



## 33 Day Journey of Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary

### DEVOTION

#### DAY 12

*"I do not promise to make you happy in this life, but in the next." (Mary to Bernadette)*

After three appearances, Our Blessed Mother finally spoke to Bernadette. No one wants to hear that they will have to suffer. There will be times when things happen that make us very sad or unhappy. In these times, we can question how Jesus would let us be so unhappy after we have consecrated our lives to Him through His mother. Surely our unhappiness makes her sad, too!

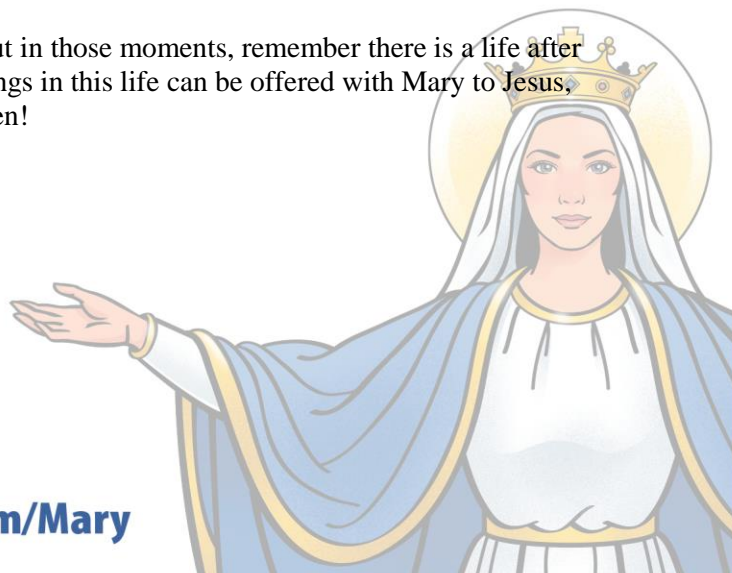
You must remember that following Jesus, by being close to Mary, does not mean that your life will be perfect and easy. The more we are like Jesus, the more He allows us to share in His sufferings here on earth.

Jesus said that if you want to be His disciple, you must "pick up your Cross" and follow Him. (Matthew 16:24). That means you must be willing to suffer just like He did to open up Heaven for all of us.

Jesus even allowed His mother to share in His sufferings. Remember when Our Lady presented Baby Jesus in the temple? Simeon, who was able to recognize Jesus because of the Holy Spirit, held Baby Jesus and told His mother, "A sword will pierce your heart." Think how much Mary, the Mother of God, had to suffer while she waited at the foot of the Cross watching her Son be persecuted and killed.

*Ponder when you pray*

Everyone undergoes suffering while on earth, but in those moments, remember there is a life after this—Heaven! Think about how all your sufferings in this life can be offered with Mary to Jesus, and He will reward you with happiness in Heaven!



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### PRAYER

#### Ave Maris Stella (Part 2)

Show thyself a Mother,  
May the Word Divine  
Born for us thine Infant  
Hear our prayers through thine.

Virgin all excelling,  
Mildest of the mild,  
Free from guilt preserve us  
Meek and undefiled.  
Keep our life all spotless,  
Make our way secure

Till we find in Jesus,  
Joy for evermore.  
Praise to God the Father,  
Honor to the Son,  
In the Holy Spirit, be the glory one. Amen.



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