Take Home



The Commandments and Doing God's Will

Mary has a special place in our Church as the mother of Jesus. Those who share her role as mother turn to her for support. We also turn to Mary as we would to our own mother. Mary models acceptance and a quiet strength. She is a family person, so it is easy to take the virtues that she models and apply them to our own family life.

ACTIVITY

Mothers Put together a collection in honor of the mothers in your family. Do you have pictures of grandmothers and great-grandmothers? How about godmothers? Talk about the different qualities of each of these special people.

WEEKLY PLANNER

On Sunday

Before Mass, look around your church for images of Mary.

On the Web www.blestarewe.com



Visit our Web site for the saint of the day and the reflection question of the week.

Saint of The Week



Mary, Mother of God

The Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on January 1. Throughout the church year we celebrate many events relating to Mary, but on this day we celebrate her motherhood. Especially on this day, God's people traditionally join to pray for world peace.

Patron Saint of: many countries, cities, and dioceses; mothers **Feast Day:** January 1



Prayer for the Week

Mary, our Mother, help us to love and honor your Son, Jesus. Help us to model our family life like your Holy Family. Amen.

Take Home



Scripture Background

In the Time of Jesus

Jesus' Family Tree Although there are more than twenty genealogies in the Old Testament, only two appear in the New Testament. In tracing Jesus' family, Matthew and Luke both include David, the shepherd boy who became a great king of Israel. Also appearing on both lists is Abraham, a patriarch of the nation of Israel. While Matthew stops with Abraham, Luke traces Jesus' ancestry all the way back to Adam.

In Mark 3:31–35, Jesus talks about who is part of his family.

OUR CATHOLIC TRADITION in Music

Marian Songs Many beautiful songs about Mary have been written. Franz Schubert's "Ave Maria" and the hymn "Immaculate Mary" are, perhaps, the most well known. Contemporary Catholic composers have written Marian songs as well. The bilingual song "I Say 'Yes' Lord," by Donna Peña, speaks of saying yes to the will of God in good times and in bad.