

Lord of All Pots and Pans!

Lord of all pots and pans and things,
since I've no time to be
a saint by doing lovely things or
watching late with thee,
or dreaming in the twilight of
storming heaven's gates.
Make me a saint by getting meals or
washing up the plates.

Although I must have Martha's hands,
I have Mary's mind, and,
when I black the boots and shoes
Thy sandals, Lord, I find.
I think of how they trod the earth
each time I scrub the floor,
accept this meditation, Lord,
I haven't time for more.

Warm all the kitchen with thy love,
and light it with thy peace,
forgive me all my worrying
and make all grumbling cease.
Thou who didst love to give men food
in room or by the sea
accept this service that I do
I do it unto thee.



This statue of The Kitchen Madonna depicts Mary with a broom and the Child Jesus wanting her to pick Him up.

The Kitchen Madonna



This statue of The Kitchen Madonna depicts Mary holding a loaf of bread, with the child Jesus. His arms extended up to her as if saying "carry me."

The Kitchen Madonna

*Back in the day, every Catholic kitchen had a Kitchen Madonna statue or plaque. They were made of wood, plaster, pewter or ceramic. Many of the statues would be regular statues that you could stand on your counter, or they could be plaques that hung on the wall. The Kitchen Madonna had many titles, but she was Our Lady of the Kitchen.

"Our Lady of the Kitchen Sink"

If the kitchen is the heart of the home, then the kitchen sink is a main artery. We mothers spend so much time in front of the kitchen sink that it only seems natural to place an image of the Blessed Mother there. She stands before us as a blessing upon the home, a companion in our day's work and a model and inspiration to virtue.

I remember the statue my own mother had over her kitchen sink. We would bring her the prettiest flowers we could find from the yard. Buttercups, Violets, Wild Roses and even the occasional Lady Slipper (though it was rumored that those were illegal to pick in New Hampshire) would find its way there. I don't remember when or who began calling her "Our Lady of the Kitchen Sink," but it stuck.

While my boys don't spend too much time picking flowers, they are devoted naturalists and they love to bring me gifts from the yard all the year round. In April, Mary is decorated with Crocuses and bird's feathers. In June, she is

adorned in large pink climbing roses while Quartz, Mica, and other semi-precious stones surround her. In October, she wears an impressive display of colored leaves and has acorns strewn at her feet. And in December, she holds a sprig of Holly and stands among Pinecones.

In Cape Cod, the boys were particularly generous. All week long they gathered the loveliest shells and brought them to me. They understood that I wasn't anxious to hold the crabs they found or the kelp they collected for themselves. They understood that what I liked were pretty shells and they delighted to give them to me. I brought their gifts home in heavy pockets each night and placed them on the window sill over the sink.

When we returned home, one of the first things we did was to place the shells around "Our Lady of the Kitchen Sink." So now, when I am scrubbing pots, I can look up and see this Queen, who rejoiced in her lowliness, decorated so beautifully in the humble and generous gifts of five little boys. Blessed is she, the Mother of Our Lord, among all women everywhere. And blessed am I in my little home among my little men.

***Our Lady of the Kitchen Sink everywhere,
Pray for us and the Little Ones in our care.***

"Our Lady of the Kitchen Stove"

In our home we have Our Lady of the Kitchen Stove, as there is no room behind our sink for ANYTHING! Before I prepare our dinners I ask Our Lady to bless the food I'm about to place on the stovetop. Somehow dinner is always very tasty, and it's not my cooking that makes it so! But what a wonderful idea to bring her gifts. I'm going to try it. I wonder what our meals will taste like now! *(excerpted from: blessedamongmen)