

THE IMITATION OF MARY

IN FOUR BOOKS

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Ο ΑΣΠΑΣΜΟΣ

ΤΗΣ ΠΑΝΑΓΙΑΣ

ΕΛΙΣΑΒΕΤ

ΜΡ
ΘΥ



BOOK 1

MEETING MARY

CHAPTER 1

How To Greet the Glorious Virgin Mary

ALTHOUGH I am without merit and am, indeed, conscious of my many sins, I have the utmost trust in Your Passion, Lord Jesus, and in the merits of Your Mother, the glorious and holy Virgin Mary. It is upon her that I wish to dwell for a moment; I pray, therefore, that I may be made worthy of doing so, since I dare not approach her without first being given permission.

I am well aware that due to my unworthiness I ought not present myself before this supremely worthy woman whom even the Angels admire and venerate, while exclaiming: “Who is this that arises from the desert of the world and overflows with the delights of paradise?”

2. Therefore, dearest Mary, it is unseemly that I should dare to dwell on the thought of your beauty and your greatness, for I am but dust and ashes and am even the vilest creature on earth since I am a





Book 4

CALLING ON MARY IN PRAYER AND SONG

CHAPTER 1

Prayer for the Grace To Love and Praise the Blessed Virgin Mary

CHILD: Most kind Mother of God, Virgin Mary, I beg you, deign now and always to show to me, who am your poor and weak servant, your fidelity and the utterly sweet love that has always filled you. I ask you to instill into the depths of my heart drops of the sweetness that you carried in your bosom and preserved hidden in your womb.

Then I shall be able to love you with a pure and undivided heart, and to praise you with great devotion and above all things, O Blessed Mother, together with your only Son and our Lord, Jesus Christ. From this I shall receive a great blessing, namely, that through all the days of my earthly life I may serve you and your only Son with a loving and fervent spirit.

2. Virgin Mary, golden rose, wholly sweet and beautiful, I ask that my insistent prayers