Miriam K. Martin pbvm

Call to Gather

The call today is to see ourselves as sowers of seeds as Mary was – a call to be a friend of Jesus, as Mary was, sitting side by side in a revelation of mutuality, of the equality of friendship.

Call to Ponder

The mosaic, described by Joyce Meyer, pbvm, in *Global Sisters Report*, June 10, 2019 awakened in her how small actions can change the way we see – a call to be Church as a community of friends, without hierarchy or power over another.

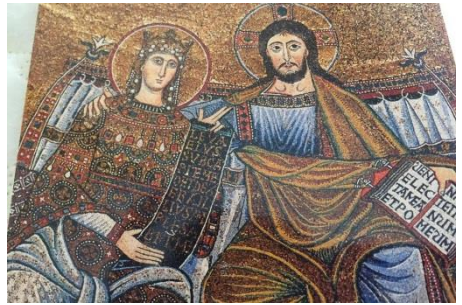
Sacred Scripture

Luke 8: 4 - 15

Call to Share Prayer

Take time to reflect and respond:

What if I/we deliberately sowed seeds?



A ceiling mosaic of Mary and Jesus in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Trastevere in Rome

GSR photo/Joyce Meyer, pbvm

Sing a Suitable Hymn

Call to Give Thanks

Mother of Earth, Mother of Sky, help us today to be sowers of seeds and to perceive and remember the power of small, sown seeds to push their way through hard surfaces when least expected.

Woman of Earth. . .

Day 4: 15 November 2019

Mary, Seat of Wisdom

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

Today we remember Presentation People in England, Ireland, Israel and Slovakia.

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle

Mantra

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Hear us, Teach Us, Help us love.*

Miriam K. Martin pbvm

Call to Gather

The invitation today is to take a long, loving look at reality. A look at the fact that 71 million people are refugees on our planet, that climate change is in many cases being ignored in favour of a better economy for the wealthy ... that we too lack compassion.

Call to Ponder

In the Beginning

*Sometimes simplicity rises like a blossom of fire
from the white silk of your own skin.*

*You were there in the beginning
you heard the story, you heard the merciless
and tender words telling you where you had to go.*

*Exile is never easy and the journey
itself leaves a bitter taste. But then,
when you heard that voice, you had to go.
You couldn't sit by the fire, you couldn't live
so close to the live flame of that compassion
you had to go out in the world and make it your own
so you could come back with
that flame in your voice, saying listen...
this warmth, this unbearable light, this fearful love...
It is all here, it is all here.*

David Whyte

Sacred Scripture

Gen. 1 – 2:4

Sing a Suitable Hymn

Call to Share Prayer

Take time to reflect and respond:

*What if I/we truly listened to the
still small voice?*

To the pain of earth? To the pain of the world?



Call to Give Thanks

Mary, continue to guide us in ways of response and mission.
Lead us to listen to the still small voice. We thank you and the
Light of God's grace for leading us ever more deeply within.

Woman of Earth. . .

Day 5: 16 November 2019

Mary, Mirror of Justice

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

Today we remember Presentation People in India and Pakistan.

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle

Mantra

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Miriam K. Martin pbvm

Call to Gather

Today we look at Mary the refugee, Mary the pilgrim, who on her journey, sings “joyfully to God her Saviour”.

Call to Ponder

Miriam of Nazareth occupied the lower rung of the social and economic ladder, and her life was lived out in an economically poor, politically oppressed, Jewish peasant culture marked by exploitation and public violent events. This picture is of interest not simply for historical reasons but also for religious ones.... It is

precisely in this economic, political, and cultural setting, living out her Jewish faith as a peasant woman of the people, that Mary walked her journey of faith in response to the promptings of the Spirit. It is precisely to such a woman, who counts for nothing on the stage of the world empire, that God had done great things. It is precisely such a woman who sings joyfully that God her Savior is coming to overturn oppression in favour of the poor of the earth.

Elizabeth Johnson – *Dangerous Memories*, P.21

Sacred Scripture

Luke 1:46 -55

Call to Share Prayer

Take time to reflect and respond:

What if I were a more joyful person?

What if we were more joyful people?

Sing a Suitable Hymn



Call to Give Thanks

We thank you, loving God, for the gift that Mary is to all of us, especially to Presentation People worldwide. We ask the gift of your grace to follow her example in our efforts to overcome oppression in favour of the poor and of the poor earth.

Woman of Earth. . .

Day 6: 17 November 2019

Mary, Woman of Earth, Woman of Sky

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

Today we remember Presentation People in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle

Mantra

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Miriam K. Martin pbvm

Call to Gather

The invitation today is to imagine Mary as woman of earth and woman of sky ... faithful to listening contemplatively, committed to bringing forth God's Word.

Call to Ponder

To be a friend of God is to enter into a relationship of affection with God, freely, with trust; taking time to savor the relationship in prayer and contemplation; allowing divine presence to be the

foundation of your life even when it is experienced as wrenching absence.

To be a prophet is to raise your voice in criticism against injustice because, being God's friend, you love the world in your heart the way God does; your imagination sees how it could flourish; when this collides with suffering, you are moved to console the oppressed and confront the powerful, thus creating possibilities for resistance and resurrection.

Elizabeth Johnson – *Dangerous Memories*, pp. 27-28

Sacred Scripture:

Psalm 8; Revelation 12

Call to Share Prayer

Take time to reflect and respond:

What if I/we were more committed to bringing forth God's Word?

Sing a Suitable Hymn

Call to Give Thanks

Here is a Bethlehem

*a woman pierced by the Spirit's light,
waiting in stillness on the Spirit's strength,
empty of aught save the Spirit's gift.*

*A woman faithful to the Word received,
whole in her heart and her hands to raise
a house built leaning on the breath of God.*

Raphael Consedine, pbvm



Woman of Earth. . .

Day 7: 18 November 2019

Mary, Cause of our Joy

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

Today we remember Presentation People in Australia and Papua New Guinea.

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle

Mantra

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Woman of Earth, Woman of Sky,
Hear us, Teach Us, Help us love.*

Miriam K. Martin pbvm

Call to Gather

The invitation today is to allow God to overshadow me, to be the cause of my joy.

Call to Ponder

I have offered God my fair share of uncertain yeses in my life, and I have seen what God can do with just a little bit of faith surrendered to God's will. I wonder what more God might do with me if I could offer the kind of yes Mary does – so fully

surrendered to God's desires for her, so willing to let God draw near to her, that she calls herself the servant girl and allows God to overshadow her own will and desires. She gives herself completely to the identity God is creating for her and in her, rather than struggling to hold on to her own expectations and plans.

Sacred Scripture

Luke 1: 26 - 38

Call to Share Prayer

Take time to reflect and respond:

*What if I
contemplate the
cause of my own joy?*



*If I could be
of any service
... in any part
of the globe,
I would willingly
do all in my power...
Nano Nagle*

What if we allow God to overshadow us?

Sing a Suitable Hymn

Call to Give Thanks

We thank you God for giving us Mary and Nano as models of acceptance and of joy. We ask that in all ways and for all our days we allow you to overshadow us, to open us to true joy, joining Mary and Nano in magnifying Your Name.

Woman of Earth. . .

Day 8: 19 November 2019

Mary, Lady of Sorrows

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

Today we remember Presentation People in the United States of America.

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle

Mantra

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Miriam K. Martin pbvm

Call to Gather

The invitation today is to be a bearer of sorrows as Mary was. We are called to accept the sorrows of our own lives, the sorrows of Mother Earth and the sorrows of all the oppressed and broken in our world.

Call to Ponder

In the very midst of the crowning moment of Jesus' life, the bubble bursts, the clapping stops, the crowds disperse, ironically

it is a more common turn of events than we like to admit. Mary, Mother of Sorrows looks at Palm Sunday and whispers to our heart, we should have known, we should have been prepared. After all, it is not success that life must be about, but the willingness to die for what is worth doing.

Joan Chittister – *Mary, A Beacon to Light the Way*, Lent 2019

Sacred Scripture

Luke 19:36

Call to Share Prayer

Take time to reflect and respond:

What if I/we were really there for the oppressed and the broken?



Sing a Suitable Hymn

Call to Give Thanks

Mary, Mother of Sorrows, be with us in our loneliest hours and give us the courage to keep moving forward despite failure, misunderstanding and rejection. Thank you for helping us move beyond loss to acceptance. Give us the grace to share the sorrow of others as we support those in need. Make us ever conscious of the cry of Earth.

Woman of Earth. . .

Day 9: 20 November 2019

Mary, Lady of Light

Gather with soft music playing. Take time to become still. Be aware of Presentation People around our world gathering as one.

Today we remember all Members of the Nagle/Rice Family.

Creating the Sacred Space

Globe, Icon of Mary of the Cosmos, Lantern/Candle

Mantra

*Woman of Earth, Woman of Sky,
Hear us as with one heart we cry.
Woman of Earth, Woman of Sky,
Hear us, Teach Us, Help us love.*

Miriam K. Martin pbvm

Call to Gather

The invitation today is to carry the light as Mary did – as Nano did – to be Light-Bearers to the people of our time.

Call to Ponder

Through her relationship with Jesus, Mary, being his mother, likewise found her life to be cosmic in significance. The consequences of her extraordinary and yet ordinary life filled the whole of creation with graces. Through you we have been given wisdom, humility and love.

The key to being a Christ-bearer is to allow Christ to enter the deepest parts of us and to share that with all.

Henry Carlson, *The Eschatological Judgement of Christ*, adapted

Sacred Scripture

Jn 1:6-13

Call to Share Prayer

Take time to reflect and respond:



What motivated Mary, Nano and Edmund to be people of light?

What if I/we truly reflected the light of Christ in the spirit of Mary, Nano, and Edmund?

Sing a Suitable Hymn

Call to Give Thanks

We thank God, Mary, Nano and Edmund for being Light-Bearers and for showing us the inspiration of the true greatness of a life of service. We pray to honor this in our living, in our care for Earth and for those kept poor.

Woman of Earth. . .

Suggested songs for use with the Novena:

Woman Marie Cox rsm, Briege O’Hare, osc

Woman of Earth Miriam Martin, pbvm

Behold I See a Virgin Marie Cox rsm, Briege O’ Hare osc

The Cantic of Mary Michael Joncas

Magnificat Kathy Sherman csj

Magnificat Bernadette Farrell

Lady of Angels Marie Cox rsm, Briege O’ Hare osc

Mary, Woman of the Promise (in Canada CBW # 465)

Many of these songs can be found on YouTube if you have
“ChromeCast” or “YouTube” on your TV.



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