

JULY 2019

CDM Kampung-Ku Connection

She is clothed
IN STRENGTH
AND DIGNITY,
and she laughs
WITHOUT FEAR
OF THE FUTURE.
when she speaks,
HER WORDS
ARE WISE,
and she gives
INSTRUCTIONS
WITH KINDNESS.

PROVERBS 31:25-26

©AMEN Designs

Theme: IN HONOR OF MOTHERS - THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE

O ***pening prayer:*** *Loving God, you gather us as a people of the new covenant, sealed with the blood of your beloved son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. You formed us into a community of faith, hope and love.*

Father, fill every heart that longs for you with your mysterious presence and grant us the spirit of trust and openness to share with this group gathered today. Bless our homes and our family wherever they may be right now. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

The joy of a loving close knit family



<https://youtu.be/oq46iwkQJp4> (2.42mins) - Mary models mothers' strength- Pope Francis and/or



https://youtu.be/FJ4pW4v_MKQ (2.19mins) - The importance of mom in our life



Read: In this month of July, we honor all mothers. 'The Hand That Rocks the Cradle Is the Hand That Rules the World' from a poem by William Ross Wallace, praises motherhood as the preeminent force for influencing the minds of her children and thus the future generations.

A woman by her very nature is maternal. Every woman, whether married or unmarried, is called upon to be a biological, psychological or spiritual mother. She knows intuitively to give, to nurture, to care for others, to suffer with and for them.

To be a mother is to stretch yourself as far as you can possibly go. It is to say, 'There, that is everything I have; that is my blood, my heart, my bone marrow'. Just when a mother wants to rest, she is called to more openness of heart, more self-emptying, more patience, more work, more letting go, more love.

And who can be a better epitome of motherhood than our Blessed Mother! St Louis de Montfort has these beautiful words about our correlation with Mary. 'All true children of God have God for their father and Mary for his mother; anyone who does not have Mary for his mother, does not have God for his father'.

Discussion:

1. What are the challenges mothers, especially new mothers, face in today's world? Is there adequate support from the extended family, church groups and even social media?
2. Is being a Catholic mother any different now compared to the days of our own mothers?
3. What is your favorite memory or tradition passed down by your own mother? (especially in adhering to Catholic faith and tradition?)
4. How can we as individuals or as a group support and encourage mothers, even in a small way in the home, in church, in school etc?

- **FOOD FOR THOUGHT – a take home message.....**

The next time you hear a child cry in the restaurant, the shopping mall or even in church, drop that look of irritation or frown. Only God knows how much effort the mother has gone into bringing that child out of the home. An encouraging look or smile will help to reaffirm her confidence in herself and in others.



Closing Prayer: Heavenly Father, we praise You and thank You for the gift of our mothers, our grandmothers and aunts through whom You give us life and through whom we experience love.

We thank You for Mary, the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, a mother so gracious and a woman of example in motherhood for all of us. May our prayer warm the hearts of all mothers, grandmothers, aunts and all women who have nurtured us to be what we are today. May they know that they are loved and precious and they are worthy in their call.

May mothers all over the world feel in their heart the joys of being called a mother and in all their goodness and in all their failings, be blessed in Your love and forgiveness. We pray in Grace they belong close to You Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Closing Hymn: Mother Dearest Mother Fairest

Mother dearest, Mother fairest,
Help of all, who call on thee.
Virgin purest, brightest, rarest,
Help us, help, we cry to thee.

Lady, help in pain and sorrow,
Soothe those rack'd on beds of pain,
May the golden light of morrow,
Bring them health and joy again.

Lady, help the absent loved ones.
How we miss their presence here.
May the hand of Thy protection
Guide and guard them far and near.

Chorus

Mary, help us, help we pray.
Mary, help us, help we pray.
Help us in all care and sorrow.
Mary, help us, help we pray.