



What Makes Us Catholic?

Mary, Mother of God

Do Catholics really believe that God has a mother? Did Mary really exist before God? Is Mary some kind of goddess?

That is how many non-Catholics interpret the title: Mother of God. We all know that Mary did not exist before the Blessed Trinity, so where does this title come from? Why do Catholics call Mary, the Mother of God?

The origin is the Bible. We read in Luke's Gospel about Mary's visitation to Elizabeth: "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"

We as Catholics also believe that Mary is the Mother of God because she carried in her womb a divine person – Jesus, God, "in the flesh" (John 1:14) and she contributed the genetic matter to the human form God took in Jesus.

Furthermore, before Jesus died, He gave us His mother when He said to John, "Behold your mother." Jesus was not minimalizing His relationship with His mother through these words given in response to the crowd, He was expanding it. He hungers through Divine love to include all of us in the "family circle" of God.

During the month of May, please review the Knowing and Growing Our Faith section in the bulletin for more information on Mary.

Want to read more about this topic?

Sources:

- Catholic Answers: www.catholic.com/tracts/mary-mother-of-god
- Luke 1:41-43
- John 1:14/John 19:26-27
- Catholic Online

Do you have questions on this topic, or other topics you would like to learn more about? Please complete the back side of this sheet and leave it in the box on the "What Makes Us Catholic?" stand.

Please note your question on this topic, or other topics you would like to learn more about below and leave it in the box on the "What Makes Us Catholic?" stand.

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