

With Gratitude, Caring and Respect for All God's Creation through Reflection on the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary



Song: “*Beauty in Bloom: To Mary, Queen of the Angels*” ~ David Christopher Lewis

Leader: We gather to give thanks for God's abundant good gifts of creation; for clean water and air, for food and shelter, and all animals and plants. We give thanks for these gifts, we give praise for these gifts, we ask forgiveness for our abuse of these gifts. We pray that as followers of our Father Francis, our hearts and minds may be radically transformed, so that we learn to care for and heal the earth with gentleness and love.

****Reader:** *The Annunciation* – as we ponder this mystery, we reflect on the good news announced to Mary by the Angel Gabriel. We pray that we may live the good news in our openness to God's Revelation in nature and that we will respond with reverence and compassion to all of God's Creation.



All: Praise to you, my Lord, through All Your Creatures.

Thank you, my Lord, for All Your Creatures.

Forgive me, my Lord, for my abuse of Your Creatures.

Reader: Let us, then, be announcers that "a new heaven and a new earth" are possible; bearers of hope, moved by the Spirit; witnesses of change. We have the great example of Mary...

All: **Hail Mary, full of grace, may we see Mother Earth as an Icon of God.**

****Reader:** *The Visitation* – considering this mystery, we recall Mary's visit to Elizabeth and Elizabeth's welcoming Mary and the infant in her womb. We pray that we, too, may be welcoming, reaching out with caring to humans and other life forms affected by climate change, environmental injustice and other disasters.



All: Praise to you, my Lord, through Brother Wind and Sister Air.

Thank you, my Lord, for Brother Wind and Sister Air.

Forgive me, my Lord, for my abuse of Brother Wind and Sister Air.

Reader: Let us, then, be announcers that "a new heaven and a new earth" are possible; bearers of hope, moved by the Spirit; witnesses of change. We have the great example of Mary...

All: Hail Mary, full of grace, may we hear the heartbeat of God in all Creation.

****Reader:** *The Nativity of Our Lord* – praying with this mystery we contemplate and rejoice in the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel-God with us, our God made flesh. We pray that we might see this God more clearly in the gifts of nature: in sunrise and sunset; in the food we eat; in the water we drink; in the soil which grows our food; in the air we breathe.



All: Praise to you, my Lord, through our Sister Mother Earth.
Thank you, my Lord, for our Sister Mother Earth.
Forgive me, my Lord, for my abuse of our Sister Mother Earth.

Reader: Let us, then, be announcers that "a new heaven and a new earth" are possible; bearers of hope, moved by the Spirit; witnesses of change. We have the great example of Mary...

All: Hail Mary, full of grace, may we foster and enhance a Mother-Child relationship of love, respect and care with our Earth, our only home.

****Reader:** *The Presentation of Jesus* – as we consider this mystery, we empathize with Mary as she presented Jesus in the temple. She knew in her heart the sorrows to come. As we open our faucets to draw water for drinking, washing and cleansing, may we remember those whose sorrows include spending hours each day walking for water. May we remember those who are weak, ill and dying because of polluted water, flooding or drought.

All: Praise to you, my Lord, through Sister Water.
Thank you, my Lord, for Sister Water.
Forgive me, my Lord, for my abuse of Sister Water.



Reader: Let us, then, be announcers that "a new heaven and a new earth" are possible; bearers of hope, moved by the Spirit; witnesses of change. We have the great example of Mary...

All: **Hail Mary, full of grace, in our use of water, may we be more conscious of those who are lacking this gift which we too often take for granted.**

****Reader:** *The Finding in the Temple* – as we pray with this mystery, we ponder the mixed feelings of Joseph and Mary who were elated at the finding of their son but who knew in their hearts that in following the Father's Will, Jesus would be challenged. We pray that we may grow in wisdom, courage, patience and perseverance as we accept God's call to address the challenges of today's environmental issues.



All: Praise to you, my Lord, through your creatures who endure sickness and trial.

Thank you, my Lord, for your creatures who endure in peace.

Forgive me, my Lord, for my abuse of your creatures who endure sickness and trial.

Reader: Let us, then, then, be announcers that "a new heaven and a new earth" are possible; bearers of hope, moved by the Spirit; witnesses of change. We have the great example of Mary.

All: **Hail Mary, full of grace, may we live simply, act justly and walk humbly with all the creatures which God, since the beginning has put into our care.**

Leader: God of All Creatures, renew within us a spirit of love and connectedness with creation. Enkindle within us a desire to be instruments in the Earth's renewal. Inspire us to reclaim the precious responsibility you entrusted to us from the beginning of the world to be the caretakers of all You have created and given to us as gift. Amen.

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Marian reflections ~ the Joyful Mysteries from the perspective of caring for the gifts of creation. ~ Sr. Carol De Angelo, SC

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