

May, the Month of Mary Lesson Plan

Lesson Goal: This lesson's goal is for the student to understand that Mary is Mother of the Catholic Church and also mother to us all. Additionally, the student understands that May is dedicated to Mary and a time to give her honor as the Mother of God.

Overview: The month of May has long been known as "the season of new life," a perfect season to honor both our earthly and heavenly mothers.

Pre-Video Discussion: Read the Bible passages John 19:26-27.

"When Jesus saw His mother and the disciple there whom He loved, He said to His mother, 'Woman, behold your son.' Then He said to the disciple, 'Behold, your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his home."

When Jesus said these words while dying on the cross He was not only giving Mary to John to care for, but also giving her to everyone.

Watch "May the Month of Mary" video on Catholic Brain

Comprehension and Discussion Questions:

Note: These questions are asked after the video to check student comprehension and to clarify and further discuss and explain what was seen on the video.

1) Who is Mary the mother of?

Mary, the mother of Jesus, is also Mother of the Church. When we were baptised we became God's children. The Church became our family. Since Mary is mother to our family, the Catholic Church, that means Mary is also mother to us all.

2) Why do we honor Mary during the month of May?

During the month of May we find flowers in full bloom, green grass to mow, trees full of green leaves. It is a month of new life. Mothers bring forth new life - the life of their children. It is a perfect month to celebrate the mother who brought Jesus into the world for us. The government even thought it was important to honor mothers. They gave them their own holiday in May - Mother's Day. We should always be thankful to both our earthly mother and our heavenly mother.

3) When did Jesus give us Mary as our mother?

While dying on the cross Jesus gave us His own mother as our own.

4) What special devotions can we do to honor Mary?

Many Marian devotions include: a May Crowning, a May altar, saying the rosary, or even special prayers to Mary. When we pray to Mary we are asking her to intercede for us. Just as we ask others to pray for us and ask God to help us with our needs, we too can ask our Heavenly Mother to intercede or pray for us. She will ask God for us - she intercedes for us.

5) How is Mary a holy example for us?

Here are a few examples that can be mentioned -

At the Annunciation, Mary said yes to God when she was asked to be the Mother of God. She showed us how to put complete trust in God and His will for us.

At the Visitation, when Mary visited her pregnant cousin Elizabeth, she showed us how to help and serve others in need.

At the Wedding Feast of Cana, Mary showed great concern for others when she saw the wine was running out and then asked Jesus to help.

At the crucifixion, Mary was with her Son, Jesus. Watching her Son suffer caused her much pain. She suffered along with Jesus.

Mary's whole life was free from sin, she had complete trust and faith in God. A perfect example for us to follow.

6) What prayer do we pray to Mary asking her to pray for us?

The "Hail Mary"

The first part of the prayer is the words of the Angel Gabriel at the Annunciation...

"Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus...."

The second part of the prayer is us asking Mary to pray for us....

"Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death." Amen

Activity:

Make a May altar to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Say a decade of the rosary in honor of Mary. Meditate on the 1st Joyful Mystery - The Annunciation. Remember how Mary put complete trust in Jesus when she said “yes” to becoming the Mother of God.