

THIS IS AN ACCOUNT OF SOME
THINGS OF THY STEWARDSHIP . . .



*Our Lady's
Garden*

from

MARY'S GARDENS

901 SOUTH FORTY-SEVENTH STREET


PHILADELPHIA 43, PENNSYLVANIA

1952 & 1953

Inspiration

Mindful of Tradition and the teaching, Mary's Gardens is an act of faith.

Our Lady's Garden, as we mean it, is first of all the package which you receive of the postman. This "Garden" is an appeal to the heart. May it be that in your interior life this "Garden" blooms spiritually. And, too, may you be inspired to sow and tend so that of God's creatures, the seeds, there shall come foliage, buds and blooms in due season and according to His established order.



Profound inspiration for us two who have founded Mary's Gardens has come of the loving deed of a gentlewoman, Mrs. Frank R. Lillie, who in the early thirties established a Garden of Our Lady and built a Bell Tower at Woods Hole, Massachusetts. That garden grows flowers bearing the name of Mary — flowers lovingly named in her honor in old popular tradition.

The two bells of the tower ring out the Angelus. Toll, we believe, to remind men to live to the greater glory of God, restoring all things in Christ.

Our Lady's Garden

The Flowers of Our Lady which are listed here are grouped as: annuals; biennials; perennials. Convenient sub-groupings are made according to the means and time for sowing and planting.

Annuals bloom in the year sown, and do not survive the following winter. Pick annuals freely and they will continue to bloom.

Biennials bloom the second year and then die. Some biennials may be treated as annuals if started early.

Perennials bloom the second year and during several years thereafter. Perennials may be further propagated by dividing each full-grown plant into several plants.

Unless otherwise indicated, Our Lady's Flowers prefer a moderately rich, slightly moist garden top soil and a sunny location. Seeds should be sown in furrows about one eighth of an inch deep drawn in the soil with your finger or a pointed object, and should be covered with fine soil to a depth of two to four times the thickness of the seed. Water, as required to keep the soil slightly moist. Thin out the seedlings as they grow, to permit healthy root growth.

Give Our Lady's Biennials and Perennials winter protection of a covering of leafy mulch or salt hay if there is extended freezing weather in your locality.

In the catalog the numeral after the name of a flower indicates seasons of bloom. *One* is late winter and early spring. *Two* is late spring and early summer. *Three* is mid-summer. *Four* is late summer and early autumn.

Our Lady's Annuals, GROUP A

For proper germinating temperature and for strong root development, sow in the early spring as soon as the ground can be worked, but while it is still cold:

Our Lady's Flannel (2-3)

Viper's Bugloss

Echium fastuosum

Height 24" to 48". Hills of showy sprays of intense blue blossoms.

Requires dry, well-drained soil. Named from the soft, white, flannel-like hairs covering the leaves.

Our Lady's Looking Glass (2-3)

Venus' Looking Glass

Specularia perfoliata

Height 9". Dainty purple to blue flowers.

Sow seeds in location where grown plant is wanted. Will not stand transplanting. Named from the resemblance of each flower on end of ovary to ancient metallic mirror on end of straight handle.

Our Lady's Mantle (3-4)

Morning Glory

Convolvulus major

Height climbing up to 96". Varied, intensely bright colorings.

A handsome vine, unsurpassed for the quick covering of trellis or fence. Sown early for summer bloom. Named from its lovely mantle-like covering of leaves, interspersed with blooms.

Our Lady's Annuals, GROUP B

Sow in the garden in the spring, as soon as the soil is warm and the danger of frost is past. For earlier bloom, start four weeks sooner outdoors in a cold frame, or indoors near a sunny window, in pots or three inch deep wooden flats containing a layer of stones or gravel covered with a mixture of 1/3 garden soil, 1/3 sand and 1/3 leaf mold or peat to a depth of about two inches. Then transplant to where wanted. For earliest bloom, start the seeds ten weeks sooner indoors; transplant to cold frames in five weeks; and after another five weeks transplant to where wanted.

Our Lady's Earrings (3)

Balsam

Impatiens balsamium

Height 25" to 30". Varied pink, rose, red, white. Double flowers, close to stem.

Easily damaged by frost. Tolerates partial shade. Massed in the garden, the effects are oriental, brilliant. Named from the resemblance of the rosette-like blossoms to earrings.

Our Lady's Pincushion
(3-4)

Scabiosa

Scabiosa atropurpurea

Height 24". Dark purple,
rose or white flowers.

Prized for cutting and indoor flower arrangements. If picked, will give fine blossoms until frost. Named from the resemblance of the light stamens to pins sticking into the darker cushion-like petal cluster.

Our Lady's Tresses
(2-3)

Quaking Grass

Briza maxima

Height 12" to 24". Open
blades of handsome, droop-
ing spikelets.

Grown in gardens for ornament. Also suited for use in bouquets. Can be dried for winter decoration. Named from the imaginative resemblance of the grass clumps to tresses of hair.

Marys' Bud (3-4)

Scottish Marigold

Calendula officinalis

Height 12" to 24". White-
yellow to deep orange
flowers.

Tolerates partial shade. Excellent for cutting. Extremely frost-hardy. These are the flowers referred to by Shakespeare in Cymbeline, Act II, scene iii: "And winking Marybuds begin to ope their golden eyes."

Mary's Gold (3-4)

Marigold

Tagetes, dwarf

Height 16". Varied appli-
cations of yellow, orange,
mahogany, scarlet and
crimson.

Tolerates partial shade. Gives richness in the garden. Does well in flower pots or window boxes. Named from various legends, including one which relates Our Lady used blossoms as coins.

Mary's Gold (3)

Summer Chrysanthemum

Chrysanthemum Segetum

Height 12" to 18". Golden
yellow flowers.

Tolerates partial shade. Bears the same Mary's Gold legends, but presumably named in regions where it was the more preferred or prevalent golden bloom.

Our Lady's Thistle (3)

Blessed Thistle

Silybum marianum

Height 12" to 48". Rose-
purple flowers. Large
spiked leaves with white
splotches.

Large, spined leaves attractive from early stages of growth. Named from legend that leaves received white splotches from drops of milk which fell while Mary nursed the Infant Jesus.

Virgin Flower (3-4)

Periwinkle
Vinca rosea

Height 18" to 20". Delicate shades of white, pink, red; often with contrasting eye.

Tolerates partial shade. Early growth is slow, but grows quickly when once established. Good for potting. Named from old popular tradition. Exact association unknown.

Our Lady's Biennials

To treat these as biennials, sow any time after the soil is warm in the spring up to September. Protect the seedlings from the hot sun if sown in July or August.

The first three of the biennials listed below can be treated as annuals by sowing early, according to the directions given for Our Lady's Annuals, Group B, on page 2.

Our Lady's Delight (2 or 4)

Pansy
Viola tricolor

Height 7". Wide color range. Well marked blossoms.

Tolerates partial shade. As a biennial sow in late July or in August. Can be treated as an annual for summer bloom. Named from old popular tradition. Also known as Trinity Flower, from its three-color markings.

Eyes of Mary (2 or 4)

Forget-me-not
Myosotis alpestris

Height 12". Noted for the intensity of blue of its small blossoms.

This biennial is usually treated as an annual by sowing indoors ten or twelve weeks early. Named from the resemblance of its dainty blue flowers to blue eyes.

St. Joseph's Staff (2 or 4)

Hollyhock
Althea rosea

Height 72". Large yellow, red and deep maroon blossoms.

As a biennial, sow in June or July. Can be treated as an annual by sowing in early spring for summer bloom. Named from resemblance to budding staff traditionally associated with St. Joseph.

Our Lady's Glove (2)

Foxglove
Digitalis purpurea

Height 60". Tall spires of white, pink, rose and purple blossoms.

Prefers partial shade. Grown as a biennial only. Attractive as edging first year. Move in fall or following spring. Named from resemblance of blossoms to fingers of a glove.

Mary's Candle (2)

Mullein

Verbascum thapsus

Height 24" to 72". Spires of clustered yellowish blossoms, tinged with red.

Grown as a biennial only. Foliage forms attractive rosette the first year. Move in the fall. Named from resemblance of the stalk to a candelabra and of the blossom clusters to a candle flame.

Our Lady's Perennials, GROUP A

For proper germinating temperature, sow any time in the early spring while the soil is still cold . . . or in the late fall. If sown in flats or a nursery bed, move them to their permanent locations in the fall or the following spring:

Our Lady's Birthday Flower (3)

Italian Aster

Aster amellus

Height 24". Rose tones with white; many rich shades of blue.

Tolerates partial shade. Excellent for cutting. Named from bloom in England on the feast of the Nativity of Our Lady, September 8th.

Our Lady's Fingers (2)

Honeysuckle

Lonicera caprifolium

Climbing, up to 20'. Fragrant, yellowish-white blossoms. Slightly purplish outside.

Tolerates partial shade. Prefers moist, loamy soil. Named from finger-like buds on climbing vine.

Our Lady's Keys (2)

Cowslip

Primula veris

Height 8". Bright golden or light yellow clustered flowers.

Prefers coolness and partial shade; also deep, moist soil. Named from resemblance of clustered blossoms to bunches of keys. Also known as St. Peter's Keys.

Our Lady's Laurel (2)

February Daphne

Daphne mezereum

Height 48". Fragrant, silky blossoms of soft purple in early spring; then scarlet berries.

A showy, hardy shrub. Prefers loose soil with a fair amount of sand. Germinates very slowly. Named from old popular tradition. Exact association unknown.

***Our Lady's Modesty*
(2-3)**

Wild Violet

Viola semperflorens

Height 10". Fragrant, rich blue blossoms.

Tolerates partial shade. This is the long-blooming English violet. Named from the "modest" manner in which blossoms peek out from under leaves. Long associated with Mary in religious art.

***Our Lady's Rue* (2-3)**

Meadow Rue

Thalictrum dipterocarpum

Height 50". Airy purple flowers. Leaves daintly divided into sub-groups of three leaflets.

Prefers well-drained, loamy soil. Feathery flowers and attractive foliage extremely decorative. Named from association with repentance in old popular tradition.

***Mary's Hand* (2-3-4)**

Five Fingers; Cinquefoil

Potentilla nepalensis

Height 14". Salmon pink to rosy crimson blossoms.

Prefers moist soil. Showy in the garden, and long-blooming. Named from palm-like, five foliate leaf form resembling a hand.

***Mary's Slipper* (3)**

Monk's Hood

Aconitum napellus

Height 48". Attractive flowers of deep blue in showy spires. Also variations to red and white.

Although the plant does better in full sun, the flowers last longer in partial shade. Tends to climb. Named from resemblance of bloom to a slipper or a hood . . . depending on the point from which it is viewed.

***Our Lady's Cushion*
(2-3)**

Thrift

Armeria (mixed)

Height 8" to 25". Deep pink, rose, violet and near-red. Bright-flowered.

Tolerates partial shade. Long-blooming. Desirable for rock garden or border; the taller for cutting. Shade the seedlings. Named from cushion-like, rosette foliage. Also: *Our Lady's Pincushion* — the tall-stemmed buds resembling hat pins.

***Our Lady's Perennials*, GROUP B**

Sow any time after the soil is warm in the spring, up to September. Protect the seedlings from the hot sun if sown in July or August. If the seeds are started in flats or a nursery bed, move the plants to their permanent locations in the garden in the fall or the following spring.

Our Lady by-the-Gate (2-3)

Bouncing Bet
Saponaria officinalis

Height 18" to 30". Blossoms pure white or softest blush.

Tolerates partial shade. Showy in the garden. Also a wonderful cut flower. Named from appearance as a wild flower near gates and fences — the blooming plant resembling a female figure.

Our Lady's Shoes (3)

Columbine
Aquilegia (long-spurred mixed)
Height 36". Lemon, copper, orchid, buff, rose, lavender, blue, pink, cream, crimson in various blends.

Tolerates partial shade. Prefers light, sandy soil with good drainage. Usually treated as a biennial. Named from resemblance of spurred blossoms to dainty, fancy shoes or slippers.

Our Lady's Thimble (2-3-4)

Harebell; Bluebells of Scotland
Campanula rotundifolia
Height 15". Low showers of luminous violet, blue, bell-shaped flowers.

Tolerates partial shade. Prefers well-drained soil, but tolerates dampness. Be careful with tiny seeds. Named from resemblance of flowers to dainty thimbles.

Mary's Pink (2-3)

Rose Campion
Lychnis Coronaria
Height 12" to 24". Rose-crimson flowers. Downy silver foliage.

Prefers full sun. A common plant of old gardens. Conspicuous from glowing flowers and white foliage. Exact origin of traditional name uncertain. Also known as Mary's Rose.

Rosemary (2-3)

Rosemary
Rosemarinus officinalis
Height 24" to 48". Blue blossoms. Piny, evergreen leaves have a sweet, pleasant odor and taste.

Tolerates partial shade. Prefers well-drained, lime soil. Winter indoors in pots. Widely used as seasoning in cooking. Named from old legend that blooms changed from white to blue when Our Lady placed her blue cloak on them to dry.

Our Lady's Perennials, GROUP C

Grown from bulbs or pips. If interested, write for information as to availability.

Our Lady's Sorrel (3)

Wood Sorrel
Oxalis corniculata
Height 9". Spreading. Red-purple flowers.

Bulbs require warm, sandy, humus soil. Excellent in pots. Set several bulbs close together. Named from old popular tradition. Exact association unknown.

Our Lady's Tears (1-2)

Lily-of-the-valley
Convallaria majalis

Height 5" to 10". Small white nodding bell-shaped flowers. Delicately scented.

Prefers partial shade. Attractive mat-like foliage. Plant 5 or 6 pips together in clumps in spring. Named from the resemblance of tiny flowers to tear drops, especially when covered with dew.

Madonna Lily (2)

Madonna Lily
Lilium candidum

Height 24" to 48". Waxy white flowers with gold-yellow anthers.

Bulbs prefer sweet, lime soil and must be planted in mid-summer when inactive. An ancient emblem of Our Lady: the white petals symbolizing her bodily purity, the gold anthers her purity of soul.

Purification Flower (2)

Snow-Drop
Galanthus nivalis

Height 6" to 9". Small, white, drop-like flowers.

Prefers cool, shady location and moist, mellow soil. Set bulbs in clumps close together. Named from bloom in England on the Feast of the Purification of Our Lady, February 2nd.

Our Lady's Perennials, OTHER

Seed for these excellent varieties is in scarce supply; or they are best propagated by divisions. If interested in obtaining plants, write for information as to availability. Plants of perennials Groups A, B and C are also sometimes available.

Our Lady's Bedstraw (3)

Lady's Bedstraw
Galium verum

Height 24". Tiny yellow flowers on soft, filmy branches.

Propagated mainly by division. Used in mixed cuttings of flowers. A native plant of Palestine. Named from its legendary presence in the manger at Bethlehem on which the Infant Jesus lay.

Our Lady's Eardrops (2-3-4)

Fuchsia
Fuchsia speciosa

Height 12" to 36". Pendulous blossoms in shades of red and purple.

Prefers partial shade, and will bloom even in full shade. Propagated mainly by cuttings. Winter in pots indoors. Named from the resemblance of its blossoms to pendant earrings.

Our Lady's Mantle (3)

Lady's Mantle

Alchemilla speciosa

Height 6" to 8". Cream or yellowish flowers. Attractive silvery-gray leaves.

Tolerates partial shade. Propagated by divisions or seed. Named from resemblance of each downy leaf to a mantle or cloak.

Our Lady's Resting Place (2)

Germander Speedwell

Veronica rupestris blue

Height 5". Densely matted blue flowers.

Prefers moist corners, but does well in moderately dry soil. Named from the resemblance of its creeping and densely ascending form to a mat, carpet or other resting place.

Our Lady's Tears (2-3-4)

Spiderwort

Tradescantia virginiana

Height 20". Triangular, violet-blue blossoms.

Tolerates partial shade. Very easily propagated by divisions or cuttings. Simply cut off below joint and plant. Named from resemblance of pendant, spent blooms to weeping tears—emitting a blue tear-like fluid when squeezed.

Madonna's Pins (2)

Filaree; Crane's Bill

Geranium maculatum

Height 25". Mauve to lavender flowers.

Tolerates partial shade. Prefers somewhat wet soil. Cool soil germinating. Named from resemblance of seed pods to large pins.

Assumption Lily (3)

White plantain lily

Hosta plantaginea

Height 12" to 20". Waxy white flowers.

Prefers partial shade and rich, deep, moist soil. Propagated by divisions or seeds. Named from bloom in England at the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, August 15.

Christ's Mass Rose (1)

Christmas Rose

Helleborus niger

Height 12". Large, white, shallow blossom-cups. Attractive foliage.

Prefers partial shade and deep, humus, well-drained soil. Propagated by divisions or seed. Named from legend that an angel swept earth with his wings, leaving flowers as a little girl's gift to the Infant Jesus.

Iris, the royal lily, is the emblem of Our Lady's ancestry of the royal house of David. *Carnations* and *Lilies* have for centuries been closely associated with Our Lady. *Roses* especially, are symbolic of Mary in religious art, and in prayer . . . as in the traditional petition: "Mystical Rose, pray for us."

The Steward

If the religious sense and dignity associated with gardening in the days of Christendom — as reported by old legends, chronicles and flower names—are to be restored and given substance in your work as well as in your heart, it is essential that you give your stewardship careful preparation.

Seeds, plants, blossoms are of God's established order. With true understanding and devoted application of the principles of that order, the steward can tend his garden with confidence, peace and joy.

The good and faithful steward, therefore, first gains understanding of God's ordering of nature. Then he orders his own garden in the light of that understanding . . . ever directing his work not only to the garden itself, but first and last to the greater glory of God.

God's Ordering of Plant Life

Seeds germinate, or begin to send out tiny roots and shoots, when they receive moisture from the surrounding soil and when they are at the correct temperature. For some seeds this temperature is provided by the cold soil of late fall or early spring; for others it is given by the warmer soil of later spring.

As the spring days warm up, the proper temperature for plant growth normally follows the temperature at which the seeds begin to sprout. The plants from seeds which germinate in cool soil will grow in cooler weather. Those from seeds which germinate in warm soil require warmer weather. Special heat and protection must be given plants only when grown in climates colder than those in which they normally grow, or when they are started earlier than their normal planting time.

Once the tiny shoots have started growing they also need air, nourishment and light. The soil in which they are to grow should be porous, and excess water should have a way to drain off, so that the required air can filter down to the roots. Nourishment in the form of certain soil minerals — nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium — must be supplied, and the soil must be kept

moist by watering in order that the roots may absorb this nourishment. Light, too — at least three or four hours of sunlight a day — is needed, in order that the growing “seedlings” may use their nourishment to form new shoots, leaves and buds.

The Steward's Ordering of His Garden

SOIL PREPARATION. Before seeds are sown in your garden it is important that the soil be porous, well-drained and treated with fertilizer. Soil is made porous by mixing rotted leaves or peat into it. Usually rotted leaves, fertilizer and powdered lime are spread together on top of the soil and then turned into it with a spade or spading fork. Each year most soils require 100 pounds of rotted leaves, 3 pounds of hydrated lime and 2 pounds of fertilizer for every 100 square feet of bed space. If rain water does not drain away, the soil must be dug up so that a layer of cinders, gravel or drainage tile can be put in, several feet below the surface, to carry excess water away to one side.

SOWING AND TENDING. When it is the proper time of spring, gently shake the seeds from your packets into $\frac{1}{8}$ " deep furrows drawn in finely raked soil firmed with a board. Then cover them with more fine soil to a depth of from two to four times the thickness of the seeds themselves. Firm the soil again and then moisten it thoroughly. Keep the soil moist, and as the seedlings begin to shoot up, thin them out or move them farther apart to avoid crowding. They can easily be dug up with a small spoon or trowel and moved to previously made holes in new locations. Then press the new soil around them and moisten them. After the roots begin to grow, a good deep soaking every week is better than daily sprinkling. Weeds around the seedlings should be rooted up with a small hand rake or cultivator.

PROVIDENCE. If these tasks are dutifully performed you can then hope in God's providence — which does

work twenty-four hours daily—to give a harvest of strong and healthy plants in fine bloom . . . that your family, neighbors and friends may be edified by God's riches and His artistry.

The Forehanded Steward

If possible be forehanded: have earlier blooms on your annuals plants by starting them indoors.

Seeds may be started in a sunny window four or five weeks earlier than outdoors. All that is needed are pots or 3" deep "flats" having holes or cracks in the bottom for air and drainage, and containing a fine mixture of $\frac{1}{3}$ garden soil, $\frac{1}{3}$ sand and $\frac{1}{3}$ leaf mold or peat. If flats are used, fill them with soil mixture, level the soil, sow the seeds in furrows and cover them with fine soil. Then firm the soil, moisten it thoroughly and place flat in a sunny window. If you keep the soil moist—but not too wet—your seedlings should appear in one or two weeks. As the seedlings crowd each other, thin them out or move them to other flats.

Before you move your seedlings to your garden beds they must be "hardened" or "toughened" to withstand the cooler outdoor temperatures. One or two weeks are usually allowed for hardening, depending on the tenderness of each type of plant. This can be done gradually by moving the flats of seedlings first to a window in a cooler part of the house, afterwards to a sheltered outdoor location, and then to an exposed outdoor location. Finally they can be transplanted to the desired locations in your garden beds—preferably on a cool, cloudy day. Before hardening, the seedlings are usually light green in color. Afterwards they are bluish.

Annuals seeds can be started indoors eight to ten weeks earlier than the outdoor sowing time, if after four or five weeks they are moved to outdoor "cold frames," and then, after another four or five weeks, moved to the garden. A simple cold frame consists of a wooden box with a hinged or removable glass pane top, which permits the sun to reach the plants by day, but shelters them from the cold at night. It is also usable as a means of starting seeds in flats "outdoors" four or five weeks earlier than the usual sowing time in unprotected beds.

On hot sunny days be sure to raise the glass top of your cold frame to provide ventilation.

Many people like to start their biennials and perennials seeds, too, in flats indoors or outdoors because of the greater ease in sowing and early tending. Because of their slower growth, seedlings of these varieties are usually left in 4" deep flats or transplanted to nursery beds for one season before they are moved to their final garden locations the next fall or spring.

The Zealous Steward

Zeal comes of joy.

If gardening is among your prayerful means of expressing joy, you may want to increase the kinds of Mary flowers in your Garden of Our Lady. If so, you may buy six varieties of seed for one dollar.

Zeal finds expression in making gifts in all seasons, and Our Lady's Garden can offer a happiness to: the religious and their charges; neighbors, friends and relatives; the deaf and certain other handicapped persons.

Our Lady's Garden, also, can be regarded as a useful means by those zealous in: scout work and other youth activities; the apostolate of the family; the rural life movement; and to encourage Christian sociability in parish life . . .

Any six varieties listed as annuals, Groups A and B; biennials; perennials, Groups A and B \$1.00

Six variety garden — easy to grow annuals — beautiful old Garden Prayer, and this informative booklet \$1.00

Twelve variety garden — easy to grow annuals — beautiful old Garden Prayer, and this informative booklet \$2.00

Twenty-five variety garden—annuals and perennials; some rare; some difficult — beautiful old Garden Prayer, and this informative booklet \$4.00

**A GIFT CARD WILL BE ENCLOSED
UPON REQUEST**

in the six, twelve, and twenty-five variety gardens
we reserve the right to make substitutions.



Our Lady's Garden

THIS IS THY STEWARDSHIP, WHATSOEVER THOU BE.
AND IF THOU CARELESSLY OMIT TO DO THY OFFICE
THOU MAKEST A HARD ACCOUNT FOR THYSELF,
WHICH GOD FORBID IF IT BE HIS GOOD PLEASURE
. . . THEREFORE LOVE GOD ABOVE ALL THINGS,
AND THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF.

*So concludes an early sixteenth century
English gardening pamphlet.*

The illustration is a gift from the artist,
Thomas Benedict Jones of Baltimore, Maryland.