Mother's Day, May 8th, is a day of thanksgiving for our mothers, those who are still with us, and those who are celebrating with God. It is a day, too, when we also honor Mary, our heavenly mother. The month of May is traditionally dedicated to honoring Mary as the **mother of God**, **our mother**, and Mother of the Church.

"When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, '**Woman, here is your son."** Then he said to the disciple, **'Here is your mother.'** And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home."

These were some of the **last words** Jesus spoke before He died. In the most excruciating moment of His life, He looked down from the Cross and **saw two people whom He loved:** His **mother** and the beloved disciple**, John.** And as their presence **consoled Him**, He ministered and **took care of them** by bringing them together, as **mother and son.**

Tradition says that Mary lived the remainder of her life with John in a home in Ephesus (in present-day Turkey). We could translate it: he took Mary into his **inner life**, his inner being … into the **depths** of his being.

Jesus' final words not only pertained to Mary and John, but they also included you, me, and all of humanity. He gave Mary to all of us as our mother. Think about it, we **couldn't** address Mary as our **"our"** Mother **unless** Jesus gave her to us.

So, how do we cultivate a relationship with our mother, Mary? How do we take her into our homes—and even into the depths of our being—like John did? One way is through prayer and meditation.

The prayer we associate most with Mary is the **Hail Mary** and the **Rosary**. Another way to ask Mary for her **prayers** and **intercession** is by simply incorporating the **Hail Mary**, the **Memorare,** or another Marian prayer into our **daily prayer** routine.

And finally, we grow in our relationship with Mary by **pondering** her presence in **Scripture**. While she does not say much, what she says (and does) is **powerful**.