

The Theotokan

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Order of Mary Theotokos

www.ecc-usa.org/OMT.html

Joyful Mother, Mary

The last issue of The Theotokan was about Mary, the Mother of Sorrows. We were just beginning Holy Week with all the suffering and sorrow which that liturgical week asks us both to recall and endure. That is past. Now we rejoice with Mary in the presence of the Risen Lord and the sanctifying gifts of the Holy Spirit. Remember today and always, that after Good Friday comes Resurrection. That is true liturgically and existentially in our daily lives.

OMT - Religious Order or Hermits

Is the Order of Mary Theotokos a religious order of people who share common goals and share various aspects of their lives, OR, are the OMT brothers and sisters isolated hermits? Well, there is certainly nothing wrong with dedicating your life to Jesus as a hermit. A hermit lives alone, often in isolation, prays alone, and finds God in solitude. A religious order, such as the OMT, is a group of people who intend to share their goals of prayer and worship with others who are similarly inclined to join with them in a common life or at least in a spiritual camaraderie. Even though our members are geographically separated we are happily united in our prayer life three times a day offering the same prayers together across time and space. An Order is about sharing. Let us look for ways to share ourselves with our brothers and sisters of the Order.

Seven Joys of Mary, the Theotokos

Mary was especially blessed by God. "My soul magnifies the Lord." We have meditated on the sorrows of Mary, now let us consider the joys.

1. The Annunciation. *Luke 1:26-38.*
2. The Visitation. *Luke 1:39-45,56.*
3. The Nativity. *Luke 2:1-7*
4. The Adoration of the Magi. *Matthew 2:1-2, 9b-11*
5. The Finding of Jesus in the Temple. *Luke 2:41-51.*
6. The Resurrection. *Luke 24: 1-8*
7. The Assumption. *Catholic Faith Tradition*

~Mark your Calendar~
Important dates to put on your calendar:

Your Profession dates because you need to remember to request First and Final Profession documents from the Abbot.

ECC+USA 2007 Synod Will be held at Mercy Center in St. Louis, Missouri on October 12-14, 2007. All OMT members are invited to attend. Contact Bishop-Abbot Carl for details.



The Presentation of
Jesus in the Temple.

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The Stabat Mater Speciosa is the companion hymn to Stabat Mater Dolorosa, which we used for prayer during Lent. While Stabat Mater Dolorosa is used in the Eucharistic Liturgy. The Stabat Mater Speciosa is not used in the Liturgy. However, it is considered one of the seven greatest Latin hymns of all time and one of the tenderest. It is based upon the Gospel account of the birth of Jesus. The hymn originated in the 13th century and has been attributed to Jacopone da Todi (1230-1306).

Stabat Mater Speciosa

By the crib wherein reposing,
with His eyes in slumber closing,
lay serene her Infant-boy,

Stood the beauteous Mother feeling
bliss that could not bear concealing,
so her face o'erflowed with joy.

Oh, the rapture naught could smother
of that most Immaculate Mother
of the sole-begotten One;

When with laughing heart exulting,
she beheld her hopes resulting
In the great birth of her Son.

Who would not with gratulation
see the happy consolation
of Christ's Mother undefiled?

Who would not be glad surveying
Christ's dear Mother bending, praying,
playing with her heavenly Child

For a sinful world's salvation,
Christ her Son's humiliation
She beheld and brooded o'er;

Saw Him weak, a child, a stranger,
yet before Him in the manger
kings lie prostrate and adore.

O'er that lowly manger winging,
joyful hosts from heaven were singing
canticles of holy praise;

While the old man and the maiden,
speaking naught, with hearts o'erladen,
pondered on God's wondrous ways.

Fount of love, forever flowing,
with a burning ardor glowing,
make me, Mother, feel like thee;

Let my heart, with graces gifted
all on fire, to Christ be lifted,
and by Him accepted be.

Holy Mother, deign to bless me,
with His sacred Wounds impress me,
let them in my heart abide;

Since He came, thy Son, the Holy,
to a birth-place, ah, so lowly,
all His pains with me divide.

Make me with true joy delighted,
to Child-Jesus be united
while my days of life endure;

While an exile here sojourning,
make my heart like thine be burning
with a love divine and pure.

Spotless Maid and sinless Woman,
make us feel a fire in common,
make my heart's long longing sure.

Virgin of all virgins highest,
prayer to thee thou ne'er denyest,
let me bear thy sweet Child too.

Let me bear Him in my bosom,
Lord of life, and never lose Him,
since His birth doth death subdue.

Let me show forth how immense is
the effect on all my senses
of an union so divine.

All who in the crib revere Him,
like the shepherds watching near Him,
will attend Him through the night,

By thy powerful prayers protected,
grant, O Queen, that His elected
may behold heaven's moving light.

Make me by His birth be guarded,
by God's holy word be warded,
by His grace till all is done;

When my body lies obstructed,
make my soul to be conducted,
to the vision of thy Son. Amen.

The Order of Mary the Theotokos is a ministry
of the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA.
Professed membership is open to all men and women of faith,
married or single,
regardless of their denominational affiliation.