

Mary, Virgin and Mother

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(Last in a Series)

In the third session of Vatican II on October 29, 1963, the question arose as to whether there should be a separate document on our Blessed Mother. The vote was almost equally divided: 1,114 voted that the schema on our Lady should be incorporated in the one on the Church; 1,074 voted it should not—a difference of only forty votes. Yet exactly a year later, October 29, 1964, the same assembly almost unanimously approved the text on our Lady that appears in the documents on the Church (2,080 votes against 16).

How did this happen? At first those who were opposed to treating our Lady in the line with practical life, to create a document on the Church felt that the revisionists were trying to flatten out Mary's ex-

cesses of the Counter-Reformation. New needs required a fresh reassessment of the Church's teaching in every field. The Marian question at the Council was not raised to rob Mary of her exceptional privileges, but to harmonize what was best in the Marian movement with the work of the Council as seen in the light of the new and deeper appreciation of the bible, the fathers, history, ecclesiology, theology, ecumenism, and liturgy.

As a result, the conciliar text on our Lady presents the classic doctrine on Mary as it is found in the papal encyclicals and tradition. But it presents it in a language closer to the sources and stripped of the accidental details too obviously representative of a particular place, temperament, or period. The basic truths are there, but they are there in a language and in a context—least offensive to our separated brothers and best calculated to allay unrest and suspicion.

The last chapter of the document on the Church dealing with Mary is the only chapter with official headings. These divide the text into three parts. The first part elaborates Mary's role in the economy of salvation as shown in the Old and New Testament. Her role is not merely passive, but one of cooperation "in the work of human salvation through free faith and obedience." For free consent made her Mother of God and her divine motherhood on the basis of all her privileges. Prior to the Annunciation, the world was a battlefield between two contrary movements. One was a movement of purification, thus the first woman had sinned and her sin had defiled all her children. But the Messiah could not be born in a sinful environment. So when God intervened into history, He did so not only to select that environment but also to purify it from sin. The purification became more intense as the group selected to ancestor the Messiah became smaller and smaller, thus the first two of the Old Testament were saints of the New: St. Anne and St. Joachim. It remained only for a woman to be conceived, like Eve, sinless and full of grace.

The movement of faith was necessary for the first woman broke faith with God when she preferred the devil's word to God's. So God's intervention into history began with a demand for faith from Abraham and his children—for faith especially in miraculous births such as Sara's and Anna's and Elizabeth's. It remained, therefore, for a woman to come who, unlike Eve, would take God's word for such an unheard-of thing as a virgin birth.

In Mary both these movements—of purification and of faith—found their climax. Thus the angel hailed Mary "Full of grace" and Elizabeth greeted her, "Blessed art thou who hast believed."

The second part of this chapter treats of Mary's role in relation to the Church. Her role is twofold: she is mediator and she is model of the Church. One can share in Christ's mediatorship as one can in His priesthood. As mediator, Mary does not stand between Christ and us, but rather as one who makes our union with Christ more direct. As Virgin-Mother, she is the model of the Church. Each is mother; each is virgin. Both conceive by the same Spirit without human seed. Christianity is not just a doctrine, it is an event; it is not just a truth, it is a person. Christ, His Church bears this

imprint: it is not only a collection of people, but His bride, realized in persons and individualized in them and existing in them.

There is one Christian in whom the Church is realized in her full perfection: our Lady. She in her person sums up not only what the Church is in her pilgrimage, but also what she will be in her glorification. That is why the definition of the Assumption was so timely. The third part of this chapter speaks of the veneration of Mary. The basic reason for this veneration is again given: Mary's divine motherhood. Liturgical cult to Mary is especially commended (the one thing Schillebeeckx somehow left out of his excellent book "The Mother of Our Redemption"). The Council also charged that "practices and exercises of devotion toward her be treasured as recommended by the teaching authority of the Church in the course of centuries" (#67). Hence the rosary is not to be slighted! Nor statues, nor images of Mary!

Pope Paul VI rounded off the Conciliar Constitution by proclaiming Mary as "Mother of the Church" in his closing address at the end of the third session (November 21, 1964). By according our Lady this title, the Pope "integrated" Mary into the Church and at the same time showed her preeminent position.

So closely related are Mary and the Church she mothers that St. John used the same image to represent them both. "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; and being with child, she cried travailing in birth. . . . And she brought forth a man child." (Apoc. 12:1, 2, 5).

The great sign in the sky of history is the Church. For St. John, the Church went back to the Garden of Eden; to him, the woman personifying this Church is Eve. The sun symbolizes the messianic seed borne in Eve's flesh. He would crush the world of sin, symbolized by the moon under her feet. The crown of twelve stars symbolized the twelve tribes of Israel—a crown, because of all Eve's children, only Sem was chosen; the Messiah would be a semite; of all the semites, only Abraham's family; of all his children, only Isaac; then Jacob; of his twelve sons, only Juda—so that the people of God were almost exclusively Judeans: Jews.

And the narrowing process continued until in the fullness of time a great sign appeared again in the heavens: A woman—a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. . . . and the virgin's name was Mary" (Lk. 1:27).

So ends our series of essays on the magnificent document of Vatican II on the Church. Do read it. God bless you.



JERRY FLYNN

Jerry Flynn to Open Advertising, PR Firm

Jerry Flynn, for 15 years a broadcasting sales executive and an air personality for WROC-TV, announces the creation of Jerry Flynn Associates, an advertising and public relations firm, with offices to open June 1, at 518 Temple Building.

Best known as a master of ceremonies for dozens of affairs throughout New York State each year, Flynn is a past president of the Rochester Press Radio Club and a member of the Ad Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Sales Executive Club and Locust Hill Country Club.

Married and the father of four, he recently established residence at 32 Warder Drive in Pittsford.

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POP TOPICS

Well, what do you know—some groups are certainly anxious to earn those profitable POP points. Though we just sent out the Label Report Forms (tapes) for this second Game, two groups have already made turns: St. John the Evangelist Rosary Society, Greece, and St. Bridget's Rosary Society, Eastfield. The respective chairmen of these groups—Mrs. Shirley Fess and Mrs. Howard Ross are really on the ball.

Be sure to distribute to your members the POP Shopping Lists which we sent. If by any chance you receive lists which didn't include Loblaw's and Pepsi Cola, be sure to call this to members' attention. We prepared some lists before these two companies joined POP, and in the confusion of getting out literally thousands of these lists, we may have included by mistake a few of the incomplete ones.

We've heard many favorable comments about the awards given in our first Game. Everyone seemed pleased with the amount of cash received and determined to earn even more in Game No. 2.

Bonus points are still being given for POP publicity. This means that each time the POP Chairman promotes the program in some special way, the group will earn extra points for her efforts. For the benefit of those who may have forgotten about this publicity, we again offer some suggestions of ways to advertise POP:

1. If you're a church-affiliated group, ask the pastor to include a reminder in the church bulletin.
2. If the group itself publishes some kind of newsletter, insert a notice in that.
3. Prepare a flyer to be distributed to your own members and to anyone else who might be interested in helping your group.
4. Make posters to be displayed in the church, school, school hall, club headquarters, etc.
5. Send us an original recipe using one or more POP Products. By original we mean that it must be made up by some member of your group or handed down in their family—that is, the recipe can't merely be copied from some cookbook or other publication. Secondly, bonus points won't be given for it until it is used in our POP Topics column.
6. Ask the manager of your local Loblaw's to post in the store window a notice that Loblaw's is a POP participant. This will also serve to remind shoppers to save their cash-register-tapes.
7. If you're a school group, award small prizes in the various grades to the student who brings in the most labels, makes the best poster, writes a POP song, etc. etc.

Whatever way you choose to advertise POP, do note this: We can't give those valuable bonus points unless we know about the particular publicity. So please, supply us with some proof—a copy of the church bulletin, newsletter or flyer, a rough drawing of the poster (not the poster itself), a brief account of the special POP promotion. You can attach this "proof" to your turn-in of labels, or you can mail it to us, whichever is more convenient.

Though the first of our "summer" holidays—Memorial Day—will soon be upon us, it's certainly not very summery. Besides, this holiday will occur during the week—a fact which will prevent many from taking off into the wild blue yonder. It might be well, therefore, for stay-at-homes to have a supply of easy-to-prepare food on hand for those unexpected guests that might drop in.

KREY CANNED MEATS are great for just such occasions. Their Brown Gravy with Sliced Beef, Stuffed Peppers, Salisbury Steak,uffed Cabbage or Stippy Joes, are sure easy to prepare—just open the can and heat. Served with hard rolls, a nourishing PRINCE MACARONI Salad, and topped with a tasty ROYAL GELATINE dessert, you'll have a meal that can't be beat. Your guests will be glad they decided to drop in.

CUT OUT AND SAVE

POP SHOPPING LIST

PRODUCT	SAVE
Blue Bonnet Margarine	Wrapper
Chase & Sanborn Coffee	Easy Open Metal Lid
Columbia Banking	Pop Receipt for opening a new savings account of \$50 or more, or adding to your existing account
Hunt's Tomato Paste	Numbered Lid Top
Krey Canned Meats	Label
Loblaw Century	Cash Register Tape
Maplecrest Sausage Co.	Label from any Maplecrest product
Pepsi Reg. or Diet Cola	Bottle Cap
Prince Macaroni Products	Box Front
Royal Desserts	Box Front
Russell Hots and Cold Cuts	Label
Wise Potato Chips	Bag or Box Top

AMUSEMENTS:
Sound of Music, The Bible Ticket Stub

Labels from All the Products listed above will be accepted for the Entire Second Game—that is, from April 1, 1967 thru September 30, 1967. However, WATCH THE COURIER FOR FUTURE ADDITIONS TO THIS LIST.

SAVE LOBLAW REGISTER TAPES FOR AWARDS

POP AWARDS

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Twirlers Set For Convention

The Rochester Teen Twirler Square Dance Club which has performed for many Rochester audiences with its program of folk and square dances has been invited to perform at the National Square Dance Convention in Philadelphia on Thursday, June 29.

More than 10,000 people are expected to attend this 16th national convention of square dancers from all parts of the United States and Canada.

An additional honor has been bestowed on the group by having their sponsor, Dr. Waldo Westwater chosen to moderate a panel on "The Teenager's Viewpoint on Square and Round Dancing."

The Rochester Teen Twirler Square Dance Club like all other local Square Dance Clubs is a non-profit group sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Waldo Westwater and Mr. and Mrs. John Faragher. For more information about the group call 544-6530.

Fourth Degree

The Rev. Richard N. Hughes, Executive Director of Rochester Area Council of Churches was the scheduled speaker at the May 25 dinner meeting of Rochester General Assembly, Fourth Degree, Knights of Columbus at the K. of C. Home, 513 Monroe Ave.

Host for the meeting was Alhambra Musa Caravan, Alphonse A. Salvaggio, grand commander.

SAVE LOBLAW REGISTER TAPES FOR AWARDS

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A POP PRODUCT

Golden Jubilee For Kalmbacher

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Kalmbacher of 86 Eastview Ave. are being honored on the Golden Wedding Anniversary Sunday, May 28, by their daughters Arlene and Jean.

A Mass of Thanksgiving at Ambrose Church will be celebrated at 12:30 p.m. followed by a dinner at the Hospital House for relatives and friends.

Mr. Kalmbacher retired years ago from the Hickey Fman Company after fifty years in the clothing business.

June Couple Mark 25 Years

Mr. and Mrs. Otis F. June, St. Paul St., marked their silver wedding anniversary on May 26 at reception at the Police Club.

The affair was given by their three daughters: Mrs. John Russell, Jr., Mrs. William (and Miss Joyce June.



Catholic laymen and meeting of the Diocese Immaculate Heart of

Hecklers Dis

Toronto — (RNS) — The controversial moderator of small Free Presbyterian Church of Northern Ireland, the Rev. Ian Paisley, was given a Nazi salute by hecklers, who went a barrage of booing had to be escorted out the door of Massey Hall by 10 policemen after delivering a minute sermon.

"I'm happy to be here," clergyman said as he first proached the microphone.

"We're not happy to have you," answered a group of opposed his anti-Catholic views. "Take your bigotry back to land."

During the evening, he evicted 25 hecklers from the audience of 2,000 in famous hall.