



EIGHTH DAY: 6/9

Maternal mediation: MARY, SERVANT OF THE LORD

The words "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord" express the fact that from the outset she accepted and understood her own motherhood as a total gift of self, a gift of her person to the service of the saving plans of the Most High. And to the very end she lived her entire maternal sharing in the life of Jesus Christ, her Son, in a way that matched her vocation to virginity. Mary's motherhood, completely pervaded by her spousal attitude as the "handmaid of the Lord," constitutes the first and fundamental dimension of that mediation which the Church confesses and proclaims in her regard¹⁰⁰ and continually "commends to the hearts of the faithful," since the Church has great trust in her. For it must be recognized that before anyone else it was God himself, the Eternal Father, who entrusted himself to the Virgin of Nazareth, giving her his own Son in the mystery of the Incarnation. (RM N 39)

Let us pray for the FAMILIES

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

1st mystery: WE SHALL BE ONE - Mt 19, 5-6

'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.

Mother, to you we come to ask for the grace to uphold one another to renew each day that: "I accept you,... promise to be faithful to you always, in joy and in pain, in health and in sickness, and to love and honor you all the days of my life". Bless and sanctify our families, be in their midst always with your light and your grace.

Our Father, Hail Mary (10), Glory be

All: Maria Bambina, protect all the families

2nd mystery: THE HOUSE BUILT ON THE ROCK – Mt 7,25

The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.

The word of the Father is the firm foundation on which everything needs to be built. Only in this way our "house" will resist the inclement weather of life. It can be open, welcoming, and strong. Mary, bless our families and preserve them from sickness and disgraces; grant to the small domestic churches the courage in times of trial and strength to bear together every pain they encounter in the journey of life.

Our Father, Hail Mary (10), Glory be

All: Maria Bambina, protect all the families

3rd mystery: WORK, PROVIDENCE FOR THE FAMILY – Mt 13,3-8

And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

Virgin Mary, you know how difficult it is to guarantee a future to the family. How many families live in desperation of not having a work that assures a dignified life. How much energy that is invested have fallen on the way of indifference. Help us to welcome each day the grace to rise and go to work. Give us the strength to guarantee closeness to those who are desperately searching for economic stability.

Our Father, Hail Mary (10), Glory be

All: Maria Bambina, protect all the families

4th mystery: THE STRENGTH TO ACCEPT THE SICKNESS – Mt 8, 14-15

When Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever; he touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she got up and began to serve him.

Mother you have experience the greatest suffering, the loss of a son. Today also, many of our families are touched by this great trial and many are the sufferings, sickness, disgraces, in which with much difficulty we recognize the face of God who saves. Behold, we turn to you to receive strength. Mary sweet Spouse and tender Mother bring to our families health, peace, unity, love and forgiveness and sustain the families in difficulty with your care.

Our Father, Hail Mary (10), Glory be

All: Maria Bambina, protect all the families

5th mystery: THE JOY AND RESPONSIBILITY

TOWARDS THE LITTLE ONES – MT 19, 13-14

Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."

Our mother, protect the babies to be born and grant joy of motherhood to those who desire. Guide the parents in their delicate educative task, so that they may know to transmit faith in the Lord, love for one's house and true values of existence. Defend the little ones and accompany them in their journey of growth.

Our Father, Hail Mary (10), Glory be

All: Maria Bambina, protect all the families

Salve Regina...

**Hymn: Alzate O Maria dalla vostra culla,
alzate la tenera vostra manina,
e a tutti impartite la santa benedizione (2)**