

## Prayer

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Give us light to understand Mary, her role in the Church's life and what that means for us. Holy Virgin Mary, sinless Theotokos, pray for us.

**Church Teachings about Mary** (more in-depth summary - <http://www.melekali.50megs.com>, Writings, Adult Ed box, Mary)

- \* **Immaculate Conception** – Mary conceived without sin (Romans 3:23? cf. *Ineffabilis Deus-Ineffable [indescribable] God* Dec 8, 1854)
- \* **Theotokos** – Greek for *God Bearer & Mother of God*, believed earlier, defined at Council of Nicaea (325AD); Jesus is fully God and fully man (not 50-50), Mary is his Mother, therefore Mary is Mother of God (Scripture below)
- \* **Assumption** – Mary was assumed body and soul into heaven (Psalm 132:8; Christians always reverence relics, no evidence of her body anywhere; the greatest saint in the Catholic Church; cf. *Deiparae Virginis Mariae-God-bearing Virgin Mary*, May 1, 1946 & *Munificentissimus Deus-Bountiful God*, Nov 1, 1950)
- \* **Coronation & Queen Mother** – Jesus is King, the Mother (not wife) of the King is Queen Mother, hence Mary is the Queen of Heaven and Earth (see 1 Kg 15:13; 2 Kg 10:13; 2 Chron 15:16; Jer 13:18; cf. 1 Kings 1-2; 2 Kings 11, 15 & 24; 2 Chron 22; cf. Rev 12:1-6; *Ad Caeli Reginam-Of the Heavenly Queen*, Oct 11, 1954)

## Scripture Reveals Who Mary Is Note: Highlighted relates to Genesis 3:15

- \* Mary Mother of God & God-bearer (Gk: Theotokos)
  - ✓ Luke 1:30-33 *And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."* (RSV) (Gk: Jesus – Yahweh saves)
  - ✓ Luke 1:43 *And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?* (RSV) (Gk: kyrios & Heb: adonai – "Lord" referring to God)
  - ✓ Isaiah 7:14: *and shall call his name Immanuel* (RSV) fulfilled in ...
  - ✓ Matt 1:23: *his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us).* (RSV)
- \* Mary is Full of Grace
  - ✓ Luke 1:28 *And [the angel] said, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!"* (RSV) (Gk: kecharitomene, full of grace in the present from a past action, only spoken of Mary & Jesus in Scripture)
  - ✓ Romans 3:23 *since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God* (RSV) (Does not imply Mary sinned, discuss)
  - ✓ John 1:14 *And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.*
- \* Mary's role in salvation
  - ✓ *Protoevangelium (first gospel): the Woman, Mary, fights evil with her Son* Genesis 3:15 *I will put enmity between you and the woman, and your seed and her seed: she shall crush your head, and you shall lie in wait for her heel.* (DRCR) (Hebrew הָאִשָּׁה uncertain if "he, she, they", could be all 3)
  - ✓ *The Woman* Galatians 4:4b-5 *God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.* (NAB)
  - ✓ *Mary our Mother* John 19:26-27 *When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.* (RSV)
  - ✓ *Mary image/embodiment of the Church* Revelation 12:1 *And a great sign appeared in heaven: A woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.* (DRCR)
  - ✓ Isaiah 7:14: *a young woman shall conceive and bear a son* fulfilled in ... Matt 1:23: *"Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son* (RSV) (Is Heb: almah & Mt Gk: parthenos – maiden, by implication, virgin; Is 7:14 ties Mt 1:23 to Gen 3:15)
  - ✓ Psalm 132:8 *Arise, O LORD, and go to thy resting place, thou and the ark of thy might.* (RSV)
  - ✓ *Mary's suffering is redemptive in Christ – Co-Redemptrix* Luke 2:35 *(and you yourself a sword will pierce) so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.* (NAB)
  - ✓ *Mediatrix* John 2:3 *When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."* (RSV)

**Jesus' Brothers (adelphoi = kinsmen, cf. Acts 7:26, 13:15, 15:3; Rom. 9:3; Gen 11:26-28, 29:15; Neh 5:7) – we are**

- ✱ Luke 1:36a **And behold your cousin Elizabeth** (DRCR), **And behold, Elizabeth, your relative** (NAB) & **And behold, your kinswoman Elizabeth** (RSV) Elizabeth is Mary's kinswoman/relative (no word for cousin in Hebrew or Aramaic, Jesus' language)

**Discussion & Questions about Mary, Jesus' & Our Mom**

- ✓ It's important to integrate and not reject Church teaching if you wish to be Catholic

**See also Catholic Catechism:** Vatican.va. [http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\\_\\_\\_P2C.HTM](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/___P2C.HTM), 2012.

**References**

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**Queen Mother: A Biblical Theology of Mary's Queenship**. Edward Sri, General Editor Dr. Scott Hahn. Emmaus Road Publishing, 2005.

**Revised Standard Version (RSV) & New American Bible (NAB)**, Congregatio pro Clericis - <http://www.clerus.org>, Biblia Clerus, Piazza Pio XII, 3 - 00193 Roma - ITALIA, © 2008 Catholic Software.