

SELF-GUIDED TOUR



Welcome to Mary's Gardens, presented by the University of Dayton Libraries. This guide will take you through the three floors of the exhibit and provide insight on each display. **Please return the guide** before exiting the building so that it is available for other visitors.

Mary Gardens are filled with flowers and plants whose names describe an aspect of Mary's life, her appearance, or her virtues. Below is a selection of flowers or plants found in the live garden (see a separate sheet for a complete list).



Bellflower

Campanula glomerata 'Superba'
Our Lady's Nightcap



Baby's Breath

Gypsophila 'Festival Star'
Our Lady's Veil



Shrub Rose

Rosa x Radrazz (Red)
Mary's Sorrow and the Blood of Christ: The rose symbolizes Mary as the Queen of Heaven and is one of the most common flower associations with Mary in addition to the lily. The thorns remind us of the crown of thorns Jesus wore, and the red rose represents Mary's sorrow at the crucifixion.



Bleeding Heart

Dicentra spectabilis
Mary's Heart



Daylily

Hemerocallis 'Happy Returns'
St. Joseph's Lily: Named for Mary's husband, Joseph, who is often depicted with a lily in his hand.



Black-Eyed Susan

Rudbeckia fulgida 'Early Bird Gold'
Golden Jerusalem



Foxglove

Digitalis purpurea 'Excelsior Hybrids'
Our Lady's Gloves



Purpose Lavender

Lavandula a. 'Kielapro'
Mary's Drying Plant: The legend associated with lavender and sometimes other sweet-smelling bushes tells that after Mary had washed Jesus's clothes, she laid them across lavender bushes to dry. When the sun and wind had dried them, they smelled clean and fresh, also having given the lavender bush its signature fragrance.

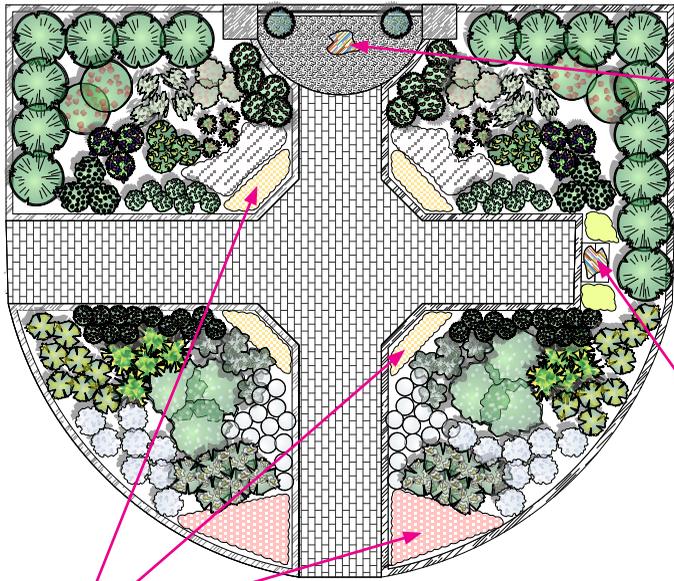


Arborvitae

Thuja occidentalis 'Emerald Green'
Tree of Life: Mary is represented as the Tree of Life because she gave birth to Jesus, the lasting fruit of her womb.

The seating area adjacent to the garden features an overview of John S. Stokes Jr. and the Mary's Gardens movement. To introduce Stokes's social justice interests, a viewing area showing archived *Input* episodes is available.

A Mary Garden typically features a statue of Mary to serve as a focal point.



Seat of Wisdom

Madonna and Child

Designed by Ade Bethune for Mary's Gardens, this statue features Mary holding a young Christ. In Catholic liturgy, Mary has the title "Seat of Wisdom" to portray her as the resting place of Christ, the Divine Wisdom Incarnate. Christ holds a book with the inscription, "Et verbum caro factum est," which translates to, "And the Word was made flesh."



Saint Joseph, Workman

Patron of Mary's Gardeners

Also designed by Ade Bethune, this statue features St. Joseph, husband of Mary and the patron saint of workers, kneeling with a cultivating tool in his right hand. In his left hand, he clasps the flowering staff, a traditional emblem of St. Joseph. The cultivating tool draws an analogy between cultivating plant life and cultivating our own spiritual life.

Visit often! Grunder Landscaping will be alternating flowers (in the shaded areas shown on this drawing) to represent spring, summer, fall, and winter Mary flowers.

John S. Stokes Jr.: Environmentalist, Activist, Catholic

Engage with the history of the Mary's Gardens movement. See displays of artifacts, photographs, and papers of John S. Stokes Jr., whose collection was donated to the Marian Library in 2013.

Display cases are positioned around the mezzanine to answer the questions, "What is a Mary Garden?" and, "Who was John Stokes?" Discover more about his pursuits and passions while browsing the cases *American Catholicism*, *Catholic Social Justice*, and *Catholicism and Sustainability*. Also, visit the display covering the Mary Garden in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, which was Stokes's inspiration for the Mary's Gardens movement.

View a selection of Mary flower prints by A. Joseph Barrish, S.M., on display near the help desk.



The collages along the walls of the exhibit space illustrate a sampling of the hundreds of slides, photographs, and pamphlets from Stokes's personal collection.

Mary's Flowers in Contemporary Art

In the Marian Library Gallery, you will find 24 newly commissioned paintings by Cincinnati artist Holly Schapker that feature Mary flowers in relationship to scenes from Mary's life. Several paintings pay homage to well-known masterpieces.

In the artist's words, "Flowers are a beautiful symbol of the 'divine feminine,' and there are numerous kinds that have generated delightful legends throughout the centuries regarding Mary's life story and mysteries."

Interspersed throughout the display, you will find thoughts and writings of John S. Stokes Jr.

Open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and on scheduled tour dates.

