



Feast of the Immaculate Conception

(8 December 2016)

Preparatory Celebration for the 2017 General Chapter

● Opening Hymn

1. As I kneel before you,
As I bow my head in prayer,
Take this day, make it yours
and fill me with your love.

*Ave Maria, Gratia plena,
Dominus tecum, Benedicta tu.*

2. All I have I give you,
Every dream and wish are yours,
Mother of Christ, Mother of
mine, present them to my Lord.

*Ave Maria, Gratia plena,
Dominus tecum, Benedicta tu.*

● Opening Prayer

God our Father, we give you thanks, for you created us for life. And when we turned away from you, you did not forsake us. You sent in our world your beloved Son Jesus who took flesh of our flesh so he could heal us of all Evil. To offer Him a perfect and total welcome in our world, you raised among us Mary, the Virgin who is “younger than sin». Through her faith, she opened her heart totally to your Word and became the humble servant of your Kingdom. We pray to you. Teach us to take Mary into our whole life. Thus, with Her and through Her, we will walk away from sin and be transformed in the image of your Beloved Son. Through Him, we pray you and praise you now and forever. **Amen**

● Montfort speaks to us

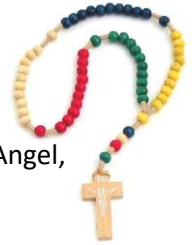
Mary is the great mould of God, fashioned by the Holy Spirit to give human nature to a Man who is God by the hypostatic union, and to fashion through grace men who are like to God. No godly feature is missing from this mould. Everyone who casts himself into it and allows himself to be moulded will acquire every feature of Jesus Christ, true God, with little pain or effort, as befits his weak human condition. He will take on a faithful likeness to Jesus with no possibility of distortion, for the devil has never had and never will have any access to Mary, the holy and immaculate Virgin, in whom there is not the least suspicion of a stain of sin. (*Secret of Mary, 17*)

● The Little crown of the Virgin Mary *

I want to glorify you, Most Holy Virgin.

With all the righteous on earth, with angels and saints in heaven.

★ 1. THE CROWN OF FAITH ★



Our Father...

★ 1. Hail Mary...

Blessed are you Virgin Mary, for you welcomed the word from the Angel,
- **and you believed in its accomplishment.** (Luke 1:38)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 2. Hail Mary...

Blessed are you Virgin Mary, for you received the greeting of Elizabeth,
- **and you were called «Mother of my Lord».** (Luke 1:43)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 3. Hail Mary...

Blessed are you Virgin Mary: you kept in your heart the events of salvation,
- **and you meditated on them unceasingly.** (Luke 2:19)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 4. Hail Mary...

Blessed are you Virgin Mary, for you have listened to the Word of God,
- **and have lived by it every day.** (Luke 11:27)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 2. THE CROWN OF LOVE ★

Our Father...

★ 5. Hail Mary...

Blessed are you Virgin Mary: you are the beloved daughter of the Father,
and you believed in His tenderness towards you.

- **Help us in responding to God's love.** (Luke 1, 28)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 6. Hail Mary...

Blessed are you Virgin Mary, for you welcomed the poor shepherds at Jesus' cradle,

- **Share with us your love of the humblest.** (Luke 2:16)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 7. Hail Mary...

Blessed are you Virgin Mary, for you inaugurated at Cana the wedding between God and His people.

- **Help us enter into the joy of this covenant.** (John 2:1-11)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 8. Hail Mary...

Blessed are you Virgin Mary, you loved us so much as to become our Mother.

- **Teach us to welcome you in our lives.** (John 19:26)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 3. THE CROWN OF HOPE ★

Our Father...

★ 9. Hail Mary...

Glory to you Virgin Mary: having lost your child, you searched him for three days.

- **Deepen in us the desire for God.** (Luke 2:45)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 10. Hail Mary...

Glory to you Virgin Mary: in the storm of Calvary you stood up.

- **Keep us strong in hard times.** (John 19:25)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 11. Hail Mary...

Glory to you, Virgin Mary: you greeted Christ, victorious of death.

- **Share with us your trust in the God of Life.** (Luke 24:36)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

★ 12. Hail Mary...

Glory to you Virgin Mary, glorious sign in the heavens, victorious over the powers of evil.

- **Lead us with you into the Kingdom of God.** (Revelation 12:1)

♪ *Re-joyce, o Mary, Re-joyce a thousand times.*

● **Concluding Hymn**

**Liberos, Make our hearts free, make our hearts free for your Mother,
Liberos, make our hearts free for the life of the world.**

1. Slaves of your love and your will,
men according to your heart,
who will carry out your will
and lay low all your enemies.

(PFM, No 8)

2. Clouds high above the earth,
filled with heavenly dew
that move on all sides, according to
the breath of the Holy Spirit.

(PFM No 9)

3. People always at your disposal,
always ready to obey you,
always ready to run and suffer
with you and for you. (PFM No 10)

Totus Tuus!

*** Note of explanation on The Little Crown**

We suggest a renewed “Little Crown”, more rooted in the Word of God and centred on the three cardinal virtues (Faith, Love, Hope). As in the traditional form, it is composed of twelve stars. Each contains the three following elements:

- one Hail Mary
- a biblical reference divided in two parts: the first one is proclaimed by a reader, the second, by the assembly.
- a short refrain or acclamation