

A May Reflection

with

Chaplain Chad



May is Mary's Month, and Ours Too!


For centuries, Catholics have reserved the month of May to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Jesus. While this would be important to all Catholics, it is particularly meaningful for everyone here at Martisthill. See: the Marist Missionary Sisters are the ones who founded this nursing and rehabilitation center, and the Marist at the start of their name stands for their devotion to Mary. This is also why there are so many statues of Mary throughout the building and the grounds, particularly in the chapel.

So, how do we celebrate the month of May? Many people will pray the Rosary more frequently, or ask Mary to intercede for our prayers and intentions. Statues of Mary are often “crowned” with flowers, and images of Mary are frequently displayed. These are all wonderful and important ways to remember Mary in our lives, but I’ll ask us all to go one step further.

Theologians often discuss the importance of Mary’s ‘yes’ to God at the Annunciation. When faced with an the angel Gabriel giving life changing information to Mary, she responds simply to have God “let it be done according to your will” (Luke 1:38). How often in our own lives do we find it difficult to trust in God and God’s plan? In this way, Mary is the model for all of us as we discern what God is calling us to do or become. Don’t forget also, that it wasn’t just Mary’s ‘yes’ that is remarkable. It’s the fact that, in the face of all the consequences of that yes (from becoming pregnant while not married to standing at the foot of her Son’s cross) she agreed anyhow.

That’s my prayer for each of us this May: that we may use Mary as our model as we ask God what we are being called to do in our own lives. Can we, like Mary, say ‘yes’ to the Holy Spirit moving through our lives? With Mary’s prayer and intercession, **we can**.

Happy Easter Season!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chaplain Chad".

Chaplain Chad

Director of Mission and Spiritual Care