

May 4, 2001

In 1945, Pope Pius XII declared **May** as a **Marian Month** dedicated to our **Blessed Mother**. The Catholic Church has set aside the **entire** month of May to honor **Mary**, Mother of God. **Not** just a day *in* May, but the **entire** month.



Mary is **our** Mother because she cares for **all** of us day-in-and-day-out without fail, interceding for us in even the **tiniest** matters. Jesus gave us Mary to be **our** Mother at the foot of the cross when He said to John, “**Behold your mother**”. Otherwise, we could **not** call her “**our**” Mother. Did you ever think about that? I don’t know about you, but I’m **always** calling on Mary to make intercession to her Son for me and my intentions. She is a **powerful** intercessor! After all, she is God’s **Mother**.

Mary’s “yes” is most profound in the way that it changed her life. Because of her “yes”, she became **not** only a mother, but the **mother of Jesus**. An **ordinary** life was made **sacred** by way of an **invitation** that she affirmed; it was **deepened**, but her daily life remained mostly the same.

We **honor Mary** in many ways: rosary, litany, hymns, May altars, May crowning, and many other devotions. What is your favorite **devotion** to Mary? Mine is her “**fiat**”, her “**yes**” to God at the **Annunciation**. Each morning, I ask for the grace to say “**yes**” to whatever God sends me that day. Some days I’m better at that than others! The same is true in our lives. When we say “**yes**,” God is most often **inviting** us to what is **already** within our capacity—inviting us to see our **ordinary** lives as **sacred**. Like Mary, we are invited to say “**yes**” and let our lives be **sacred**?

Prayer helps us become **aware** of our needs, our desires, and our relationships. Only by **noticing** what is **within** are we able to connect with what is **beyond** ourselves. As such, **prayer** is our participation in the **deepening of the sacred**. Mary taught us this when she said, “**yes**.” And, once Mary said “**yes**” to the angel, she **kept on** saying **yes** to whatever **God** was doing in her life. Let us pray for this grace!