

# Saint Mary Portraits

St. Mary is the most admired and respected of all the saints. Our church recognizes her importance as *Asdvadzamayr*, the Mother of God, the Holy Birth Giver. St. Mary is always pictured above the altar of every Armenian Church holding Baby Jesus. Let's make a portrait of beautiful St. Mary!

## SUPPLIES NEEDED

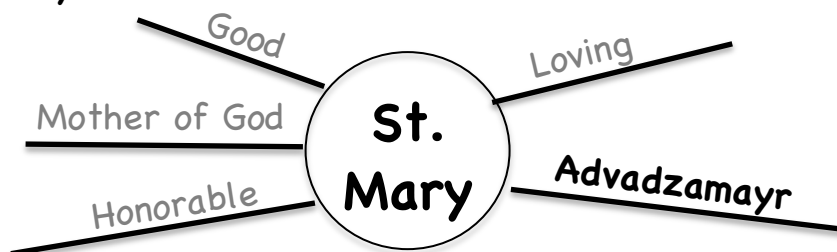
- White paper (8.5x11)
- White board, chalkboard, or Chart paper
- Crayons, Pastels, Colored pencils, or Markers
- Yellow or gold crayons, pastels, or colored pencils
- *Optional:* Portrait Template (*to follow*)
- Portraits of Saints doc. (*to follow, or use your own*)

## PREPARATION BEFORE ACTIVITY

- Print out the "Portraits of Saints" doc. or use your own pictures of saints, but do not show to students until end of lesson! (*Make sure your pictures all have "halos" above the heads.*)
- *Optional:* Print out "Portrait Template" (*to follow*) – 1 for each student

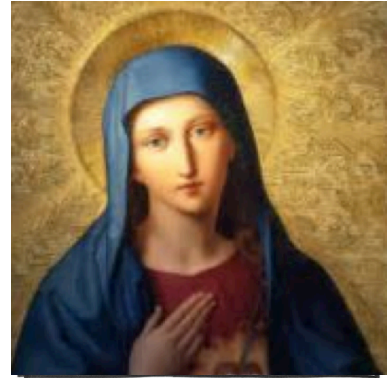
## WHAT TO DO

1. Brainstorm with students the qualities of a St. Mary. As students share their responses, chart them in a "spider diagram," as pictured below. Once you have charted everyone's responses, add a final quality: "**Advadzamayr.**"

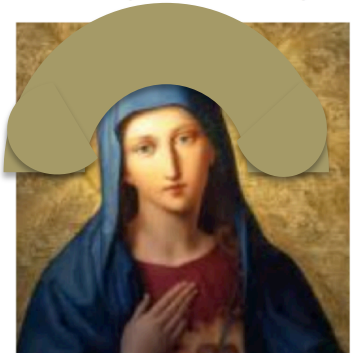


2. Give each student a piece of white paper OR a copy of the "Portrait Template." Instruct students to draw a PORTRAIT of St. Mary. (At the top of portrait, they should write: "Saint Mary, Advadzamayr!")
3. When everyone has finished their portrait, ask students to visualize the pictures of all the saints that are hanging in our church. **Now, hold up the Pictures of Saints.**  
**Ask:** "*What do all of these pictures of saints have in common?*" (*Allow time for responses.*) "*They are all usually pictured with a "Halo" over their heads.*"
4. Give each student a YELLOW or GOLD crayon and instruct them to draw a Halo over the head on their portrait of St. Mary.
5. *Optional:* Allow students to share their portraits to the class

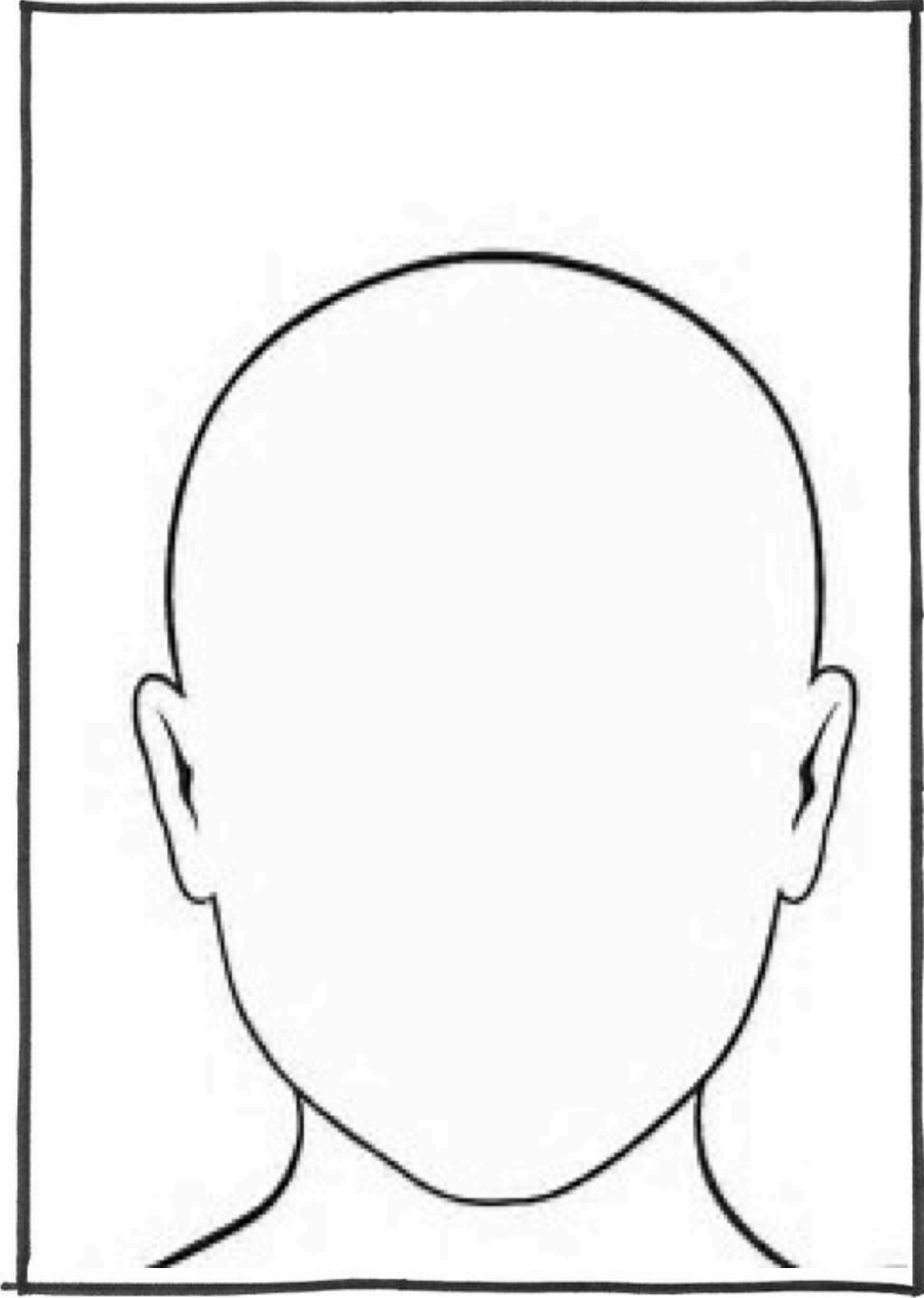
Saint Mary, Advadzamayr!



Saint Mary, Advadzamayr!



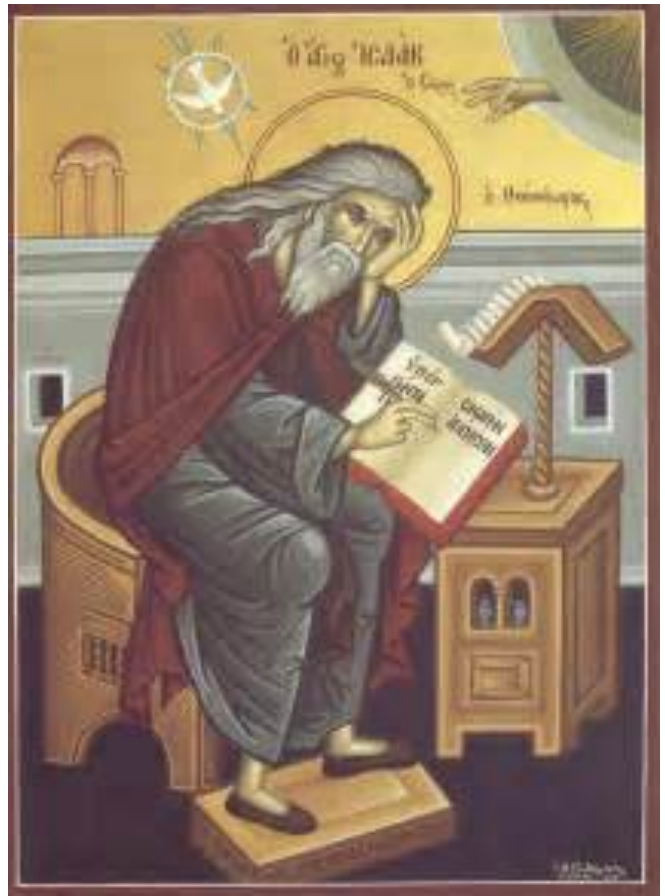
*Saint Mary, Advadzamayr!*



Portraits of Saints



St. Mary



St. Mesrob



St. Mary



St. Mesrob