

At-Home May Crowning Ceremony

This can be led by a parent. The parent can also do parts of a reader, the one who crowns Mary, and a second leader, or these responsibilities can be divided among other family members. You may shorten or adapt this as fits the needs of your family.

OPENING SONG

“Flowers of the Fairest” is a traditional hymn for May Crowning, but any song to Mary can be sung: Immaculate Mary, Hail Holy Queen, etc.

You can find a video with lyrics to “Bring Flowers of the Fairest” on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INX-wTksYLO>

Each member of the family can present flowers (picked from outside, from the store, paper flowers, etc) to Mary in vases or at the foot of the statue as the opening song is being sung.

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

INVITATION TO PRAY

Leader: Come, let us worship Christ, the Son of Mary.

All: Let us give praise and thanks to the Lord as we keep this day in loving memory of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Leader: My dear brothers and sisters:

We gather today to crown this image of the mother of Jesus. As we acclaim Mary, the Mother of God, as our queen and as the Mother of the Church, let us imitate her example and be attentive to the Word of God. As we honor Mary, who is higher than the cherubim and yet like us, let us pray that through her intercession we may achieve holiness of life, and a deepened faith, hope, and love, as we seek to do the will of God in all things.

(pause for a moment of silence)

Father,

As your Son was raised on the cross,
his mother Mary stood by him, sharing his sufferings.

May your Church be united with Christ in his suffering and death and so come to share in his rising to new life,

where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All respond: Amen.

READING

Another reading may be selected from those allowed for Marian feast days. See a missal or USCCB.org’s Mass reading calendar for options.

Reader: A Reading from the Gospel according to John (John 19:25-27)

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. 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.

(Another reading may be selected from those allowed for Marian feast days. See a missal or USCCB.org's Mass reading calendar for options)

The Rite of Crowning THANKSGIVING AND INVOCATION

The leader stands before the image of the Mother of God and alternates saying the prayer of thanksgiving and invocation with the group.

Leader: Lord, we bless you, for you are full of mercy and justice: you humble the proud and exalt the lowly.

All: You gave us the highest example of your divine wisdom in the mystery of the Word made flesh and of his virgin Mother.

Leader: Your Son, humbled by death, rose glorious at your right hand, the King of all creation.

All: The Virgin, who acknowledged herself to be a servant, became the Mother of our Redeemer and of those reborn in her Son. Now, raised above the angels, she prays for all: the Queen of mercy and grace.

Leader: Bless us as we crown this image of the Mother of your Son (of Christ and his Mother).

All: We confess Christ to be the King of creation and call upon Mary, our Queen. May we walk in their likeness, spending ourselves for the sake of others. Content with our place in this life, may we one day hear your voice inviting us to take our place in heaven and receive the crown of victory

CROWNING

One of the group places the crown on the image of Mary. As the image is crowned, an appropriate song is sung.

Be joyful Mary Heavenly Queen or the Regina Caeli would be appropriate. But another Marian song, as suggested above will work, too.

Be Joyful Mary, Heavenly Queen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bU2PpYEUSZs> (lyrics in the comments)

Regina Caeli: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YtvoDS7CFs8>

LITANY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

After the crowning, the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary is recited. Leader 2 recites the invocations, and all respond.

Leader 2:

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
God our Father in heaven
God the Son, Redeemer of the world
God the Holy Spirit
Holy Trinity, one God
Holy Mary
Holy Mother of God
Holy Virgin of virgins,
Mother of Christ,

Responses:

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy
have mercy on us.
“
“
“
pray for us
“
“
“

Mother of the Church,	“
Mother of divine grace,	“
Mother most pure,	“
Mother most chaste,	“
Mother inviolate,	“
Mother undefiled,	“
Mother most amiable,	“
Mother admirable,	“
Mother of good counsel,	“
Mother of our Creator,	“
Mother of our Savior,	“
Mother of mercy,	“
Virgin most prudent,	“
Virgin most venerable,	“
Virgin most renowned,	“
Virgin most powerful,	“
Virgin most merciful,	“
Virgin most faithful,	“
Mirror of justice,	“
Seat of wisdom,	“
Cause of our joy,	“
Spiritual vessel,	“
Vessel of honor,	“
Singular vessel of devotion,	“
Mystical rose,	“
Tower of David,	“
Tower of ivory,	“
House of gold,	“
Ark of the covenant,	“
Gate of heaven,	“
Morning star,	“
Health of the sick,	“
Refuge of sinners,	“
Comfort of the afflicted,	“
Help of Christians,	“
Queen of Angels,	“
Queen of Patriarchs,	“
Queen of Prophets,	“
Queen of Apostles,	“
Queen of Martyrs,	“
Queen of Confessors,	“
Queen of Virgins,	“
Queen of all Saints,	“
Queen conceived without original sin,	“
Queen assumed into heaven,	“
Queen of the most holy Rosary,	“
Queen of families,	“
Queen of peace.	“

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Leader 2: God of mercy, listen to the prayers of your servants who have honored your handmaid Mary as mother and queen.

Grant that by your grace, we may serve you and our neighbor on earth and be welcomed into your eternal kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Gracious Lord, with love and devotion we have honored the holy Mother of God. May she continue to intercede for us with Jesus Christ, her Son, now and forever.

All: Amen.

Conclude with the Sign of the Cross and finish with a hymn to Mary.

Suggestions include: 'Tis the Month of our Mother:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svFPnzYk8cY&feature=mfu_in_order&list=UL or another Marian Hymn as suggested above.

This prayer service is adapted from one published by the Catholic Diocese of Dallas, TX:
https://www.cathdal.org/Crowning_an_Image_of_the_Blessed_Virgin_Mary.pdf