

## Queen of Families

Although Mary has many titles, one title stuck out to me. That title is the Queen of Families. I love this title because it makes me feel safe knowing that Mary protects my family and me. It is also comforting to know that she will be there when I am older and beginning my new family. Mary is my strength and I know she watches over all of my family members, as well as me, keeping us safe. She is my role model for this reason. I look up to Mary and try being like her so that I can better myself as an individual.

Each of Mary's titles explains different qualities of her. Being the Queen of Families is one of her qualities, even though it may not seem like it. To me this title means a few different qualities of Mary. These qualities include: being loving, a leader, caring, nurturing, and strong. Loving, she only loved. She never hated nor did wrong. Being the Queen of Families, Mary loves all of her children and protects them. Leader, she helps lead her children who have strayed from God's path back to the path of good that will lead them to heaven. Caring, because she cared for her son, Jesus, she took care of him like she does with us. Mary answers our prayers and helps us in our problems. Nurturing, nurturing is a quality of every mother; she takes care of us and makes sure we grow to be good Christians. Strong, she was strong when she watched Jesus die on the cross so Mary helps us when we lose our strength. She helps us regain our strength and continue on. But who are her children that she seems to love and help so much? All Catholics are her children, all people of all ages, sizes, and ethnicities. I wish to be like Mary.

Strong, kind, caring, loving, courageous; just some of Mary's qualities, which I try to instill in myself. She never sinned and only loved everyone even those who disliked her. By trying to be like Mary, I become a better person. When I become a better person, I not only feel good about myself, but I know God is happy and proud of me for what I am doing. This is why Mary is my role model.

Trying to be like Mary isn't very easy. How can you be like our wonderful Mother who is so selfless and loving? Well, I do acts of kindness, volunteer, forgive those who have done wrong to me, and I love those who hate me. I also try to steer away from sinning and other wrong things that are hard to avoid as I grow up. There will be a lot of peer pressure in high school but if I keep Mary in mind I can remain strong and stick to my values. Even though I will never be as great as Mary, I can strive to be good like her, which will help strengthen my relationship with not only God but my family and parish.

With Mary, we have the strength to do anything and everything we strive for. We will have her by our side to love us through thick and thin because she is our Holy Mother and loves us just as much as our birth mothers. We, the children of God, the children of faith, the children of Mary, must learn to love and live like Mary did. We can learn because as a mother, she is also our teacher. Mary teaches us ways to better ourselves and lead a better life of God. How will she tell us the ways to do that? Well she won't. We must follow in her example. I will follow in her example, will you?