

## May Crowning at St. Cecilia, May 7, 2010

St. Cecilia Middle School and High School celebrated the Motherhood of Mary on May 7, 2010 with a beautiful May Crowning. High school servers led the procession of the middle school children into the church, accompanied by congregational singing of *Immaculate Mary*. The students were dressed in their finest clothing, in honor of the event. Middle school girls carried flowers and laid them at the foot of the statue.

Following the reading from Sacred Scripture, Father Heaslip (8th grade and senior religion teacher at the school) preached a short homily on the reason we honor Mary in this manner: she is the Mother of God and our Mother. This was followed by the congregational recitation of the beautiful Litany of Loretto.

The crowning of the statue was done by the Teens for Life, with the girls serving as an honor guard. President of the Teens for Life, Alex Walenz (in flower patterned skirt to the right of the statue) crowned the statue, assisted by Morgan Jacobi (in a white dress). The children accompanied the crowning with the song, *Bring Flowers of the Rarest*.

Finally, following the crowning of the statue, Fr. Heaslip incensed the shrine. The children concluded the ceremony with the song *Hail Holy Queen*.

Special thanks to: Sr. Immaculata for training the children and coordinating the ceremony; Margaret Schlachter, who assisted Sr. Immaculata with decorating the shrine; Mike and Ginny Skoch for providing music for the ceremony; and Father Heaslip for serving as the celebrant.

