Mother’s Day Assembly 2013

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Welcome & Introduction:**

Welcome to our Assembly Prayer to celebrate Mothers’ Day. We remember and pray for all mothers and those who love and care for children like mothers do. We praise and thank our God for these special women whose nurturing, motherly love shows us a glimpse of the great love God has for us all. Today we also remember in a special way the mothers who are no longer with us; those who have gone home to be with God. Today we celebrate and give thanks for all mothers and motherhood.

**Song – Gentle Woman**

**Procession:**

**Flowers carried by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Seton Relic carried by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Statue of Mary & Jesus carried by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Opening Prayer**

Loving God, you give us mothers who show us how to live and love.

Through them we see a glimpse of what you are like

and the unconditional, tender love you have for us, your children.

As we honour all mothers on this day,

we pray that you bless and keep them close to your mothering heart.

This we ask in Jesus Name. Amen.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Scripture Reading – Proverbs 31: 10-31** (Laughing Bird translation)
A reading from the Book of Proverbs

How fortunate is the man who marries a gifted woman;
    Her love is as precious as life itself.
He entrusts himself to her
    and she doesn’t let him down.

Generous of spirit and never vindictive,
    she will be good to him all her life.
She is creative and diligent;
    not afraid to get her hands dirty.

With the taste a seasoned traveller,
    she shares her love of varied cuisine.
She is up early each morning,
    seeing that everyone in her household
    gets their day off to a good start.

She conducts her business with confidence;
    buying and selling, and overseeing production.
She dresses appropriately for her work,
    ready to roll up her sleeves and get stuck in.

She knows what her labour is worth,
    and will work late to get the job done.
She’s quick to help anyone facing hard times;
    a generous friend to those in need.

She doesn’t panic when storms hit;
    all her household are well prepared.
She doesn’t waste money on appearances,
    but presents herself with colour and flair.

Her strength and dignity are what people notice first,
    and she approaches the future with joy and enthusiasm.
She and her husband are respected about town,
    and admired for their leadership in the community.

People seek out her opinions and value her wisdom;
    her advice is caring and considerate.
She keeps an eye on the interests of all her household,
    and doesn’t indulge in laziness.

Her children have nothing but good to say about her,
    and her husband is always singing her praise:
“There are some wonderful women in the world,” he says,
    “but you are the cream of the crop!”

Charm can mask the truth,
    and beauty may be only skin deep.
The woman who is worthy of admiration and acclaim
    is the one who knows who she is before God.
She deserves full credit for all she has achieved;
    her accomplishments speak for themselves.

**Reflection: Video**

**Prayer of the Faithful**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: God is faithful, always loving us and listening to us.

We now bring our needs before God, confident in God’s motherly help.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Loving God, mothers show us what selfless love is all about. (PAUSE) Help us to put the needs of others before our own needs.

Lord, hear us

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Loving God, mothers are nurturers. (PAUSE)

May we learn to nurture one another to grow to become the best people we can become.

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Loving God, mothers protect those in their care. (PAUSE)

Help us to protect those who are weak and vulnerable in our school, our community, and our world. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Loving God, mothers are people who give. (PAUSE)

May we learn to be givers and not takers; generous with our time and talents for the good of others. Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Loving God, mothers are a gift from you. (PAUSE)

We pray for those whose mothers have died that they experience your motherly love.

Lord, hear us.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Faithful, loving God, hear the prayers we pray today and the unspoken prayers of our hearts. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: **Blessing & Flower Distribution by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Mothers, and those who are like mothers to others, you are precious in God’s eyes.

We would like to invite all the mother’s in the room to stand and receive a flower of thanks for all that you are to us. As we do this, we will pray a special blessing on each of you present today.

May God bless you and strengthen you,

be your hope and your guide,

and lead you gently all your days.

Amen

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Final Prayer**

Mothering Heart of God,

We rejoice and are glad at the beauty of the person who is our mother.

We give thanks for mothers all over the world.

Bless them and those who are like mothers to us.

Be their strength and their safety as they care for your children.

We make our prayer in the name of Jesus your Son.

All: Amen.