



## *Spring Has Sprung*

*Time to Plant Seeds of Faith Hope and Love in your family.*

### **As a family:**

**Faith:** Plant carrots, Swiss chard, or other edible plants and watch them grow together.

**Hope:** Hope is anticipating the seeds will grow and produce abundant bounty.

**Love:** Water and care lovingly for the plants.



Do the same for your family. Plant seeds of faith by teaching them to pray. Tell them what hope means especially in their faith formation. Show them how to love even when it is difficult.

Click on the following links for additional activities:

[SusanVogt.net\Monthly EnrichmentActivities](https://www.susanvogt.net/Monthly%20EnrichmentActivities)

[10 May Activities for Catholic Families Free Printable \(Perfect for Faith Formation\) \(reallifeathome.com\)](https://www.reallifeathome.com/10-May-Activities-for-Catholic-Families-Free-Printable-Perfect-for-Faith-Formation)

[CFM Program Book \(2013-2014\) Draft #3 \(d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net\)](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/CFM-Program-Book-(2013-2014)-Draft-#3)

Ch. 7—Caring for God’s Creation pp. 51-58



### **MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER**

**Loving God,**

**You wrap your arms around your people and show your everlasting love in the same way a mother loves her children.**

**We are grateful for the love you have taught us through the mothers in our lives: our own mother who brought us into this world, the mothers of friends who have welcomed us into their homes and families, our grandmothers who took time for us, and the mothers who have helped us even though we were not their children.**

**Bless all the mothers of this world today.**

**May they know the fullness of love they have shared and be blessed every day of their lives.**

**Amen.**

### **Honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary & all mothers in the month of May**



Amidst the blooming flowers & vibrant colors of Spring in the Northern Hemisphere, & as we ponder on

planting gardens, getting started on having family picnics (on Memorial Day weekend, perhaps), & planning vacations (hint: plan around CFM’s 75th Anniversary Celebration in August in Mundelein, IL), societies across the world take time to honor mothers & Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Cultures worldwide have long recognized the key role of mothers in nurturing & shaping society. Mothers symbolize the epitome of selflessness, sacrifice, & unconditional love. They are the caregivers, educators, & nurturers who mold the character & values of future generations. In May, we pay tribute to mothers for their boundless compassion, resilience, & unwavering support, acknowledging the immeasurable impact they have on our lives. (Don’t worry, Dads...you’ll have your turn next month.)

Our Blessed Virgin Mary holds a unique & revered position as the mother of Jesus. Her unconditional acceptance of her divine role & steadfast faith makes her an exemplar of compassion, humility, & devotion. We have received solace & grace through her intercession & guidance. Catholics & other Christian communities observe various Marian devotions during May, including praying the Rosary, May Crownings & Marian processions, & special Marian corners in homes. These rituals serve as expressions of love & reverence for Mary, acknowledging her role as the Mother of God & the Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Regardless of religious affiliation, the month of May offers an opportunity to express gratitude & appreciation for the maternal figures who enrich our lives & inspire us to strive for goodness & virtue.

Whether we celebrate the selfless sacrifices of earthly mothers (including those who have gone before us) or honoring the spiritual guidance of Mary, may we also reflect on their impact in our lives by honoring their legacy & embodying their virtues of love, compassion, & humility in our daily lives.

## Remembering CFM's Past Leading Lights

In honor of Msgr. Reynold Hillenbrand, CFM established an award to recognize exemplary leadership and dedication of priest chaplains of their local CFM groups



**2002**  
**Msgr. Michael Lenihan**  
**St. Lawrence Martyr Parish**  
**Redondo Beach, CA**

November 15, 2002—The evening concluded with the service team attending the annual "Thanksgiving Feast." This evening, which has to be the most massive potluck ever staged, was attended by most of the 112 CFM families with their children. Peter and Jane Buchbauer and Father Michael Conroy started the evening with the presentation of the first Reynold Hillenbrand award to Monsignor Michael Lenihan, retiring pastor. For all of his 21 years at St. Lawrence Monsignor Lenihan has been supremely supportive of CFM. Monsignor Lenihan noted that he drew a great deal of support for the parish from the CFM group which was important in developing an active base of involved parishioners over his years as pastor.



2002 CFM National President Couple Peter and Jane Buchbauer presented the "Msgr. Reynold Hillenbrand Achievement Award" to Pastor Emeritus Rev. Msgr. Michael Lenihan, P.A. of St. Lawrence Martyr Church in Redondo Beach. On Msgr. Lenihan's left, and holding the award, was the CFM National Chaplain at that time, Rev. Don Conroy, and Dan Thomas, then one of the co-section leaders of St. Lawrence Martyr CFM ministry.

For more information about Msgr. Lenihan, you may click on this archived article: [Monsignor Lenihan: 'We'll never see the likes of him again' - Easy Reader News](#)

## 94 days till our CFM 75th Anniversary Celebration



In under 100 days, we will all gather to celebrate 75 years of CFM's existence. Join us in reminiscing about the past and making new memories together at CFM's 75th year anniversary celebration (August 3-4, 2024) at Mundelein Seminary in Illinois. We hope you will invite members of your current and past groups to join, too. Please visit our website at [75th Anniversary -CFM-USA](#) to register and for details.



**MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER**

Heavenly Father,

On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the example of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with your strength and peace.

Embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe.

We pray through Christ our Lord.  
Amen



### In Memoriam



[Gloria Balistriieri Obituary - Jelacic Funeral Home - 2024 \(legacy.com\)](#)



[Hilario Chavez Obituary \(2024\) - Albuquerque, NM - Albuquerque Journal \(legacy.com\)](#)