



MARY, ICON OF MERCY	MARY AND THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY							MARY, OUR MOTHER OF MERCY
DAY 1 (10/6/2016)	DAY 2 (11/6/2016)	DAY 3 (12/6/2016)	DAY 4 (13/6/2016)	DAY 5 (14/6/2016)	DAY 6 (15/6/2016)	DAY 7 (16/6/2016)	DAY 8 (17/6/2016)	DAY 9 (18/6/2016)
MARY, ICON OF MERCY	1-INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT	2-COUNSEL THE DOUBTFUL	3-ADMONISH THE SINNER	4-BEAR WRONGS PATIENTLY	5-FORGIVE OFFENCES WILLINGLY	6-COMFORT THE SORROWFUL	7-PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD	MARY, OUR MOTHER OF MERCY
Genesis 3:8-15	2 Samuel 12: 7-10, 13.	2 nd Letter to Timothy 3:10-17	Letter to the Galatians 6:1-6	Letter to the Galatians 6:2-6	Genesis 45:1-5, 15.	Isaiah 66:12-13	2 Maccabees 12:43-46	1 Corinthians 13:1-8a
Luke 1:26-38	Letter to the Colossians 3:12-17	Matthew 5:1-16	Matthew 18:15-22	Matthew 5:38-48	Matthew 6:7-15	Matthew 5:3-12	Luke 18:1-8	Galatians 4:4-14
	Matthew 28:16-20							John 2:1-10

Day 1: Mary, Icon of Mercy

Genesis 3:8-15

⁸ They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

⁹ But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?”

¹⁰ The man said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.”


¹¹ The Lord God said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”

¹² The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.”

¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.”

¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.” 

Luke 1:26-38

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,
²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David.

The virgin’s name was Mary.

²⁸ And he came to her and said, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.”

²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

³⁰ The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.

³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴ Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵ The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.

³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.”

³⁸ Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.”

Then the angel departed from her. 

Day 2: Mary and The Spiritual Works of Mercy – (1) Instruct the Ignorant

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 12: 7-10, 13.

Nathan said to David, “You are this man! It is Yahweh, God of Israel, who speaks: ‘I anointed you king over Israel and saved you from Saul’s hands, I gave you your master’s house and your master’s wives; I also gave you the nation of Israel and Judah. But if this were not enough, I would have given you even more. Why did you despise Yahweh by doing what displeases him? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife for yourself. Yes, you killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now the sword will never be far from your family because you have despised me and taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite for yourself. David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against Yahweh.” Nathan answered him, “Yahweh has forgiven your sin; you shall not die.

The Word of the Lord.

Matthew 28:16-20


The Commissioning of the Disciples

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.

And remember,
I am with you always, to the end of the age.” 

2nd reading: Letter to the Colossians 3:12-17

The New Life in Christ

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility,
meekness, and patience.

¹³ Bear with one another and,
if anyone has a complaint against another,
forgive each other;
just as the Lord has forgiven you,
so you also must forgive.

¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,
to which indeed you were called in the one body.

And be thankful.

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly;
teach and admonish one another in all wisdom;
and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns,
and spiritual songs to God.

¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him. ☩

Day 3: Mary and The Spiritual Works of Mercy – (2) Counsel the Doubtful

2nd Letter to Timothy 3:10-17

Paul's Charge to Timothy

¹⁰ Now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹ my persecutions, and my suffering the things that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra.

What persecutions I endured!

Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them.

¹² Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

¹³ But wicked people and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others and being deceived.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

Matthew 5:1-16

The Beatitudes

⁵ When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

² Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.


¹¹ "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

¹³ "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid.

¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house.

¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. 

Day 4: Mary and The Spiritual Works of Mercy – (3) Admonish the Sinner

Letter to the Galatians 6:1-6

Bear One Another's Burdens

6 My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness.

Take care that you yourselves are not tempted.

² Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

³ For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves.

⁴ All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride.

⁵ For all must carry their own loads.

⁶ Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher. ☞

Matthew 18:15-22

Reproving Another Who Sins

¹⁵ "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone.

If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.

¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.

¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ☞

Day 5: Mary and The Spiritual Works of Mercy – (4) Bear Wrongs Patiently

Letter to the Galatians 6:2-6

Bear One Another's Burdens

² Bear one another's burdens,
and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

³ For if those who are nothing think they are something,
they deceive themselves.

⁴ All must test their own work;
then that work,
rather than their neighbor's work,
will become a cause for pride.

⁵ For all must carry their own loads.

⁶ Those who are taught the word
must share in all good things with their teacher. ☞

Matthew 5:38-48

Concerning Retaliation & Love for Enemies

³⁸ “You have heard that it was said,
‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’

³⁹ But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer.
But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also;
⁴⁰ and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well;
⁴¹ and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile.

⁴² Give to everyone who begs from you,
and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

⁴³ “You have heard that it was said,
‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’

⁴⁴ But I say to you, Love your enemies
and pray for those who persecute you,
⁴⁵ so that you may be children of your Father in heaven;
for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good,
and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

⁴⁶ For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?
Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

⁴⁷ And if you greet only your brothers and sisters,
what more are you doing than others?

Do not even the Gentiles do the same?

⁴⁸ Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. ☞

Day 6: Mary and The Spiritual Works of Mercy – (5) FORGIVE OFFENCES WILLINGLY

Genesis 45:1-5, 15

Joseph Reveals Himself to His Brothers


45 Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, “Send everyone away from me.”

So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers.
2 And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it.

3 Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

4 Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt.

5 And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life.

15 And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him. 

Day 6: (Wednesday, 15 June, 2016)

Matthew 6:7-15

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

“When you pray, do not use a lot of words, as the pagans do, for they believe that the more they say, the more chance they have of being heard. Do not be like them. Your Father knows what you need, even before you ask him.

This, then, is how you should pray:
Our Father in heaven,
holy be your name,
your kingdom come, and your will be done one earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts, just as we have forgiven those who are in debt to us.

Do not bring us to the test, but deliver us from the evil one.

If you forgive others their wrong-doings, your Father in heaven will also forgive yours. If you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive you either.

The Gospel of the Lord

Day 7: Mary and The Spiritual Works of Mercy – (6) Comfort the Sorrowful

Isaiah 66:12-13

Comforting the Sorrowful

¹² For thus says the LORD:
I will extend prosperity to her like a river,
and the wealth of the nations
like an overflowing stream;
and you shall nurse
and be carried on her arm,
and dandled on her knees.
¹³ As a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. ☩

Matthew 5:3-12

The Beatitudes

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
⁴ “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
⁵ “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
⁶ “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.
⁷ “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
⁸ “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
⁹ “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called
children of God.
¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven,
for in the same way they persecuted the prophets
who were before you. ☩

Day 8: Mary and The Spiritual Works of Mercy – (7) Pray for the living and the dead

2 Maccabees 12:42-46

Praying for those killed in battle

⁴²The noble Judas exhorted the people to keep themselves free from sin, for they had seen with their own eyes what had happened as the result of the sin of those who had fallen.

⁴³ He also took up a collection, man by man, to the amount of two thousand drachmas of silver, and sent it to Jerusalem to provide for a sin offering.

In doing this he acted very well and honorably, taking account of the resurrection.

⁴⁴ For if he were not expecting that those who had fallen would rise again, it would have been superfluous and foolish to pray for the dead.

⁴⁵ But if he was looking to the splendid reward that is laid up for those who fall asleep in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought.

⁴⁶Therefore he made atonement for the dead, so that they might be delivered from their sin. ☩

Luke 18:1-8

The Parable of the Widow and the Unjust Judge

¹⁸ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.

² He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people.

³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying,

‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’

⁴ For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’”

⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says.

⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?

⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” ☩

Day 9: Mary, Our Mother of Mercy

1st Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-8a

The Gift of Love

¹³ If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.

³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant
⁵ or rude.

It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful;

⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. 

John 2:1-10

The Wedding at Cana

² On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding.

³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.”

⁴ And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.”


⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons.

⁷ Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim.

⁸ He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it.

⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom

¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” 

2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-14

⁴ But when the time had fully come,

God sent forth his Son,

born of woman, born under the law,

⁵ to redeem those who were under the law,

so that we might receive adoption as sons.

⁶ And because you are sons,

God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying,

“Abba! Father!”

⁷ So through God you are no longer a slave but a son,

and if a son then an heir.

⁸ Formerly, when you did not know God,

you were in bondage to beings that by nature are no gods;

⁹ but now that you have come to know God,

or rather to be known by God,

how can you turn back again to

the weak and beggarly elemental spirits,

whose slaves you want to be once more?

¹⁰ You observe days, and months, and seasons, and years!

¹¹ I am afraid I have laboured over you in vain.

¹² Brethren, I beseech you, become as I am,

for I also have become as you are.

You did me no wrong;

¹³ you know it was because of a bodily ailment

that I preached the gospel to you at first;

¹⁴ and though my condition was a trial to you,

you did not scorn or despise me,

but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. 