



How to Plant a Mary Garden



**MUSEUM OF
FAMILY PRAYER**

THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER

WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

The Mary Garden contest is brought to you by The Museum of Family Prayer, which offers a unique, interactive experience of prayer using digital media for the entire family to experience together. When we reopen, join us to explore more about prayer and check out our Mary Garden ... our work in progress. Then tour the museum and find out about our current programs. The museum offers a lively, collective involvement allowing those who visit to touch, listen and watch, reflect and pray. Your family will be treated to a new, different, fun, faith-filled experience.

Remember what our founder, Venerable Patrick Peyton always said, "The family that prays together stays together."

For more information on the contest: MuseumOfFamilyPrayer.org

A LITTLE HISTORY

Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C. began his ministry in 1942 with the goal of building **family unity** through daily prayer of the Rosary. Inspired by his own father who had a deep devotion to family prayer, praying the Rosary became the foundation for the life of Father Peyton (1909-92).

We at Family Rosary are ever so grateful Father Peyton's family instilled in him the importance of **family prayer**. Now it can be part of your family's tradition so you can fulfill the vision that "The Family That Prays Together Stays Together," the message created by Father Patrick Peyton, C.S.C., so many years ago.



“ MARY, MY QUEEN, MY MOTHER. ”

VENERABLE PATRICK PEYTON

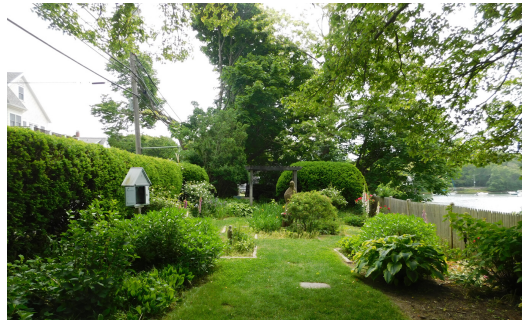
HOW TO PLANT A MARY GARDEN

"While we may not need the stories about these flowers to teach us, we can nevertheless create a place of prayer and devotion by planting a garden with the intention of honoring Mary."

HONOR MARY WITH A GARDEN

It is time to plant and tend a garden. Mary Gardens, gardens dedicated to our Blessed Mother, have been gaining popularity in recent years. How does one go about creating a Mary Garden? Many flowers and plants are associated with our Blessed Mother and various aspects of her life. These traditions harken back to the Middle Ages, when religious devotion permeated almost every aspect of life. Some flowers are associated with Mary simply by virtue of their names. Others feature legends used as one means to instruct others about Jesus and Mary. It was one more way to teach the Gospel stories during a time when books and reading were not widespread. While we may not need the stories about these flowers to teach us, we can nevertheless create a place of prayer and devotion by planting a garden with the intention of honoring Mary.

Such a garden may be a lavish outdoor space or some simple indoor plantings.



A Mary Garden also usually contains a statue or image of Mary.



This list of flowers and their meanings may help you get started:

Rose – Roses have been associated with Mary since the earliest days. They are a symbol of her glory and sorrow. Roses are often known as the queen of flowers. As such, they are also a sign of Mary's queenship of heaven.

Lily of the Valley - Mary's Tears – Legend hold that when Mary wept at the foot of the cross, her tears fell to the ground and these flowers blossomed. With its pure white flowers, it has also been associated with her Immaculate Conception.

Ox-Eye Daisy - Mary's Star – This flower is associated with the Star of Bethlehem which led the Magi to the Christ child.

Fleur-de-lis - Yellow flag iris – A symbol of the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel came to Mary to ask her to be the mother of God's son.

Chrysanthemum – *All Saint's Flower* – This flower is believed to have been present when Christ was laid in the tomb.

Snowdrop - Candlemas Bells – These are said to have bloomed at Candlemas, when Mary brought Jesus to the temple for his presentation.

Gladiolus – the name of this flower comes from the Latin word for "sword" and stands for the sword that would pierce Mary's heart.

Violet – a symbol of Mary's constancy, humility, and innocence.

Marigold – *Mary's Gold* – a symbol of Mary's simplicity and domesticity. Sometimes also associated with her sorrows.

Carnations – their name reminds one of the Incarnation of Christ. They also are a symbol of the Crucifixion.

For more information on flowers and herbs associated with Mary, please visit:

<http://www.fisheaters.com/marygardens.html>

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Mary Gardens are places of beauty and peace. Made up of many flowers and plants that are associated with our Blessed Mother and various aspects of her life. These traditions go back to the Middle Ages when religious devotion permeated almost every aspect of life. Some flowers are Marian simply by virtue of their names, Marigold and Morning Glory. Others feature legends about Jesus and Mary, flowers such as Snapdragon and Tulip. All forms of art, including gardens, were one way to teach the Gospel stories during a time when books and reading were not widespread.

Mary Gardens may be lavish outdoor spaces, small simple gardens or even indoor potted plants. A Mary Garden usually contains a statue or image of Mary.

CONTINUE THE JOURNEY

Want to learn more about Mary or explain to someone you know Mary's role in your faith?

Catholic Central, a free video web series that talks about the big Catholic topics, has an episode all about Mary! There you'll learn that she's venerated, not worshiped; asked to pray for us; and makes occasional appearances to the faithful to achieve her one mission ... bringing people closer to her Son.



PATRICE FAGNANT-MACARTHUR

Patrice Fagnant-MacArthur has a Master's Degree in Applied Theology and is the author of *The Catholic Baby Name Book*, *The Power of Forgiveness*, and *Our Lady of La Salette: A Mother Weeps for Her Children*. A mother of three, she is the editor of TodaysCatholicHomeschooling.com as well as a freelance writer and editor.

BRINGING FAMILIES TOGETHER IN PRAYER

We hope the time you've spent reflecting with this material has been enriching. Remember, we're with you in prayer, every step of the way!

For additional online resources for family prayer including a Prayer Petition Page and our World at Prayer Blog, please visit our website at www.FamilyRosary.org.

This e-book and all our resources represent a culmination of Father Peyton's passion for family unity through prayer. We hope our services will enhance your family's prayer life particularly remembering Father Peyton's famous words, "*The Family That Prays Together Stays Together.*"

WHERE YOU CAN FIND US



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