

MARY'S VENERATION

1994 CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH

1. **Ever virgin**

Mary remained a virgin in conceiving her Son, in giving birth to Him, in nursing Him, always a virgin. (No.510)

And so the liturgy of the Church celebrates Mary as Aeiparthenos, the 'Ever-Virgin' (No.499)

The Church has always understood these passages as not referring to other children of the Virgin Mary. In fact James and Joseph, 'brothers of Jesus,' are the sons of another Mary, a disciple of Christ. (No.500)

2. **Immaculate [free from sin]**

By God's grace Mary remained free of every personal sin her whole life long. (No.493)

Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, 'full of grace' through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. (No.491)

3. **Part of Christian worship**

The Church's devotion to the Blessed Virgin is intrinsic to Christian Worship. The Church rightly honors 'the Blessed Virgin with special devotion . . . She has been honored with the title of 'Mother of God'. (No.971)

4. **Man's helper to God**

Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked in the Church under the titles of Advocate, Helper, Benefactress, and Mediatrix. (No.969)

5. **Crowned as Queen**

Finally, preserved free from all guilt of original sin, the Immaculate Virgin was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory upon the completion of her earthly sojourn. She was exalted by the Lord as the Queen of All, in order that she might be the more thoroughly conformed to her son, the Lord of Lords . (Vatican II, Church, par. # 59)

SCRIPTURES RESPONSE

1. **Mary had other children**

Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? (Mark 6: 3)

But other of the apostles saw I none, save James the Lord's brother. (Gal. 1:19)

2. **Mary was a sinner**

As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one . . . For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (Rom. 3:10, 12, 23)

But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. (Gal. 3:22)

And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. (Luke 1:46_47)

3. **Jesus showed her no special honor, and she took none**

And it came to pass, as he spake these things, a certain woman of the company lifted up her voice, and said unto him, Blessed is the womb that bare thee, and the paps which thou hast sucked. But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it. (Luke 11:27-28)

His mother saith unto the servants, whatsoever he saith unto you, do it. (John 2:5)

4. **Can not be a mediator**

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. (I Jn. 2:1-2)

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; (I Tim. 2:5)

And for this cause he is the mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. (Heb 9:15)

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. (Heb. 7:25)

But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. (Heb. 8:6)

5. Cared for by John who spoke nothing of her assent

When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son! Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home. (John 19:26-27)

Mary was buried in the city of Ephesus . . . **(The unchangeable Church” 1908 AD pg 113)**

6. Testimony of Scripture:

There came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him. (Luke 9:35)

And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. (John 12:32)

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (Acts 4:12)

Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. (Rom. 1:22-23)

7. Worship of any other heavenly being is false

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. (Gal. 1:8-9)

I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; by which also ye are saved. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: (1 Cor. 15:1-4)

And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellow servant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy. (Rev. 19:10)

Lest ye corrupt yourselves, and make you a graven image, the similitude of any figure, the likeness of male or female, And lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and . . . all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship them, and serve them, which the LORD thy God hath divided unto all nations. . . (Deut. 4:16-19)

And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven, and poured out drink offerings unto her, did we make her cakes to worship her, and pour out drink offerings unto her, without our men? (Jer. 44:19)