



## HOW TO CELEBRATE A MAY CROWNING CEREMONY AT HOME

As the month of May is dedicated to Mary, planning a May crowning ceremony at home is a great way to recognise Mary as the Queen of Heaven and Earth. It is a traditional practice in the Church to have a May crowning on May 1 (also known as May Day) but you can do it any time during the month of May. It's traditional to crown a statue of Mary with flowers of some kind. Your flowers could be real or artificial. Just measure the head circumference of your statue and make a wreath of flowers to place on her head. Left over flowers can be used during the procession.

Before beginning your crowning ceremony at home, you may want to prepare a simple prayer space on which you can place a blue cloth (Mary's colour is blue), a candle, some flowers, and the statue of Mary. You can also place a set of rosary beads or cross or any other sacred object you like.

The May crowning usually begins with a procession before the crown of flowers is placed on Mary's head. Therefore, you can all line up and sing a song (see below for hymn choices) as you walk towards the statue and place the crown on her head. Extra flowers can be placed in a vase or placed at Mary's feet.

Once you have crowned the statue of Mary, you can recite some traditional prayers such as the Hail Mary or the Hail, Holy Queen. You can even continue to pray a decade of the Rosary or pray the entire rosary. It is really up to you.

### Hymns Choices for May Crowning Ceremony

[\*Bring Flowers of the Rarest \(Queen of May\)\*](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VTeWWa4J700>

[\*Hail Holy Queen\*](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lozDoB8-dw0>

[\*Immaculate Mary \(Ave Maria\)\*](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pCgk-b4iMok&>

[\*Hail Mary \(Gentle Woman\)\*](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s9GlqPnl34U>



# HYMN LYRICS FOR MAY CROWNING



## Bring Flowers of the Rarest

Bring flow'rs of the fairest,  
 Bring flow'rs of the rarest,  
 From garden and woodland  
 And hillside and vale;  
 Our full hearts are swelling,  
 Our Glad voices telling  
 The praise of the loveliest  
 Rose of the vale.

O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today,  
 Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May,  
 O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today,  
 Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.

Our voices ascending,  
 In harmony blending,  
 Oh! Thus may our hearts turn  
 Dear Mother, to thee;  
 Oh! Thus shall we prove thee  
 How truly we love thee,  
 How dark without Mary  
 Life's journey would be.

O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today,  
 Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May,  
 O Mary! we crown thee with blossoms today,  
 Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.

## Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen enthroned above, O Maria.  
 Hail, Queen of mercy and of love, O Maria.

Triumph, all ye cherubim, Sing with us, ye seraphim,  
 Heaven and earth resound the hymn:  
 Salve, salve, salve Regina!

Our life, our sweetness, here below, O Maria!  
 Our hope in sorrow and in woe, O Maria!

Triumph, all ye cherubim, Sing with us, ye seraphim,  
 Heaven and earth resound the hymn:  
 Salve, salve, salve Regina!



## Immaculate Mary [The Lourdes Hymn]

Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing.  
 You reign now in splendour with Jesus our King.  
 Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!

In Heaven the blessed your glory proclaim;  
 On earth we your children invoke your sweet name.  
 Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!

We pray for the Church, our true Mother on earth,  
 And may you to watch o'er the land of our birth.  
 Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria! Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria!

## Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
 The Lord is with you,  
 Blessed are you among women,  
 And blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
 Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
 Pray for us sinners now,  
 And at the hour of death. Amen.

Gentle woman, quiet light,  
 Morning star, so strong and bright.  
 Gentle mother, peaceful dove,  
 Teach us wisdom, teach us love.

You were chosen by The Father,  
 You were chosen for The Son,  
 You were chosen from all women,  
 And for women, shining one.

Gentle woman, quiet light,  
 Morning star, so strong and bright.  
 Gentle mother, peaceful dove,  
 Teach us wisdom, teach us love.

Blessed are you among women,  
 Blest in turn, all women, too.  
 Blessed are they with peaceful spirits.  
 Blessed they with gentle hearts.

Gentle woman, quiet light,  
 Morning star, so strong and bright.  
 Gentle mother, peaceful dove,  
 Teach us wisdom, teach us love.