



Day Thirty

Awakening to God's Presence

“God loved the world so much
that the only Son was given up to death for us.”
These words from Jesus explained the great wonder
of God's love for us.
They describe the extravagance of God's love.
This love is a necessary support for our spiritual journey.
We are given and blessed with other supports.
After Jesus, we can look to Mary.
Mary, too, is capable of such extravagance.
Through love, she gave up that same Son,
for us and for the world.
Mary was tender and loving,
concerned for her Son and concerned for us all.
As the mother of God's Son,
her heart, her love, and her compassion
became a model for Jesus.
He loved her and learned from her.
Who could now measure the extent of her love for us?
Mary journeyed with her Son to Calvary.
There we see her great love for us.
Standing by her Son's cross,
she does what he does.
As he gave himself up for us,
so did she.
After Jesus' own heart,
Mary's heart is the finest masterpiece
to come from the Creator's hands.
Look to Mary, call upon her in confidence.
She will hear us with an open heart
for she is full of compassion and love.

Living by God's Grace

Look to Mary; call upon her.

Acknowledging God's Gifts

May this night's rest
refashion my heart
to be like Mary's own,
and like her Son's.

Thank you for the gift of this day,
the gift of life and loved ones,
the gift to make a difference in this world.

"Hail, Mary, full of grace."

Gracious God, fill me with grace
and with all I need to live as Jesus did.

"The Lord is with you."

Be ever with me, God,
bless me and guide me—
tomorrow and every day—
in my efforts to do good for others.

I want to be filled and transformed by God's grace.

For this day, thank you.

Bless this night.

May tomorrow be a fresh beginning.

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