



Day 1: Beloved

Jesus, the Beloved Son

"You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." Mark 1:11

Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Holy Trinity, is the beloved Son of the Father. From all eternity, He is the object of the Father's perfect love, the One who receives His complete attention and His constant benevolence. The Father never tires of pouring out his love over His Son, proclaiming words of delight and blessing. As the Beloved Son, Jesus has the perfect capacity to receive everything from His Father. He experiences his Sonship as one who is constantly loved, known, and seen by His Father. His Father calls him his "beloved Son" and this truth is foundational for Jesus.

Mary, the Mother of the Beloved Son

In the Father's plan of salvation, Mary is chosen to be the mother of Jesus. It is hard for us to grasp this profound gift of motherhood that was given to Mary at the Annunciation. The Father entrusted her with the most perfect gift of His beloved Son. Mary's Motherhood – her heart, body, soul, personality, face, smile, - everything that was hers, was to be a vessel and a revelation of the Father's love for His beloved Son. Every time Mary looked at Jesus, held him close, blessed him, and delighted in him, Jesus experienced love as a beloved son and was reminded that He was the beloved Son of His Father in Heaven. Mary's vocation was to share in the Father's love for His beloved Son and be a constant reminder of this truth.

St. Juan Diego and Us

You are a beloved son, and Mary calls you by name as her own son. We can listen to and learn from how Mary affectionately approaches Juan Diego, calling out "Juantzin, Juan Diegotzin" which translates as "Little Juan." Her voice is tender, gentle, strong, and loving. You, like Juan Diego, are known by name and are the object of Mary's affection. On the very day of your baptism, the torrents of the heavens were opened and the Father claimed *you as His own*. Like St. Juan Diego, Jesus has permanently chosen *you*. He has given Mary to *you*, as Mother. You, like St. Juan Diego, are beloved, and Mary is present to help this love penetrate and pervade your entire heart and life. Often our lives can be shrouded with distraction, brokenness, and hopelessness, but Juan Diego helps lead us into a personal relationship with Mary. Here we are safe, seen, secure and reminded of how loved we truly are in God's eyes.

Prayer

O Jesus, we adore You, we love You, and we thank You for the gift of Your presence. You are the beloved Son of the Father and we long to share in the gift of Your beloved sonship. We ask You now to hear this prayer.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of God and Mother of us, draw us close to your heart. As you spoke over Juan Diego, please speak over us now. Help us to hear your voice. Call us your beloved sons, and help us to believe in the promise of your presence with us in all things.

Amen.

After reading today's reflection, [pray the Litany of Restoration of Sonship](#).

This reflection is an excerpt from the book *Sons in the Son* written by Fr. Innocent Montgomery, CFR, and Fr. Angelus Montgomery, CFR, and produced by the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council. This reflection is to be used for private devotional use only. For more information, please visit kofc.org/sons.