

# On Praying to Mary During May

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**ENCYCLICAL LETTER ON THE OCCASION OF THE FIRST OF MAY**

*Promulgated by His Holiness On 30 April 1965*

As the month of May draws near, a month which the piety of the Faithful has specially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady, We are gladdened at the thought of the moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world will soon be paying to the Queen of Heaven. For this is the month during which Christians, both in Church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. ***In this month, too, the gifts of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance.***

This pious practice, by which the Blessed Virgin is honored and the Christian people enriched with spiritual gifts, gladdens and consoles us. Mary remains ever the path that leads to Christ. Every encounter with her can only result in an encounter with Christ Himself. For what other reason do we continually turn to Mary than to seek for the Christ she holds in her arms—to seek in her, through her and with her the Savior.

***Mother most admirable,***

***Mother of good counsel,***

***Mother of our Creator,***

***Mother of our Savior,***

***PRAY FOR US!***