

Useful Resources

Scan the QR codes with your smart phone camera.



Understanding Mary & Her Old Testament Prefigurements – Dr. Brant Pitre. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILA6DG_KkGI



The Queen Mother – Dr. Brant Pitre. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Tpjloec7zQ>



Mary, the Ark of the New Covenant. Dr. Brant Pitre. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmNWqLSJcJI>

Marian Dogmas

There are four Marian dogmas. Dogmas are doctrines of the Church which have been defined by the Pope and the teaching authority of the Church for our belief, and faithful Catholics are not free to dissent from them. The four dogmas are:

1. Mary is the Mother of God.
2. Mary was conceived without sin (the "Immaculate Conception") and kept perpetually free from the stain of Original Sin.
3. Mary is perpetually a virgin.
4. Mary was assumed body and soul into Heaven at the end of her life.

The Church's teaching of Mary, and the special veneration reserved for her by

the Catholic faithful have often been a stumbling block for non-Catholic Christians. Many mistakenly believe that Catholics "worship" Mary and violate the commandment to have no other gods. We believe that Mary is the Mother of the Church, given to us by Jesus on the cross when he tells the Disciple Whom He Loved, "Son, behold your mother." We are all disciples whom Jesus loves, and therefore Mary is our mother and we must honor her.

To be clear, the Catholic Church reserves adoration and worship to God alone – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It honors and venerates Mary and the Saints because they help lead the faithful to Jesus, and Jesus leads us to the Father and the Holy Spirit. Indeed, the last words spoken by Mary in the Bible are her words at the wedding in Cana, "Do whatever he tells you." What the Church teaches about Mary safeguards the more central teachings concerning Jesus Christ

Mary is the Mother of God, since she gave birth to the Second Person of the Trinity who became man for our sake. In the East, Mary is given the title *Theotokos*, which means "God-bearer" in Greek. Mary of Nazareth is clearly the mother of Jesus. She accepted of her own free will God's will that she should bear His Son in her womb, gave birth to Him, and raised Him with the help of her chaste spouse, Joseph. Mary is given to us as a perfect model of purity, holiness, and cooperation with grace.

God, by the grace and merits of His Son Jesus on the Cross, outside of time, preserved



St. Casimir at Canton & Patterson Park Website
<https://stcasimir.org/>



St. Casimir at Canton & Patterson Park Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/stcasimircantonMD/>



St. Elizabeth of Hungary at Patterson Park Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/StLizBmore/>

Mary from the stain of original sin by a singular grace at the moment of her own conception. Mary is the new Eve. The early Church Fathers recognized that, "the knot of Eve's disobedience was untied by Mary's obedience." Lumen Gentium, 56. Mary was tempted to sin just as any one of us are, but she was able to resist temptation and sin at every turn because of this special grace.

The Church recognizes Mary as virgin before, during and after giving birth, affirming, by indicating these three moments, that she never ceased to be a virgin. There is compelling scriptural evidence that Mary took a vow of celibacy before being betrothed to Joseph and that he married her with the understanding she would remain chaste. Mary became the new Ark of the Covenant, and her body was made Holy through the special grace of God to carry the Son of God. References to Jesus' brothers and sisters in the Gospels are references to His close relatives, but are not the children of Mary.

The Dogma of the Assumption is intricately related to Mary's special privilege of being completely without sin, her Immaculate Conception. When Jesus Christ died on the Cross, rose from the dead, and ascended into Heaven, He opened the way to Heaven. However, when we die, we will have to wait until He comes again for the resurrection of the body. Mary, at the end of her earthly life, not having sinned, did not see the decay of her earthly body. By virtue of her Immaculate Conception, God chose that His mother would be taken up body and soul into Heaven to reign as Queen. We know Mary reigns as Queen in heaven because the St. John the Apostle describes seeing her in the Book of Revelations ("a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars...she brought forth a male child, one who is to rule all the

nations...and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God....") Rev. 12:01 RSV-CE.

Saints of the Week

Scan the QR codes with your phone to read and listen about the lives of the Saints.



May 7 – Saint Rose Venerini (1656 –1728). Organized Catholic schools throughout Italy and founded Venerini Sisters order.



May 8 – Saint Peter of Tarentaise (1102 – 1174). Cistercian monk, archbishop, reformer, diplomat, and sabbatical-taker.



May 9 – Saint John of Avila (1500 – 1569). Priest and friend of Saints, Ignatius of Loyola, John of God, Teresa of Avila, and others.



May 10 – Saint Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i (1840 – 1889). Belgian priest cared for lepers in Hawaii.



May 11 - Saint Ignatius of Laconi (1701 – 1781). Mendicant Franciscan friar in Cagliari, taught children and visited the sick.



May 12 – Leopold Mandic (1866 – 1942). Capuchin priest heard confessions 13-15 hours a day despite ill health.



May 13 – Our Lady of Fatima. Appeared to three Portuguese children between May 13 and October 13, 1917.