



Novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary

2021

Fr. Justin Rosary Hour

12290 Folly Quarter Rd • Ellicott City, MD 21042

*Dear Marian Devotees,
Friends, Benefactors and Supporters of the Rosary Hour,
Praised be Jesus Christ!*

The beautiful month of May is upon us - "the month of Mary". The Church presents to us the best mother, **Mary - the Immaculate Mother of Jesus Christ** and **our Mother**. Before her, spiritually united together, let us open our hearts in prayer.

The ways Mary is honored in May is as varied as the people who honor her.

In Poland, there is a tradition of gathering in churches, at grottos, wayside shrines and near the roadside statues to pray and sing "Majówki" in the evenings.

In May it is common for our American parishes have a daily recitation of the **Rosary** and singing of the **Loreto Litany of The Blessed Virgin Mary**. Many churches put a special May altar with a statue or image of Mary as a reminder of **the month of Mary**. Additionally, it is a long-standing may tradition to crown the statue of Mary – a custom known as May Crowning.



Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we spend more time at home with our family. Let us be sure that the May altars and crowning are not just "church" customs. We can and should be doing the same in our homes. When we repeat the customs and traditions of the Church in our homes (our domestic churches) we participate more fully in the life of the Church. Many things are important, but the most important thing is always prayer.

In May, we celebrate **Mother's Day**. Let us thank God for our beloved mothers, for those who are alive and those who have already passed away to eternity. Let us express our love and gratitude. Let us pray for mothers every day.

Let us consecrate ourselves to Mary because we trust in her powerful intercession. We know that Mary is the Mediatrix of all graces. Let us recommend ourselves to Mary in all our necessities, but especially so that she may pray for us "now and at the hour of our death": they are the two principal moments of life.

We strongly encourage you to join our 9-day Novena to the Mother of God, which will begin on Mother's Day. During the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and devotions, the Franciscans spiritually united with the entire *Rosary Hour Family* and the *Companions of St. Anthony* will extol the Virgin Mary using many titles, begging that she would be for us, earth's wanderers, the best Mother. Through the intercession of the Mother of God, they will commend to God all mothers and all the special intentions entrusted by you.

On the enclosed reply form, please write the name of your Mother and include the intentions that are very important to you. Offer prayer and nine Holy Masses. Please send the card with your intentions together with the monetary gift. Today, without your help, it would be very difficult to preach the Good News about Jesus by the Franciscans.

May the Merciful God bless you for the generosity of your heart.

May the Mother of God, our most loving Mother, intercede for you to God.

With prayer and gratitude,

Br. Daniel, OFM Conv.

Br Daniel Geary with the *Fr Justin Rosary Hour* community
and the *Companions of St. Anthony*

PS - As a "thank you" for taking part in this Novena, you will receive a powerful **Litany of Loreto**.