

Liturgical Living: The Queenship of Mary

Did you know that there is a special title honoring Mary as the Queen of Heaven and Earth?

Pope Paul VI saw a close connection between Mary's Queenship and her heart, the heart of a mother. Since the August monthly devotion is the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Pope Paul VI instituted the Feast of the Queenship of Mary on August 22.

Mary is both a queen and a mother. In the very moment Mary becomes a mother at the Annunciation, she also becomes a queen. The Archangel Gabriel tells Mary that her Son "will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end" (Lk 1: 33).

Since Jesus is a king, and since He is conceived in the womb of Mary, and since in Israel the mother of a king was always a queen, Mary becomes a queen. It is not royal blood, but her motherly relationship, that makes Mary a queen. And since nothing is excluded from the realm of Christ the King, Mary is the Queen of that same realm, including both heaven and earth.

Celebrate today's Feast of the Queenship by praying the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary (the 5th Glorious Mystery is the Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven).

May the Virgin Mary, crowned Queen, intercede for us, that we may imitate her in faithfully fulfilling God's will on earth, to join her one day in the heavenly Jerusalem. In every situation of our life, let us invoke her with trust: "Queen of all saints, pray for us!" ~ Pope John Paul II

