



# Mary, Mother of Fairest Love

— Family Shrine —

## Prayer

Mary, Mother of Fairest Love, you are the Mother of Jesus and our Mother. Intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding at Cana. Pray for us, Fairest Mother, to strengthen and bless our families.

Help those called to marriage to find their spouses and teach them to love with a pure and selfless love.

Accompany parents in the upbringing and education of their children with unconditional love.

Help those who have answered the Father's call to the consecrated life or to apostolic celibacy, to be generous and faithful to their vocations.

Bring peace, unity, and joy to the homes of families that are broken or burdened. Accompany with the warmth of your presence those who are alone.

You are the *Mater Pulchrae Dilectionis*, the Mother of beautiful love. Help us to love as Jesus loves, so we may show each other love full of mercy and forgiveness.

May all our love and affections be always faithful, pure, and chaste.

Dear Mother, be our refuge in our material and spiritual needs, and intercede especially for *(here mention your petitions)*.

May we grow in love and come to know true peace and joy, now and in the life to come in Heaven. Amen.

*With ecclesiastical approval*

## Who is the Mother of Fairest Love?

Mary, Mother of Fairest Love, was described in Holy Scripture 150 years before she came to this earth – *“I am the mother of fair love, of reverence, of knowledge, and of holy hope. In me is all grace of the way and of the truth, in me is all hope of life and of virtue. Come over to me, all ye that desire me, and be filled with my fruits.”* (Sirach 24: 24-26). Jesus gave us Holy Mary as our Mother, to be our model of Fairest Love, to teach us to live and love with generous, self-sacrificing love in our families and within society. She is also given to us to intercede for us as she did in Jesus’ first miracle at the wedding at Cana.

### Family and ‘Fairest Love’

The family is the building block of society. Pope St. John Paul II proclaimed: *“The future of each family unit depends upon this “fairest love”: the mutual love of husband and wife, of parents and children, a love embracing all generations. Love is the true source of the unity and strength of the family.”* *Mary brightened the Holy Family with Fairest Love, reflecting the dignity and holiness of love shown in the details of daily life.*

### A Shrine to Mary

Since the 1950’s, St. Josemaría Escrivá, the founder of Opus Dei, dreamed of a Shrine dedicated to Mary, Mother of Fairest Love that would serve as a beacon for all with an open heart, to discover the meaning of love that is truly human and holy in all its forms and expressions. Such a Shrine would complement the efforts of the local Church in its efforts to evangelize and proclaim the message that marriage is a true path to holiness and the means to create a more human culture. The shrine to Mary, Mother of Fairest Love will be a place where pilgrims come from all over the world to honor Our Lady and ask her to pour her unconditional love on their families.

For more information please visit [www.fairestloveshrine.org](http://www.fairestloveshrine.org)

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