

A MAY GIFT TO MARY

A VE MARIA! Sweet Queen of the May!
What shall we bring to your altar to-day?
Odor of lily and incense of rose?
Gifts for our Queen that the spring-time bestows,
All that is fairest we lay at Thy feet,
Fondly our Queen of the May-time we greet.

Ave Maria! sweet Queen of the May!
Lilies may wither, the rose fade away,
Fairer, O Mary, the chaplet we twine,
Worthy our gift of our sweet Mother's shrine,
Love of our hearts do we lay at Thy feet,
Fondly our Queen of the May-time we greet.

Ave Maria! sweet Queen of the May!
Queen of our hearts do we hail Thee to-day.
Help us be steadfast when dangers are nigh,
Raising our thoughts to the Kingdom on high.
Jesu! Maria! we lovingly greet,
Hearts that are faithful we lay at Thy feet.