Crowning an Image
of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

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Archdiocese of Newark
CROWNING AN IMAGE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

“Both in the East and the West the practice of depicting the Blessed Virgin Mary wearing a regal crown came into use in the era of the Council of Ephesus (A.D. 431)…. It is especially from the end of the 16th Century that in the West the practice became widespread for the faithful, both religious and laity, to crown images of the Blessed Virgin” (see Order of Crowning an Image of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 3-4)

This service is intended for parish celebrations in which an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary is to be crowned. The rite may be used appropriately as a part of May devotions in honor of Our Lady.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

HYMN

Immaculate Mary

1. Im - mac - u - late Mar - y, your prais - es we sing; You  
   reign now with Christ, our Redeem - er and King.

2. In heav - en the bles - sed your glo - ry pro - claim; On  
   earth, we, your chil - dren, in - voke your fair name.

3. We pray for our Moth - er, the Church up - on earth; And  
   bless, hu - ly Mar - y, the land of our birth.


SIGN OF THE CROSS

INVITATION TO PRAY

The minister invites those present to pray in these words:

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

All respond:

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

INTRODUCTION

The minister then introduces the celebration.

My brothers and sisters, we have come to crown this image of Mary (and her Son, Jesus). This ceremony reminds us that the greatest in the kingdom are those who serve with love.

Our Lord himself came to serve and not to be served, and Our Lady was the humble servant of the Lord when she was on earth. Now, in the glory of heaven, she is still the God-bearer who cares about our salvation; she is the minister of holiness and queen of love.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

O God,
since you have given us Mary, the Mother of your Son,
to be our mother and our queen,
grant that we, who crown her image,
may attain the glory of your children in the kingdom of heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. R: Amen.
CELEBRATION OF THE WORD

The readings from the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 22, Lectionary #627) or other appropriate scripture readings may be used.

First Reading
Isaiah 9: 1-6

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 113: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

Gospel
Luke 1: 26-38

Homily

RITE OF CROWNING

Thanksgiving and Invocation
After the homily, the minister stands before the image of the Mother of God and alternates saying the prayer of thanksgiving and invocation with the assembly, or the minister may read the entire prayer alone.

Minister: 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.

Minister: 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.
Minister:  
Bless us as we crown this image  
of the Mother of Your Son.

All:  
We confess Christ to be 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  
The minster or another person places the crown on the image of Mary. If the image is of both Mary and the infant Jesus, the image of Christ is crowned before that of the Virgin Mary. As the image is crowned an appropriate song is sung.

Hail Holy Queen

1. Hail, holy Queen enthroned above; O Maria.  
2. Our life, our sweetness here below,  
3. And when our life-breath leaves us,  

Hail, Queen of mercy and of love, O Maria.  
Show us thy Son, Christ Jesus.  

Triumph, all ye Cherubim, Sing with us, ye Seraphim,  

Heaven and earth resound the hymn: Salve,  
Salve, Salve Regina.
Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

After the crowning, the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary is sung or recited. All kneel during the litany, except on Sunday and during the Easter season when they stand.

Minister:

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 Mother of God
Mother of the Church
Model of Motherhood
Virgin most wise
Virgin most powerful
Throne of Wisdom
Mystical Rose
Gate of heaven
Morning Star
Help of Christians
Queen of angels
Queen conceived without sin
Queen assumed into heaven
Queen of the rosary
Queen of peace
Queen of the universe

Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world

Pray for us, holy Mother of God.

All:

Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

have mercy on us
have mercy on us
have mercy on us
have mercy on us

pray for us
pray for us
pray for us
pray for us
pray for us
pray for us
pray for us
pray for us
pray for us
pray for us
pray for us

have mercy on us
have mercy on us
have mercy on us

that we may become
worthy of the promises of Christ.
Minister: Eternal God, let your people enjoy constant health in mind and body. Through the intercession of the Virgin Mary free us from the sorrows of this life and lead us to happiness in the life to come.

Grant this through Christ our Lord. R: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Any announcements are made at this time.

BLESSING AND DISMISSAL
A minister who is a priest or deacon concludes the rite by saying:

The Lord be with you. R: And also with you.

Bow your heads and pray for God’s blessing.

With hands outstretched over the people, the minister blesses them by saying:

Through the motherhood of Mary, God in his goodness has chosen to redeem the human race. May he enrich you with his blessing. R: Amen.

May you always and everywhere experience the protection of Mary, through whom you have received the author of life. R: Amen.

May you who have come here today out of devotion take away with you the gift of joy in your hearts and the rewards of heaven. R: Amen.

Then he blesses all present.

And may almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ☩ and the Holy Spirit. R: Amen.

Go in the peace of Christ. R: Thanks be to God.
A lay minister concludes the rite by making the sign of the cross saying:

May you always and everywhere experience the protection of Mary, through whom you have received the author of life.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. 

R: Amen.

*Go in the peace of Christ.* 

R: Thanks be to God.

**HYMN**

Sing of Mary

1. Sing of Mary, pure and lowly, Virgin mother unde-
2. Sing of Jesus, Son of Mary, In the home at Naz-
3. Glory be to God the Father, Glory be un-

filed. Sing of God's own Son most holy, Who became her Son; 

reth. Toll and labor can not wear y, Love end ur ing 

Son; Glory be to God the Spirit; Glory to the 

lit - tle child. Fair - est est was the fair - est mother, 

un to death. Con st ant love he gave her, 

Three in One. From the child of God the child of 

blessed Mar - y. Constant love he gave her, 

God though the he all Lord who came to earth, Word made flesh, our 

From the saints the song as cends, And the Church the 

ver - y broth - er, Takes our na - ture by his birth. 

heal, and suf fer, till on Cal - va - ry he died. 

strain re ech oes Un - to earth's re mot est ends.
WORD OF GOD

Queenship of Mary - Lectionary Readings # 627

First Reading

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah:

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom
a light has shone.
You have brought them abundant joy
and great rejoicing,
As they rejoice before you as at the harvest,
as men make merry when dividing spoils.
For the yoke that burdened them,
the pole on their shoulder,
And the rod of their taskmaster
you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.
For every boot that tramped in battle,
every cloak rolled in blood,
will be burned as fuel for flames.

For a child is born to us, a son is given us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests.
They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero,
Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.
His dominion is vast
and forever peaceful,
From David's throne, and over his kingdom,
which he confirms and sustains
By judgment and justice,
both now and forever.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

The word of the Lord.
Responsorial Psalm  

Psalm 113: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

R. The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.  
or:   R. Alleluia.

Praise, you servants of the LORD,  
praise the name of the LORD.  
Blessed be the name of the LORD  
both now and forever.

R. The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.  
or:   R. Alleluia.

From the rising to the setting of the sun  
is the name of the LORD to be praised.  
High above all nations is the LORD;  
above the heavens is his glory.

R. The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.  
or:   R. Alleluia.

Who is like the LORD, our God, who is enthroned on high  
and looks upon the heavens and the earth below?

R. The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.  
or:   R. Alleluia.

He raises up the lowly from the dust;  
from the dunghill he lifts up the poor  
To seat them with princes,  
with the princes of his own people.

R. The Lord will give him a seat with the leaders of his people.  
or:   R. Alleluia.
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke:

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "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 called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God."

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

The Gospel of the Lord.