

Mary, Queen of Angels

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen.

As we are opening this novena in preparation for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady, we are invited to meditate about the conclusive invocations from the Litany of Loretto, which proclaim Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth. The Litany could just have said that She was Queen of Heaven, but, as we know, instead of this, we are numbering all the different degrees of the hierarchy of the saints of God, proclaiming her absolute and sweet dominion where God established her. The first of her numerous titles as queen is, therefore, Mary, Queen of Angels.

Although we will have less difficulty to understand Mary as Queen of saints, human creatures of God, it could be hard for us to acknowledge Her as Queen of Angels, as they are pure spirits, perfect creatures above our weak human nature. How could she become superior above the Angels?

The Venerable pope Pius XII, who instituted the feast of the Queenship of Our Lady, could teach us some parts of the answer we're looking for. In his encyclical Letter *Ad Caeli Reginam*, he said:

“In order to understand better this sublime dignity of the Mother of God over all creatures let us recall that the holy Mother of God was, at the very moment of her Immaculate Conception, so filled with grace as to surpass the grace of all the Saints. Wherefore, as Our Predecessor of happy memory, Pius IX wrote, God “showered her with heavenly gifts and graces from the treasury of His divinity so far beyond what He gave to all the angels and saints that she was ever free from the least stain of sin; she is so beautiful and perfect, and possesses such fullness of innocence and holiness, that under God a greater could not be dreamed, and only God can comprehend the marvel.”¹

As usual, we see that it is because of her dignity as Mother of God, that She was established above all creatures. Pius XII repeated several times in the same encyclical letter that she was The Lady:

“[St Jerome] makes the following statement amidst various interpretations of Mary's name: “We should realize that Mary means Lady in the Syrian Language.” After him St. Chrysologus says the same thing more explicitly in these words: ‘The Hebrew word 'Mary' means ‘Domina.’ The Angel therefore addresses her as ‘Lady’ to preclude all servile fear in the Lord’s Mother, who was born and was called 'Lady' by the authority and command of her own Son.’”²

¹ Pius XII, *Ad Caeli Reginam*, nb. 41.

² Pius XII, *Ad Caeli Reginam*, nb. 14.

The Angels themselves gave her that title, and amongst them, the first we have evidence of showing such attitude is the Archangel Gabriel, who was deputed by God to announce her the immense honour she was offered. “Hail Mary, full of grace.”

Several paintings of the Annunciation show the slight bow of the Archangel addressing to the Mother of the Creator, the Mother of the One who created him. This curtsy was real, as the Archangel honoured the Mother of His Creator, the Mother of His King. Therefore she was becoming his Queen as well, and he demonstrated such respect.

We can therefore easily imagine what kind of glorious joy it was for the angels to take Mary’s body and soul together on the day of Her Assumption. The Queen was finally coming to Heaven to reign forever above them. No doubt that the court of the angels gathered for this event, as they welcomed her in Heaven.

“And St. Michael went out to meet her, accompanied by the whole heavenly host, to give Mary a triumphal entry into the Kingdom of her Son, and to escort her to the throne reserved for her coronation.”³

At the sight of the union of the Mother and of the Son, the Angels could only acknowledge this queenship over them, and they gladly rejoice that a human creature was elevated above them, because of the divine will of their Creator. They united their angelic will to God’s Divine Will, to demonstrate even more the perfection of the Creator, and to invites us more and more to proclaim Our Lady as our Queen.

Regina Angelorum, Ora pro nobis!

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen.

³ Anne Bernet, [Enquête sur les Anges](#). Translated with www.deepl.com.