

*May Blessing of the Statue of the
Blessed Virgin Mary*

Leader Let us remember . . .
All that we are in the holy
presence of God.

please stand

♫ **Immaculate Mary**

Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing;
You reign now in splendor with Jesus,
our King.

Ave, ave, ave, Maria! Ave, ave, Maria!

In heaven the blessed your glory proclaim;
On earth we, your children, invoke your
sweet name.

Ave, ave, ave, Maria! Ave, ave, Maria!

Leader
This ceremony of blessing the statue of the
Virgin Mary has a lesson to teach us about
the kingdom of heaven on earth: that the
greatest in the kingdom are those who are
foremost in serving and in love. Our Lord

(Arranged by Brother Tim Coldwell)

Jesus came to serve, not to be served. And our Lady, whose glory we proclaim today, was the humble servant of God—she gave herself utterly to her son and his work; with him, and under him, she was an instrument in our redemption.

Now, in the glory of heaven, Mary is still the God-bearer to Christ's brothers and sisters: as our spiritual mother she cares about our eternal salvation; she is a minister of holiness and queen of love.

✦ **Move reverently outside to the grotto**

Thanksgiving and Invocation

Following each prayer, a representative from each religion class will place a flower at the base of the statue.

Our response to each statement is,
"Pray for us".

Holy Mother of God . . .
Model of virtue . . .
Queen of mercy . . .
Queen of peace . . .
Queen of love . . .
Queen of heaven . . .
Queen of the universe . . .

Pray for us, O glorious Mother of God
All: That we may become worthy of the promises of Christ.

**Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you!
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death, Amen.**

♪ **Immaculate Mary**

Your name is our power, your virtues our light;
Your love is our comfort, your prayers our might.

Ave, ave, ave, Maria! Ave, ave, Maria!