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MARY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

We can spend some very useful time in meditating on the Preface for the Mass "Mary, Mother of the Church".

Father, all-powerful and ever-living God,
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks
and, as we honour the Blessed Virgin Mary,
to offer you fitting praise.

She received your Word in the purity of her heart,
and conceived him in her virgin's womb;
she gave birth to her Creator, and watched over the Church at its first
beginning.

She accepted God's parting gift of love as she stood beside the Cross,
and so became the Mother of all the living,
her children brought to new life through the death of her Son.

One in prayer with the apostles as they waited for the promised Gift of your
Spirit,
she became the perfect pattern of the Church at prayer.
Raised to the glory of heaven,
she cares for the pilgrim Church with a mother's love,
following its progress homewards until the day of the Lord dawns in splendour.

Now, with all the saints and angels. we praise you for ever:

PRAYERS

Let us praise God the Father who chose Mary as the mother of his Son and wanted all generations to call her blessed. With confidence we pray.

May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

Father you did great things for the Virgin Mary and brought, her body and soul, to the glory of heaven - fill the hearts the hearts of your children with the hope of Christ's glory.

May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

Through the prayers of Mary, our mother, heal the sick, comfort the sorrowful, pardon sinners; - grant peace and salvation to all.

May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

You favoured Mary with the fullness of grace; - bestow on all people your overflowing blessing.

May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

May your Church be united heart and soul, held fast by love, - and may your faithful be joined in continuous prayer, with Mary the mother of Jesus.

May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.

Father you exalted the Virgin Mary and crowned her queen of heaven; - may the dead enter your kingdom

May the Virgin Mary intercede for us.