

purpose. It is also, however, striking that Mary the Mother of GOD, despite the reserved Holy Scripture, is paid the widest veneration throughout the world. All this cannot be coincidence. It is impossible that such veneration could be stage-managed by the hand of man. It is the same with st Joseph, her bridegroom, as well as with her parents Joachim and Anna. Although these persons are so closely connected with the Incarnation of JESUS and the Redemption, they led an inconspicuous life, unrecognized among the people, and are hardly mentioned in Holy Scripture. Yet it is they who in Heaven but also here on earth now receive greatest veneration and most grateful love.

### Gems of a Mother

Once the noble Roman woman Cornelia was visited by a haughty lady, who asked eagerly to see her jewellery and precious objects. The noble mother Cornelia sent for her sons, focused with motherly pride her eyes on them and said: „They are my precious stones and jewellery!“ Mary, the Mother of GOD, can indeed point to her divine SON and say: „HE is my gem, my real jewel, all my wealth!“

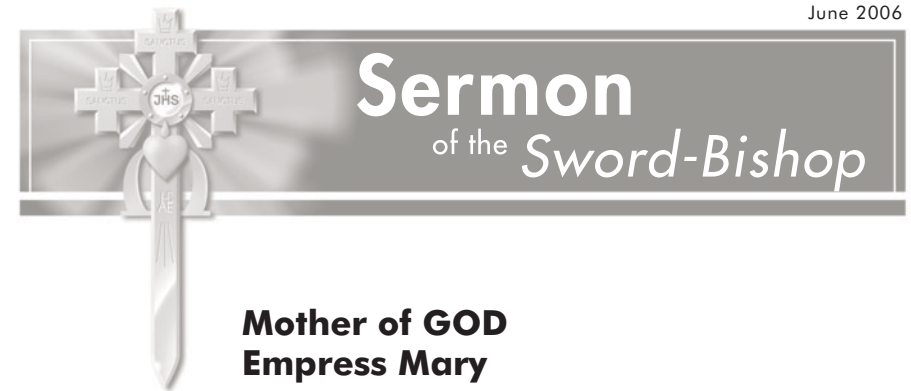
Feast of Empress Mary, 22 May 2005



Schwert-Bischof  
JESU CHRISTI

**Be blessed by GOD TRINITY,  
the + FATHER and the + SON  
and the + HOLY GHOST. Amen!**

Schwert-Bischof  
JESU CHRISTI  
SB.



### Mother of GOD Empress Mary

The title Emperor or Empress is the highest worldly title of a ruler. We have conferred upon Mary this title in order to elevate her to the highest rank also in this respect. This veneration as Empress was also paid to her by, next to other saints, Nicholas of Flue, our patron of Switzerland and of world peace. In the Cathedral at Aix-la-Chapelle Mary has also been venerated as Empress since early times. If we look up to the statue of our Empress Mary, we recognize how Mary is well aware of her dignity and task, and yet so nobly maintains her humility. With the crown on her head, the sceptre in her hand, she is looking up to GOD blissfully enamoured as if she would once more joyfully call out: „My soul magnifies the LORD, and my spirit rejoices in GOD, my SAVIOUR! ...“ (Magnificat) Once again I would like to remind you that Mary works miraculously through this statue.

### The Way of the Elect

When the Archangel Gabriel brought Mary the salutation of Heaven: „Hail You, full of grace! The LORD is with You, blessed are You amongst women“, Mary lived in the little, poor house of Nazareth. Would not the temple, where Mary lived for many years, have been worthier for the Angel's visit? Or a royal palace? No, the way on which GOD leads His elect is called: being misunderstood, despised by the world. In this you can test the privileged souls. Mary, the Daughter, Mother and Bride of GOD, had been elected to go this way of being misunderstood, of hardships, of sufferings. The path to everlasting bliss is narrow and steep.

### Worldwide Veneration

It is striking that very little is written in Holy Scripture about Mary. It is so conspicuous that we see therein a deep meaning and a hidden sacred