



# *Mother of Mercy*

'Neath the foot of the Cross, She faithfully kept Her watch  
Consoled by Saint John e'er so softly,  
And from the Cross itself He bent down,  
To give us a Mother of Mercy.

It was as if it was not enough to bear the Cross  
That sinners wretched He might redeem,  
More generous still, He bent down  
To endow us with the fairest Queen.

Queen of Heaven, Queen of Angels, and Queen of all men,  
Queen of Priests and Holy Souls awaiting,  
Mistress to the pleading child in need,  
Mother of Mercy: sweet succoring.

O Mother most merciful, Mother of compassion,  
Ark of Salvation, Gate of Heaven,  
Refuge of sinners and those in despair,  
To Thee we fly, unto Thy leaven.

O Mother most sweet, most radiant, O Mother of mothers!  
Mother most pure, Mother most dear,  
Thee do we entreat sending up our sighs,  
As Thou bendest to blot every tear.

O Mother most tender, most mild, O Mother of Mercy!  
Masterpiece of God's holy design,  
Font of all graces, Thine to dispense,  
To the humble, repentant, uncondign.

'Neath the foot of our crosses, Thou maintains Thy watch,  
That Thy servants persevere e'er fast,  
'Til from Cherubim'd Throne He bends down,  
And with Thee, welcomes us home at last.

---- *Pauly Fongemie*

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The above poem is arranged so that each stanza has forty beats: thirteen on the first line for Our Lady's greatest Feasts----- the Annunciation, the Assumption, the Immaculate Conception, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Most Holy Name of Mary, the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, the Seven Dolors of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Our Lady of Fatima; nine on each of the other three lines, one line in honor of the Blessed Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, with nine for a thanksgiving novena and three each for the Three Divine Persons in one God.

<http://www.catholictradition.org/Mary/mothers-day.htm>

