

# St. Mary: The Mother of God

“Many daughters have done well,  
But you excel them all”

*Proverbs 31:29*

- “My dove, my perfect one, is the only one, the only one of her mother, the favorite of the one who bore her. The daughters saw her and called her blessed, the queens and the concubines, and they praised her. Who is she who looks forth as the morning, Fair as the moon, clear as the sun, Awesome as an army with banners?” *Songs 6:8-10*



# **The Humility of St. Mary: a model for all humanity**



# 1. The lowly opinion of herself

- “But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying”

*Luke 1:29*

- “For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant”

*Luke 1:48*



## 2. Concealing heavenly gifts

- Giving the praise to God when she visited Elizabeth
- Leaving Elizabeth's house once she gave birth so as not to meet with others and be obliged to answer their questions.
- "But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her heart"

*Luke 2:19*



# 3. The readiness to serve others

- "Now Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth"

*Luke 1:39-40*

- "His mother said to the servants, Whatever He says to you, do it" *John 2:5*



# 4. Choosing the last place

- “While He was still talking to the multitudes, behold, His mother and brothers stood outside, seeking to speak with Him”  
*Matthew 12:46*
- “These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus” *Acts 1:14*



## 5. Choosing the time for her presence

- We heard of her standing beside her Son at the time of His crucifixion. We did not hear about her when he was received in Jerusalem as a king on Palm Sunday.



## 6. Her simplicity

- Simplicity is freedom from cunning or duplicity
- **Simplicity** does not worry about the consequences of obeying God's commands. **Naivety** does not worry about the consequences of one's actions. **Superficiality**, on the other hand, thinks about neither actions nor consequences.



# 7. Her obedience

- To her parents' decision
- To the elders' decision
- To the angel who announced to her the glad tidings "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." *Luke 1:38*
- To Joseph the carpenter



## 8. Her modesty <sup>(1)</sup>

- St. Mary was in a position to be psychologically and physically ready for grandeur and glamour
- No artist portrayed her except in her ordinary attire of a humble, middle class Jewish girl who, having been dedicated by her parents to God, grew up in the temple



## 8. Her modesty (2)

- “The royal daughter is all glorious within the palace” *Psalms 45:13*
- She, in her modesty, perfectly fit St. Peter’s description of a modest woman whose beauty is not in “arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel; rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God.” *1 Peter 3:3-4*



# 9. Her flexibility

- As a woman of no choices and no preferences, the Blessed Virgin Mary was so flexible to all circumstances and surprises.
- Traveling from one inn to the other only to be met with closed doors, giving birth to her Lord and Savior in a manger, and many other hardships



# 10. Her silence

- If a woman could talk about the Lord Jesus and the whole world would listen, that woman would be St. Mary.
- On the contrary, she, in her humility, chose to speak the least and leave the preaching to His apostles.

