

1864

**“HIS MOTHER KEPT ALL THESE
SAYINGS IN HER HEART”**

William Cullen Bryant

Bryant, William Cullen (1794-1878) - American poet and editor of the New York Evening Post who practiced law before devoting his life to writing. A master of blank verse, Bryant's earliest works are considered his best. "His Mother Kept All These Sayings in Her Heart" (1864) - A hymn. Opening lines:

As o'er the cradle of her Son / The blessed Mary hung,...

HIS MOTHER KEPT ALL THESE SAYINGS IN HER HEART

As o'er the crade of her Son
The blessed Mary hung,
And chanted to the Anointed One
The psalms that David sung,

What joy her bosom must have known,
As, with a sweet surprise,
She marked the boundless love that shone
Within his infant eyes.

But deeper was her joy to hear,
Even in his ripening youth,
And treasure up, from year to year,
His words of grace and truth.

Oh, may we keep his words like her
In all their life and power,
And to the law of love refer
The acts of every hour.

THE END