

The first part of the celebration begins early in the morning when everybody goes to the country to pick up flowers to decorate the altar where "La Maya" will sit.

The Maya and her ladies-in-waiting got dressed up for the occasion. They wear white shirt, traditional underskirt, manila's shawl, necklaces, jewels, earrings and many



Her lady-in-waiting asks money for "La Maya" and brushes the people's sleeves.

The young boys in the village sing around "La Maya" and court her. Everybody sings and dances popular dances such as "jotas" or "seguidillas", drinks wine and anisette and eats traditional cakes. Meanwhile "La Maya" remains without moving and looking.

Finally, the people make an offering of flowers to the Virgin in the church because of May is the Maria's month.

Since 1988 the neighbourhood of Lavapiés return to celebrate this festivity lost in XIX century.

flowers in their hair.

Then "La Maya" stays in the altar all the celebration. She must remain sitting silent like a goddess statue and she can't move either eat or drink in all the morning.



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