

# Marian Bible Study



~~May 6~~

~~May 13~~

May 20

May 27

# Let's start with a prayer

## Sub Tuum Praesidium ("Beneath Your Protection")

We fly to thy patronage, O holy Mother of God;  
Despise not our petitions in our necessities,  
but deliver us always from all dangers,  
O glorious and blessed Virgin.  
Amen.

The prayer is an early form of the *Memorare* that dates to the third century, before the Council of Ephesus declared Mary as the Mother of God.

# Last week's question



Were there consecrated virgins?

Exodus 38:8

<sup>8</sup> He made the basin of bronze with its stand of bronze, from the mirrors of the women who served at the entrance to the tent of meeting.

2 Maccabees 3:19

<sup>19</sup> Women, girded with sackcloth under their breasts, thronged the streets. Some of the young women who were kept indoors ran together to the gates, and some to the walls, while others peered out of the windows.

# Last week's question



## Were there consecrated virgins?

Luke 2

<sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

# Last week's question



The Presentation of Virgin Mary in the Temple.



# Last week's question



## Resources:

<https://aleteia.org/2018/11/21/this-is-the-story-of-marys-presentation-in-the-temple/>

# Immaculate Conception



Feast day: December 8.

In the Ineffabilis Deus ("Ineffable God") of 8<sup>th</sup> of December, 1854, Pius IX pronounced and defined that the Blessed Virgin Mary "in the first instance of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace granted by God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the human race, was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin."

# What does Immaculate Conception mean?



“... in the first instance of her conception ...”

Conception means that when her soul was created and infused into her body, Mary was made exempt from original sin and sanctifying grace was granted to her before sin could have taken effect in her soul.





# What does Immaculate Conception mean?



“... by a singular privilege and grace granted by God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the human race, ...”

This grace comes through the merits of Jesus Christ, Mary needed the redeeming Saviour to obtain this exemption.

Example: The analogy of debt.



# What does Immaculate Conception mean?



"...was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin."

Depraved emotions, passions, and debilities caused by original sin were excluded.

Original holiness, innocence and justice that were given to Adam and Eve were given to Mary, but temporal penalties – sorrow, bodily infirmities, and death were not taken away.

# Immaculate Conception tells us:



1. Mary's preservation from original sin is the entire person of the Blessed Virgin, that is, both her body and soul, and not her soul alone.

This took place at the beginning of her human conception, the initial instant of her existence as a human person or an embodied soul within her mother's womb.

# Immaculate Conception tells us:



2. Mary is the only human person (Jesus is a Divine Person) to have been conceived immaculately in the entire course of salvation history.

# Immaculate Conception tells us:



3. Mary is redeemed by her Son by a unique kind of redemption, usually called "preservative," whereby she was kept free from all sin through her life, both original and personal.

# Immaculate Conception tells us:



4. Mary is not affected by Adam's and Eve's sins.

# Some misunderstanding of Immaculate Conception:



Only Mary needs the grace of Immaculate Conception, her parents (Sts Joachim and Anne) do not have to be.

This grace does not have to be inherited.

# Mary as the second Eve in the scriptures



The Gospel of John tells how Jesus addressed Mary as 'woman'. (The wedding at Cana, on His Cross)

John wishes to show that Mary is the second Eve. In Genesis 2:7-25, Eve was referred to as 'woman' and Adam as 'man'.



# Mary as the second Eve in the scriptures



<sup>14</sup> The Lord God said to the serpent, ...

“<sup>15</sup> I will put enmity between you and the woman,

and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel.”

(Genesis 3: 14 – 15)

# Mary as the second Eve in the scriptures



## **The Woman and the Dragon (Revelation 12)**

12 A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

<sup>2</sup> She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pangs, in the agony of giving birth... <sup>5</sup> And she gave birth to a son, a male child, who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron. But her child was snatched away and taken to God and to his throne;

# Mary as the second Eve by the Church Fathers



St Justin Martyr. (In 'Dialogue with Trypho' paragraph 100)

For Eve, who was a virgin and undefiled, having conceived the word of the serpent, brought forth disobedience and death. But the Virgin Mary received faith and joy, when the angel Gabriel announced the good tidings to her that the Spirit of the Lord would come upon her, ...

... And by her has He been born, to whom we have proved so many Scriptures refer, and by whom God destroys both the serpent and those angels and men who are like him; ....

# Mary as the second Eve by the Church Fathers



St Irenaeus. (In 'Against Heresies' III.22.4)

In accordance with this design, Mary the Virgin is found obedient, saying, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to your word." But Eve was disobedient; for she did not obey when as yet she was a virgin.

# Mary as the second Eve by the Church Fathers



Tertulian (In 'On the Flesh of Christ' 17)

As Eve had believed the serpent, so Mary  
believed the angel.

# Mary as the second Eve by the Church Fathers



Cyril of Jerusalem (In 'Catheceses' 12.29)

... for Eve was begotten of Adam, and not conceived of a mother, but as it were brought forth of man alone. Mary, therefore, paid the debt, of gratitude, when not by man but of herself alone in an immaculate way she conceived of the Holy Ghost by the power of God.

# Biblical Foundation of the Immaculate Conception



"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you!" (Lk 1: 28).

*Kecharitoméne – Full of Grace*

# The necessity of Immaculate Conception by reason



The body of Jesus which was formed by Mary, could never have belonged to one who was a slave of Satan. God could give her this privilege, therefore He gave it to her.

This was developed by Bl. John Duns Scotus from St Anselm's axiom: "de cuit, potuit, ergo fecit". (it was possible, it was fitting, therefore it was accomplished)



Q&A

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# Regina Caeli / Queen of Heaven

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

V. Let us pray.

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Resources:

1. Catechism of the Catholic Church.  
([https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\\_INDEX.HTM](https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM))
2. St Paul Centre for Biblical Theology, Holy Queen, Lesson 2.2.  
<https://stpaulcenter.com/holy-queen-lesson-2-2/>
3. Ineffabilis Deus. <https://www.papalencyclicals.net/pius09/p9ineff.htm>
4. New Advent Catholic Encyclopedia.  
<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/07674d.htm>
5. Aletia - This is the story of Mary's Presentation in the Temple.  
<https://aleteia.org/2018/11/21/this-is-the-story-of-marys-presentation-in-the-temple/>
6. Aletia - This is the story of the Virgin Mary's miraculous birth.  
<https://aleteia.org/2018/09/08/this-is-the-story-of-the-virgin-marys-miraculous-birth/>
7. John Duns Scotus on the Immaculate Conception.  
<https://udayton.edu/imri/mary/j/john-duns-scotus-on-the-immaculate-conception.php>