

18

Marian Prayer

- Themes**
- Saying yes to God and saying no to what is wrong
 - Making right choices
 - Being open to God's call
- Suggested Uses**
- As part of a class on Mary
 - For a youth-group meeting in the month of May
 - As part of a session on making the right choices
 - As part of a vocations program
- Forms of Prayer**
- Music
 - Litany
 - Traditional prayer
 - Reflection
 - Art
 - Journaling
- Extra Prayer Ideas**
- A. Ask the teens to learn more about one of the devotions to Mary listed in the litany.
 - B. Invite the teens to pray the living rosary, each teen representing one bead of the rosary. They can hold red candles to represent the Lord's Prayer and blue candles to represent each Hail Mary. After a teen leads a prayer, he or she lights the candle he or she is holding.
 - C. During the month of May, invite the teens to come before class and pray the rosary each week, using a different set of the mysteries (sorrowful, joyful, glorious, and luminous).
 - D. Divide the large group into small groups and invite them to create their own litanies to Mary.
 - E. Offer the teens a selection of holy cards dedicated to Mary or hand out holy cards with the "*Memorare*" printed on the back.

Saying Yes to God

- Materials** Gather the following items before beginning the prayer service:
- a blue candle
 - matches
 - THE CATHOLIC YOUTH BIBLE* or another Bible
 - the song “I Say ‘Yes,’ Lord / Digo ‘Sí,’ Señor,” by Donna Pena
 - six copies of resource 18–A, “Litany of Mary”
 - copies of handout 18–A, “Memorare,” one for each teen
 - a statue of Mary

- Preparation**
- Ask a teen to prepare the Scripture reading:
 - Luke 1:26–38 (Mary Says Yes to Being the Mother of God)
 - Ask six teens to prepare the litany on resource 18–A, “Litany of Mary.”
 - Place the candle and statue on the prayer table. Light the candle.
 - Teach the song, “I Say ‘Yes,’ Lord.”

Order of Prayer

Call to Prayer **Prayer Leader:** Mary gave birth to Jesus Christ in order to share him with the world. Mary was completely open to the call of the Spirit. We are inspired by Mary, our mother, to serve God and to serve others. Mary calls us, also, to say yes to God’s will in our lives.

Reading *[Invite the Scripture reader to read Luke 1:26–38.]*

[Direct the group to sing verse one of “I Say ‘Yes,’ Lord.” Allow some quiet time for reflection after they sing.]

Prayer Leader: Reflect on a time when God called you to follow God. Silently thank God for the grace to say yes.

[Pause.]

Prayer Leader: Reflect on a time when you said no to God through your words or actions. Silently ask God’s forgiveness for turning away.

[Pause.]

Prayer Leader: Reflect on an area of your life where you have trouble saying yes to God. Silently ask God for the courage to say yes.

[Direct the group to sing verse two of “I Say ‘Yes,’ Lord.” Allow some quiet time for reflection after they sing.]

Litany to Mary **Litany Reader 1:** Our response is, “Pray for us.”

All: Pray for us.

[Pause for all to respond after each line of the litany.]

Litany Reader 1:

Our Lady of the Snows . . .
Our Lady of Fatima . . .
Our Lady of Lourdes . . .
Our Lady of Nazareth . . .
Our Lady of Guadalupe . . .
Our Lady of Czestochowa . . .

Litany Reader 2:

Madonna of the Rose . . .
Madonna of Miracles . . .
Madonna of the Star . . .
Madonna of the Rosary . . .

Litany Reader 3:

Our Lady, Refuge of Sinners . . .
Our Lady of Sorrows . . .
Our Lady of the Forsaken . . .
Our Lady of Consolation . . .
Our Lady of Help . . .
Our Lady of the Cross . . .

Litany Reader 4:

Mother of Jesus . . .
Mother of Our Church . . .
Mother of the Sick . . .
Mother of the Dying . . .
Mother of Comfort . . .
Mother of Peace . . .

Litany Reader 5:

Our Lady of Grace . . .
Our Lady of Light . . .
Our Lady of Good Counsel . . .
Our Lady of Charity . . .
Our Lady of Wisdom . . .
Our Lady of Every Day . . .
Our Lady of Blessings . . .

Litany Reader 6:

Mary, star of the sea . . .
Mary, mother of us all . . .
Mary, gift of faith . . .
Mary, gift of hope . . .
Mary, gift of love . . .

“Memorare” *[Distribute a copy of handout 18–A, “Memorare,” to each teen.]*

Litany Reader 6: Let us join together in praying the “Memorare.”

[Direct the group to sing verse one of “I Say ‘Yes,’ Lord.” Allow some quiet time for reflection after they sing.]