



SORIN BOOKS® *Christian Classics*™ Forest of Peace

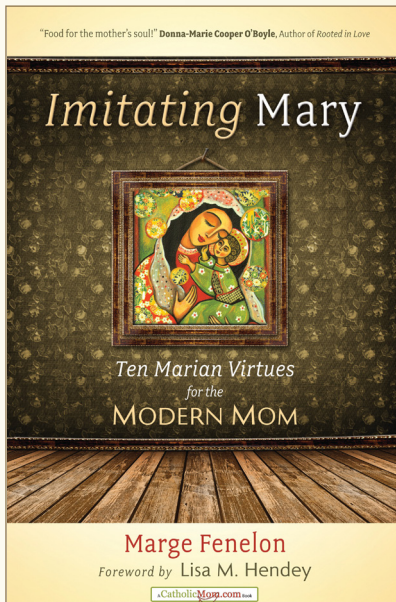
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Ave Maria Press, Inc. • P.O. Box 428 • Notre Dame, IN • 46556

A Ministry of the United States Province of Holy Cross

Fenelon to Catholic Moms: Let Mary Guide You



Notre Dame, IN—In her new book *Imitating Mary*, Catholic journalist Marge Fenelon presents Mary's life as the mother of Jesus as a model for modern mothers. Fenelon asks readers to join her in examining Mary's life and in getting to know her human side. She describes ten unique virtues Mary possessed that make her an ideal and timeless model for mothers:

- Mary's yes
- patience
- trust
- obedience
- endurance
- courage
- strength
- hope
- faith
- joy

Fenelon delves into ten scenes of Mary's life, helping readers connect their experiences to Mary's life. For example, Mary was so devoted to her cousin Elizabeth that she followed the angel Gabriel's suggestion and visited her, remaining obedient even though the trip could be dangerous. Mary showed her strength when forced to flee to Egypt on a moment's notice. And she remained faithful and followed God's will even while witnessing her son's death. Trust in God's will, Fenelon tells readers, and ask Mary for help along the way: "Most of us don't realize that, with God's grace and Mary's example, we can overcome any obstacles to becoming the loving, wonderful mothers we're meant to be."

Mary serves as the perfect example for Catholic mothers, Fenelon continues: "In Mary, we have a mother worthy of emulation, but who is fully human with the same experiences and emotions we have. In her life, we find example, and in her virtue, we find inspiration. Mary can show us how to be the mothers we want to be—the mothers we can be."

Fenelon clarifies that God doesn't expect women to be perfect mothers; he knows that is impossible. But by channeling Mary's patience, strength, and endurance, among other traits, Catholic women can adopt Mary as an example in their own experience of motherhood. In her, they can discover the ultimate companion.

Imitating Mary
Ten Marian Virtues for the Modern Mom
By: Marge Fenelon
ISBN: 978-1-59471-364-4
192 pages • \$14.95
Christian Living/Family and Parenting
Now Available

"My relationship with my own mother has probably made it easier for me to fall in love with Mary, the mother of Jesus. That's because I saw in Mom so many of the virtues of our Blessed Mother. In these pages, these Marian virtues will come to life for you, and before you know it, you will be letting Mary spiritually mother you."

Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of New York



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About the Author

Marge Fenelon has been writing for Catholic and secular publications for nearly two decades. More than fifteen years ago, she decided to leave behind the secular business world in order to focus her talents and energies on serving the Church and Catholic media. She is a longtime contributor to a variety of Catholic and secular publications—including *Our Sunday Visitor* and *National Catholic Register*. Fenelon is also a contributor to *Catholic Lane*, *Integrated Catholic Life*, *CatholicMom.com*, and *Catholic Exchange*. Her column, “The Whirl,” appears in the *Milwaukee Catholic Herald* and has won favorable reviews from laity and clergy alike. She is the author of several books related to Marian devotion and Catholic family life.

Fenelon is a regular guest on EWTN’s *Son Rise Morning Show* and has appeared on many others, including *Conversation with the Cardinal* with Cardinal Dolan, Relevant Radio’s *Morning Air*, and Spirit Catholic Radio’s *Inside the Pages*. She is an enthusiastic speaker and has invigorated audiences in a variety of venues. She holds a bachelor’s degree in mass communications from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a certificate in spiritual mentoring from Cardinal Stritch University. Fenelon also holds a certificate in Marian studies from the International Marian Research Institute and is a member of the Mariological Society of America. She lives in Milwaukee.



From *Imitating Mary*:

“I can see Mary at the wedding at Cana. She must have been one of the most honored guests there because she was so kind, so joyful, so full of hope, so loving, so loved, and because she was Jesus’ Mother. Wedding guests who didn’t know her were probably drawn to her, simply because she radiated God’s magnificence in every word, smile, gesture, nod, or blink of the eye. You know what that’s like, don’t you? Mary must have been like the woman at Sunday Mass who absolutely glows and is so obviously a woman of Christ that you just have to greet her in the vestibule afterward. You don’t even know why or what you’ll say; you simply can’t help yourself.”

Suggested Interview Questions:

- 1 You say *Imitating Mary* had to be prayed. What do you mean by that?
- 2 What is your favorite scene from Mary’s life?
- 3 How can men also benefit from reading *Imitating Mary*?
- 4 In the introduction, you say, “Mary is the answer for all moms.” What do you mean by that?
- 5 What is the most important thing you learned from writing *Imitating Mary*?



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Praise for *Imitating Mary*:

“Lovely and relevant—*Imitating Mary* is food for the mother’s soul! Marge Fenelon unpacks Mary’s virtuous role in Scripture and Church tradition and brilliantly puts it in language that modern-day mothers can identify with and readily apply to their lives. Simply beautiful!”

Donna-Marie Cooper O’Boyle
Author of *Rooted in Love*

“*Imitating Mary* is a book for mothers, but I, a man and a Jesuit priest, loved it. Through its personal stories, imaginative Gospel scenes, and reflection questions I came to better understand the vocation of motherhood and to enter more deeply into Mary’s heart.”

James Kubicki, S.J.
Author of *A Heart on Fire*

“So often we look to Mary as a prayerful companion but gloss over the very real fact that she was a mother who knew all the joys and struggles of raising a child. Marge Fenelon, in her beautiful book *Imitating Mary*, invites us to experience our moments of motherhood through the prism of our Blessed Mother’s life.”

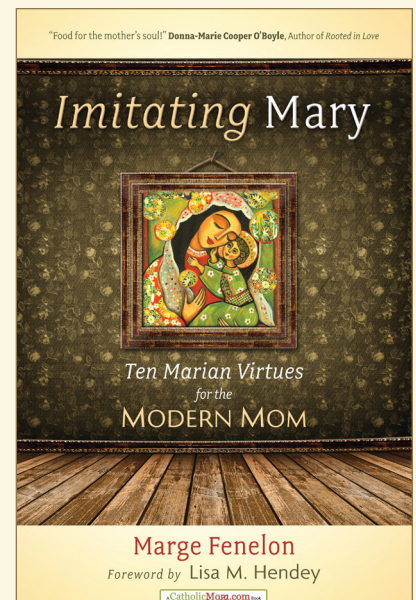
Mary DeTurris Poust
Author of *Cravings*

“*Imitating Mary* is THE Mary book moms of all stripes have been waiting for, though they might not have known it. Fenelon makes the Blessed Mother into a real person without subtracting any of her amazing qualities. You’ll want to read it, reread it, and share it with every mom you know.”

Sarah Reinhard
Author of *A Catholic Mother’s Companion to Pregnancy*

“We get so used to thinking of Mary as ‘Blessed Virgin’ or ‘Queen of Heaven’ or ‘Mother of God,’ we sometimes forget that she was also a real-live, flesh and blood mother of a real-live, flesh and blood child. In her latest book, Marge Fenelon vividly brings to life the Mary who had to tell Joseph she was pregnant, who faced scorn for being an unwed mother, who had to watch her son grow up, enter into his own life, and eventually die before her eyes. If you’ve ever had trouble relating to the Mary of icons and holy cards, *Imitating Mary* will give you insightful—and very practical—ways to allow Mary to help you become the best parent you can be.”

Woodeene Koenig-Bricker
Author of *365 Mary*



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