Mary Fare

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Roses, lilacs, daisies, tulips
A wall of scents for
A Coronation like no other
I, gowned in pink,
One of four five-year-olds
Chosen to honor
Mother Mary in May

Lovely child in floor length silk
A crinoline slip boasts a
Bell-shaped skirt
Bouqueted hands confirm
Haloed flowers in my hair

What approval, what acceptance
That Father chose me
Adorned me
Adored me
In his recognition of
Absolute innocence,
Magic on my face
The breath of my heart
Humming ‘you are cherished’
An angel in
Blossoms and faith
A Paradise Princess
Immortalized by a
Photographer’s magic
Flash of self-esteem
A light of reflected virtue
Beauty and truth
Still at my fingertips
Fifty years later.