

# FAMILY FAITH FORMATION – 2024/2025

SAINT PATRICK'S & SAINT LUKE'S

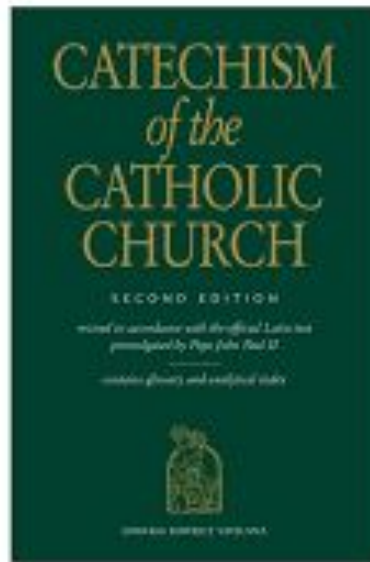


# THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- To help you learn more about God so that you can deepen your own personal relationship with Him.
- To give you the confidence to speak about your Catholic faith with others.
- To help you as you guide your children in their own personal relationship with God.
- To provide you with an opportunity to spend more time with your immediate family and also with our parish family.
- To provide you with a short time for prayer and an opportunity to use the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

# THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church was written to set forth what we believe as Catholics.



# THE PURPOSE OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

- We will use the Catechism as the foundation for our studies.
- The Catechism is divided into 4 sections. They are:
  - The Creed – What we believe
  - The Sacraments – How we are sanctified
  - The Commandments – How we are to live
  - Prayer – How we relate and interact with God

# INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMANDMENTS

- This year, we will be studying the Commandments. They serve as the guides for how we live as Catholics.
- However, since October is dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary, we are going to take a look at Marian devotions before do more with the Commandments.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- Mary was born about 20 B.C. probably in Jerusalem.
- Tradition says that she was the daughter of Saint Joachim and Ann (their feast day is July 26<sup>th</sup>).
- Mary was the wife of Saint Joseph (Mt1:18-25).
- When Mary's life on earth came to an end, she was taken up into heaven, body and soul. This is called the Assumption.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- When God created Mary, He preserved her free from Original Sin.
- This is called the Immaculate Conception.



# MARAIN DEVOTIONS

- Mary is the mother of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
- We celebrate the birth of Christ on Christmas; the formal name for this day is the Nativity of the Lord.
- Because Jesus is God, it means that Mary is the mother of God.
- Jesus was Mary's only child.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- Some believe Mary had other children and hence was not a virgin. For example, they cite Mt 13:55-56 and Mt 1:25.
- However, “until” as used here in the Scriptures does not imply any conclusions about the future.
- Also, the Jews had no word for cousin. All members of the tribe were brother and sisters.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- Worship and adoration belong to God alone.
- Through worship, we acknowledge our total dependence upon God.
- Devotion is love or loyalty or enthusiasm for a person, activity, or cause.
- Honor and devotion are given to people who have followed God's teachings.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- We honor Mary because she did God's will perfectly (Lk 1:38).
- We honor Mary out of respect and obedience to Scripture (Lk 1:48).

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- Intercession is when someone steps in to help another.
- Mary asked Jesus to help a young couple at their wedding. You can read the story of the Wedding at Cana in Jn 2:1-12.
- Mary is always ready to intercede with Jesus for us.
- We should not hesitate to ask for her help.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- Some comments on the “Hail Mary”
- The first half of this prayer is Scriptural.
- When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary (Lk 1:28), he said, “Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.”
- When Saint Elizabeth greeted Mary (Lk 1:42), she said, “Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”
- The Council of Ephesus (431) affirmed Mary’s title “Mother of God.”

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- The word “Hail” (in Latin “Ave”) means “greetings.”
- “Full of grace” is difficult to translate from the Greek. It is only used in one other place in the Bible and then to refer to Jesus (Jn 1:14).
- “Fruit of thy womb” refers to her child, Jesus.
- Mary can be called Mother of God because she is the mother of a Person, Jesus Christ, not just the mother of a nature.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- The Rosary is a favorite prayer of Catholics around the world.
- There is a tradition that it originated with Saint Dominic. He was working to convert the Albigensians who denied the Incarnation.
- It is said that *Mary* appeared to him and gave him the Rosary to use as a way of overcoming the Albigensians.
- When saying the Rosary, we both honor *Mary* and ask for her help and intercession.



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

St.  
Dominic



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- The parts of the Rosary ...
  - The crucifix
  - The first five beads
  - The medal
  - The decades

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- The Prayers ...
  - The Apostles' Creed
  - The Lord's Prayer
  - The Hail Mary
  - The Glory Be
  - The Fatima Prayer

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- The *Mysteries* ...
  - Joyful
  - Luminous
  - Sorrowful
  - Glorious
- Each *Mystery* is divided into five decades

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- The Rosary combines vocal prayer and meditation.
- As one says the different prayers of the Rosary out loud, they are to meditate on the mysteries in their thoughts.
- As an example, consider the 5<sup>th</sup> Sorrowful mystery, the Crucifixion ...

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- The power of the Rosary ...
- The Battle of Lepanto, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 1571.



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS





# MARIAN DEVOTIONS



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- Pope Saint Pius V said,
- “By the Rosary, the darkness of heresy has been dispelled and the light of the Catholic faith shines out in all its brilliancy.”

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- Some facts:
- Last navel battle using ships propelled by oars.
- Our Lady of Guadalupe flag/image.
- Miguel Cervantes was one of the soldiers.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

- What is a Mother?

For human beings the primary definition is this:

The female parent to a child.

A secondary definition is:

A woman in relation to her child or children.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Notice that the word mother refers to a specific kind of relationship between people, that of a woman to her child.

Relational words by their very nature point to the relationship between two things.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

There are many relational words:

Velocity – The relationship between time and distance.

Molecule – The relationship between two or more elements.

Husband, cousin, grandmother, aunt, brother are all words that describe human relationships.



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Relational words have no meaning when separated from the things they connect.

You cannot be a mother if you have no children.

You cannot be a brother if you have no siblings.



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Mary is referred to as “mother” in various places in the Bible.

She is the mother of Jesus, the Christ.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

However,

Is she also the mother of God?

Nestorius, the Patriarch of Constantinople from 428 – 431 said “No.”

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Nestorius argued that the Son of God, the Divine Word, has always existed and Mary was created.

Since the Son existed before, how could Mary be the mother? No child comes before its mother.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

The issue does not concern age and time, but relationship, and in this case, a relationship connected with the Incarnation.

Recall that the Incarnation refers to that event at which the Son of God united to His divine nature our human nature. From that point on, He can be called true God and true man.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

This union of two natures in one person has a special name.

It is called “the hypostatic union.”

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

The Council of Ephesus (held in 431) declared that Mary could be called “Mother of God.”

In Greek, “Theotokos” and not just “Christotokos” as Nestorius proposed.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Titles of our Lord include:

Lord, Son of God, Christ, Jesus, Savior,  
Word, God, Master, Messiah, Redeemer.

Some only refer to His divine nature and others to His human nature and some to both.



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Mary is mother to the person and not to the nature of the Son of God.

Hence, she is both mother of Jesus and mother of God (and for that matter, mother of any other title we use for the second person of the most Holy Trinity).

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

When Jesus was hanging on the cross, He gave to Mary a new son, Saint John and to Saint John a new mother.

Why? Mary would have no one to take care of her after Jesus died.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Consider what this means for us.

We are brothers and sisters in the Lord by virtue of our baptism.

We are related to each other as spiritual siblings.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

If Saint John is our brother in Christ, then that means we are also children of Mary.

We are adopted sons and daughters of God which makes us brothers and sisters of Jesus Himself.

Remember too that Jesus taught us to call God our Father which makes Jesus our brother.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

If Jesus Himself is our brother, then that means His mother is our mother too.

Mary considers us her spiritual children and she cares for us as any loving mother would do for her children.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Mary is also Queen of Heaven.

In ancient times, the queen was the mother of the king and not the wife.

Jesus proclaims that He is a king and that His kingdom is not of this world.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

If Jesus is a king, then *Mary* is a queen.

If Jesus is the King of Heaven, then *Mary* is the Queen of Heaven.

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS





# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Major feasts of Mary and their meanings:

- Mary, the Mother of God on January 1<sup>st</sup> (New Year's Day)
- The Annunciation on March 25<sup>th</sup>
- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15<sup>th</sup>
- The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on December 8<sup>th</sup>

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Other feasts include:

- Our Lady of Lourdes (2/11)
- Our Lady of Fatima (5/13)
- The Queenship of Mary (8/22)
- The Nativity of Mary (8/9)
- Our Lady of Sorrows (8/15)
- The Holy Name of Mary (9/12)
- Our Lady of the Rosary (10/7)
- The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (11/21)
- Our Lady of Guadalupe (12/12)

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS



# MARIAN DEVOTIONS





# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Other Marian Prayers:

The Angelus

The Hail Holy Queen

The Memorare

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

In your homes:

Place a statue or picture of Mary

Wear a miraculous medal or the  
scapular

# MARIAN DEVOTIONS

Mary is our spiritual mother and she loves us very much. She will always watch over us and take care of us. Most of all, she wants us to grow in love with her Son, Jesus. For these reasons, we should stay close to her and always pray to her, especially in times of greatest need.



# HOMework

- **Parents at Home:**
- Watch the videos on Marian Devotions.
- Make sure your children have memorized the "Hail Mary" prayer.
- Listen to them recite the Hail Mary out loud and correct any mistakes.

# HOMEWORK

- Discuss with your children why we honor Mary.
- Explain to them of how she is our spiritual mother.
- Say the Rosary together in October.

# HOMework

- Ask your children if and when they are saying their prayers.
- Ask your children why we should pray to Mary, and also whether or not they personally pray to Mary.
- See that your children complete any homework assignments they have.

# FAMILY PRAYER

