

Compare With: "The Catholic Tradition on Defining a Cult"

Catholic Teaching on the Virgin Mary

Assumption and Coronation (The Catholic Answer: pg. 12, July/Aug. 2009) www.osv.com

Q. ... explain the scriptural and factual basis for the two Marian mysteries of the Assumption and the Coronation? I can't find a biblical basis, and simply saying the catechism says so is not a good argument for my Protestant friends.

***If there is a book I can get that factually substantiates these mysteries, please let me know.**

A. ... God preserved the Blessed Virgin from all stain of original sin. The Church speaks of this fact in the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception.

By grace the Virgin lived a sinless life. Therefore, at the end of her life on earth, she would not be subject to death as we know it. Her Assumption necessarily followed from the Immaculate Conception.

... the dogma of the Assumption, like the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, is not a doctrine the Church proposes simply on the grounds that it can be deduced in some irrefutable way from Scripture.

... the reality of Mary's assumption into heaven with the doctrinal authority given to the ***successor of St. Peter in Pope Pius XII's 1950 apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus*.**

... Gradually through the centuries the Holy Spirit unfolded in the mind of the Church the significance of our Blessed Mother's presence with her divine Son, King of Heaven, as His and our Queen Mother. The doctrine of Her coronation simply recognizes our Blessed Mother's exalted status in heaven.

***... (The Assumption and the Coronation) were reaffirmed by the fathers of the Second Vatican Council in *Lumen Gentium* (No. 59).**

{Other Articles on the Catholic Virgin Mary}

From: Aid to the Church in Need to Gary Westgerdes. www.churchinneed.org

Keeping The Faith Alive - February 2012 Sister Jelenka's Rosary brought her strength and comfort ...

... Following the Light of Mary - "God's loveliest work of art, The woman clothed with the sun, Who is our protection and our refuge." - Father Werenfried van Straaten (1913-2003)
Through their Spirituality, these Contemplative Sisters Open a Door to GOD for Us.
Will you help these young women ... serving God and Following the Light of Mary?

.....
8A ... Friday evening, October 7, 2011 ... Celina, Ohio Prayer events set in Celina and St. Henry
An America Needs Fatima Public Rosary Crusade will be held in Celina and St. Henry.
Prayer events will be held at noon Oct. 15 ...

“America needs a clear direction, a great purpose and the means to achieve it ...
The essence of our lady’s message is to open our eyes to the gravity of today’s moral corruption, to explain it in light of God’s plans and to outline how to prevent the chastisement,” the America Needs Fatima website, www.americaneedsfatima.org, says.

A letter from the World Apostolate of Fatima (Oct. 2011) WWW.WAFUSA.ORG

Dear Friend of Our Lady’s Blue Army.

... *protect our children* from teen suicide, drug use, casual sex, abortion, binge drinking, pornography, war... a symptom of a society that has turned away from God? ... Our *spiritual growth* was considered the most important ...

But with very little *spiritual guidance*, many children today are not armed with a *strong faith* to help them resist temptation and live a Moral and Godly life.

... **How do we live the responsibility that God has passed to us?**

How do we teach the children well?

How do we ignite their faith and keep the fire burning through their lives?

One Answer: Our Lady of Fatima’s Message.

Our Apostolate ... *teach our children the Message of Fatima in communion with Church teachings.*

Children who need to hear that Our Lady loves them ... her way is the way to Christ ... prayer and sacrifice is the key to ... eternal salvation.

{**Gary Westgerdes:** Check out Pamphlet on website Home page - **The Keys of Heaven.**

Our Lady of Guadalupe -- Patroness of the Americas

“Let not your heart be disturbed. Do not fear any sickness or anguish.

Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection?

Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold?

What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything.”

(Words of Our Lady to Juan Diego)

Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe

By: Pope John Paul II, Mexico City 1979.

Remember, *O most gracious Virgin of Guadalupe*, that in your apparitions on Mount Tepeyac you promised to show pity and compassion to all who, loving and trusting you, seek your help and protection. Accordingly, listen now to our supplications and grant us consolation and relief. We are full of hope that, *relying on your help*, nothing can trouble or affect us. As *you have remained with us through your admirable image*, So now obtain for us the *graces we need*. Amen.

{**Gary Westgerdes: A Word of Thought**} **From the Roman Catholic Bible:**

THE NEW AMERICAN BIBLE Saint Joseph Edition NIHIL OBSTAT & IMPRIMATUR: July 27, 1970

2 Corinthians 11:13-15 Such men are false apostles. They practice deceit in their disguise as apostles of Christ. And little wonder! For even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. It comes as no surprise that his ministers disguise themselves as ministers of the justice of God.

2 Peter 2:1 **False Teachers. 1.** ... there were false prophets among God's people, and among you also there will be false teachers who will smuggle in pernicious heresies. They will go so far as to deny the Master who acquired them for his own ...

(Commentary below: 2:1ff The pattern of false teaching in the Old Testament recurs in apostolic times among the people of the New, and will be repeated (10-22) before the final cataclysm at the end of the world. (Mt. 24:11). It is accompanied by denial of faith in Christ ... and contempt for the way of salvation.)

Should Catholics Evangelize at Work? (pg. 6, Mar/Apr 2012)

Helping Others see "the light" by: **Kevin Lowry**

... the author of "**Faith at Work: Finding Purpose Beyond the Paycheck**"

(Our Sunday Visitor, 2012). His website is www.gratefulconvert.com

... Tim meant well, but what really concerned him was my rumored interest in the Catholic Church.

Unfortunately (for Tim at least), I had passed the point of no return. *It had taken two separate stints at Franciscan University of Steubenville, and close to 10 years of grappling with questions of religion. But then came the miraculous tipping point: A new acquaintance named SCOTT HAHN gave me a ROSARY. And I prayed it.*

Within three weeks, I wanted nothing more than to become Catholic.

... Our non-Catholic colleagues sometimes have a less than favorable view of the Church and consider us spiritually imperiled. ... for example, that Catholics aren't even Christian, and that we're all going straight to hell ...

... If your ____ has taken the time to evangelize you, what are they really doing?

First and foremost, they are seeing your soul -- the core of your being -- as valuable. They are attempting to give you the most precious gift they possess.

If you respond with gratitude, appreciating ... the importance of the gift they are attempting to give, this will serve to deepen your relationship. You have just demonstrated respect ...

If he knows you'll listen and treat him with respect, he might ease up a tad ...

There are countless ways to deal graciously with the evangelizing efforts ...

:Be humble :Be patient ... :Pray ... :Do not get into arguments ... :Do not distance yourself ...

:Do not speak negatively about the other individual ...

:Do not give in. No matter how persuasive a ____ may be, **WE HAVE THE FULLNESS OF FAITH, A treasure beyond compare.**

Prized Possession on Parade: (from: The Daily Standard, Sept. 17, 2010)

by: the Rev. Barry Stechschulte of the Coldwater cluster of Catholic Churches.

“When you have **a treasure** -- a prized possession -- you want everyone to see It ... The Catholic Church also has **a treasure** ... The most prized treasure of the Catholic Church will be taken to the streets ... in Coldwater.

... the Blessed Sacrament ... our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ under the appearance of a round, white piece of bread, and held in a golden vessel for all to see and adore ...

... Jesus Christ is present in a very real way in the consecrated bread in every Catholic Church in the world. And we want everyone to know it. Our Lord is with us! ...

*It all goes back to Christ's words in the Gospel -- “This is My Body” (Matthew 26:26), words that the Catholic priesthood repeats, bringing Christ to us here today in His saving sacrifice. We call this the Sacrifice of the Mass, or the Eucharist. It is the center of Catholic life and worship. Christ is present “sacramentally” under the signs of bread and wine. We call His presence in this way the “Blessed Sacrament.” ... As a Catholic, in the same way that I believe in the Word of God expressed in the Bible, **I believe in Christ's presence in the Blessed Sacrament.** And it is **a treasure** ...”*

{Gary Westgerdes: Consider what Apostles: John & Matthew Wrote:

Jesus answered them: “I assure you, you are not looking for me because you have seen signs but because you have eaten your fill of the loaves.

You should not be working for perishable food but for food that remains unto life eternal ... they said ... **“What must we do to perform the works of God?”** Jesus replied: **“This is the work of God: Have faith in the One whom He sent.”** ...**“Indeed, this is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks upon the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life. Him I will raise up on the last day.”**... It is the Spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words I spoke to you are spirit and life. **John 6:26-29, 40**

Jesus ... “I am the light of the world. No follower of mine shall ever walk in darkness; no, he shall possess the light of life.” **John 8:12**

Jesus: ... “My solemn word is this: I am the sheep gate ... I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be safe. He will go in and out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy. I came that they might have life and have it to the full. I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. **John 10:7, 9-11**

Jesus told her: “I am the resurrection and the life: whoever believes in Me, Though he should die, will come to life; and whoever is alive and Believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?” **“Yes Lord,”** she replied, **“I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God: He who is to come into the world.”** **John 11:25-27**

Jesus performed many other signs as well - signs not recorded here - in the presence of His disciples. But these have been recorded to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, The Son of God, so that through this faith You may have life in His name. **John 20:30, 31**

“Teacher, which commandment of the law is the greatest?”

Jesus: “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God With your whole heart With your whole soul, and With all your mind.’ (Mark 12:30 With all your strength.)

This is the greatest and first commandment.” **Matthew 22:36-38**

(Scripture taken from the Catholic: New American Bible)}

{Gary: Have You Been Reluctant to Read God's Word Because of an Element of Fear, Brought on by Realizing That Major Catholic Doctrines Are Based on TRADITION?}

{Gary: Back To MARY using the Catholic: New American Bible.

Did MARY have other children or was she a Perpetual Virgin?

Jesus and His Family. The Gospel of Mark: “His mother and his brothers arrived. Standing

outside they sent word to Him and called Him. A crowd seated around Him told Him, 'Your mother and your brothers [and your sisters] are outside asking for you.' But He said to them in reply, 'Who are my mother and [My] brothers?' And looking around at those seated in the circle He said, 'Here are My mother and My brothers. **[For] whoever does the will of God is My brother and sister and mother.**' Mark 3:31-35.

Bible footnotes:

3:20-35 Within the narrative of the coming of Jesus' relatives (20-21) is inserted the account of the unbelieving scribes from Jerusalem who attributed Jesus' power over demons to Beelzebub (22-30); ... There were those even among the relatives of Jesus who disbelieved and regarded Jesus as *out of His mind* (21). Against this background, Jesus is informed of the arrival of His mother and brothers [and sisters] (32). He responds by showing that not family ties but doing God's will (35) is decisive in the kingdom; cf the note on Mt. 12:46-50.

... the point of the story is the same in both gospels:

Natural kinship with Jesus counts for nothing; only one who *does the will of His heavenly Father* belongs to His true family.

3:32 *Your brothers:* see the note on Mk. 6:3.

The question of meaning here would not have arisen
but for the faith of the church in *Mary's perpetual virginity*.

Compiled by: Gary Westgerdes from Catholic materials.

www.thekeysofheaven.com