
THE CHILDREN'S CORNER

"Let the children come to me, do not hinder them," (Mk 10:14)

Our Lady's Crown of 12 Stars

As we begin the year 2024, let us confidently entrust (freely give) ourselves to our King Jesus through our Queen Mother Mary! Let us also pray very much this year for our family, our town, our country and our world! One way we can do this is by praying "Our Lady's Crown of 12 Stars." (This prayer is based on an ancient devotion that is promoted by the Mercedarian Friars.) You can even *make* 12 glittering stars to represent your prayers! Begin with the "Sign of the Cross" and pray one "Hail Mary" (12 altogether) after each star:

The 1st star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being the Father's highly favored one.
The 2nd star of your crown of glory; O Queen of Heaven, is being the Mother of God the Son.
The 3rd star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being the sanctuary of the Holy Spirit.
The 4th star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being free from the stain of original sin.
The 5th star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being the handmaid of the Lord.
The 6th star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being blessed among women.
The 7th star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being a perpetual Virgin.
The 8th star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being the Mother of All Mankind.
The 9th star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being the teacher and model of all virtues.
The 10th star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being the Mother of the Church.
The 11th star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is being assumed body & soul into Heaven.
The 12th star of your crown of glory, O Queen of Heaven, is that you are exalted by the Lord as Queen of Heaven and Earth, Queen of the Universe!

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"My child, peace in your soul..."

"My child, peace in your soul, peace in your memory, peace in your understanding, peace in your will, peace with God, peace with men, peace with yourself. Peace, peace, peace, in Heaven and on earth. Peace in the depth of your heart. This is what the Child Jesus grants us through His birth. He reconciles us with His Father and gives us power to triumph over our enemies and enjoy peace in the midst of war." - Venerable Mother Mectilde of the Blessed Sacrament (1614-1698)

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. -The Book of Isaiah 9:6