

THE MONTH OF MARY.

Is there a Catholic heart in the world that does not exult at the words "Month of Mary"? Blessing on that pious soul, who first thought of consecrating the beautiful May to her, who is "our life, our sweetness and our hope." And it is but fitting that these days of buds and blossoms, falling from the cycle of time should crown her, whose name is a synonym for all that is beautiful in heaven and earth.

Who can boast a May Queen as amiable as ours? Though the angels crown her with everlasting roses, she stretches out her gentle hands for our earthly garlands. Though the heavenly spirits are singing celestial harmonies in her honor, she turns an ear of pity to our cries of sorrow and distress. O! happy we, the subjects of such a Sovereign! O, that she would bind our hearts to hers forever with chains of love and sweetness!

Let us delight to honor her with the devotions that holy Mother the Church has instituted for the month of Mary. With what joyful piety should we not recite the Rosary—each Hail Mary a beautiful rose, springing from our hearts to form the crown we offer her, the Rose of Sharon, whose fragrance fills the court of heaven. The May blossoms we bring to her shrine perish before our eyes, like all else that is of earth. Yet not so, these other garlands of our prayers.

May we offer them with such devoted hearts, that they may be a chaplet worthy to crown the chaste brow of her, who is our May Queen and Mother.

