

## Communion of Saints / Mary

Welcome to our Inquirers Group

Prayer / Song (back side)

Who we are:

- Facilitators: to help you with your inquiry (Introductions): Jim & Barbara; Deacon Mike & Deon; Cheryl; Edd & Caroline
- Veteran inquirers: they have begun their journey of faith (Introductions): Essence & Connor
- New Inquirers: joining the veterans: \_\_\_\_\_

What we have in common:

- A journey of faith seeking God (Trinity) and the family envisioned from the beginning.

How do we get there:

- The Way Of Jesus
- Inquire about The Way
- Repent and accept Jesus as the Way, the Truth, and the Life
- Help one another to follow Jesus
- When we lose our way, repent, get back on the Way; support one another; Repeat...

A Communion of Saints:

Hebrews 12:1: ...let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith. For the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God. Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart.

Questions: Where am I on this faith journey? What questions do I have about the journey itself?

What have I learned about the journey, about Jesus, about repentance? How can I help others on the journey. How can others help me? What other help is available? What is The Way of Jesus? *Answer whatever questions are most meaningful. No need to answer all.*

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We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord  
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord  
And we pray that our unity will one day be restored  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yeah they'll know we are Christians by our love

We will work with each other, we will work side by side  
We will work with each other, we will work side by side  
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love  
Yeah, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Responses from the groups and comments:

## Communion of Saints

Communion of Saints: Church Militant: still working on salvation

- 2 great commandments and The Way of Jesus
- Helping one another
- Helping those who have gone before us
- Other special help: Trinity, Mary, Saints

Communion of Saints: Church Suffering: Those being purified.

- We can pray for them (2 Macabees 12:38-46)
- [Purgatory explained](#)

Communion of Saints: Church Triumphant: in full eternal union with God as planned

- 1 Cor 2:9: what God has prepared for those who love him.
- St. Mary, our Mother, our pre-eminent intercessor
- Millions of other saints
- Some notables: [Joseph](#), [Peter & Paul](#), [Mother Teresa of Calcutta](#), [Father Damien](#), [Augustine](#), [Ignatius Loyola](#), [Francis of Assisi](#), [Juan Diego](#), [Camillus de Lellis](#), [St. Faustina](#), [Ignatius of Antioch](#), [John Bosco](#), [Katharine Drexel](#), [Mother Seton](#), [Josephine Bakhita](#), [Kateri Tekakwitha](#), [Isaac Jogues](#), [Maria Goretti](#), [Paul Chong Hasang](#), [Rose Philippine Duchesne](#), [Edith Stein](#), [Therese of the Child Jesus](#), [Thomas More](#), [Pier Giorgio Frassati](#), [Maximilian Kolbe](#), [Martin de Porres](#), [Monica](#), [Mary Magdalene](#), [Michael the Archangel](#)

Saint of the Day: <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/>

Questions: Why are the 2 great commandments so important, how is the Way of Jesus meaningful to me, how have others helped me to be a good Christian, how have I helped others, how do I pray for those in Purgatory, why is Purgatory necessary, what saint or saint appeals to me, why is Mary so important. How does it all end. *Answer whatever questions are most meaningful. No need to answer all*

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Responses from the groups: and comments

## MARY

**Hail Mary, Full of Grace (Luke 1:28):** When the Angel Gabriel addressed Mary as “full of grace”, it affirmed that she was without sin (herself conceived without sin) and therefore able to become the mother of Jesus, the Mother of God. As soon as she said, “let it be done”, Jesus was conceived in her womb by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**The Lord is With Thee (Luke 1:43)** When Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth, Elizabeth calls her “mother of my Lord.” Mary is the mother of the person, Jesus. Since He is a divine person, Mary is the Mother of God. Even the Protestant leaders, Martin Luther, John Calvin, and Ulrich Zwingli believed that Mary is the Mother of God. Scot Hahn, a protestant preacher who became Catholic had a difficult time at first accepting the church’s teaching about Mary. Click [HERE](#) to read about his faith journey.

**Blessed art Thou Among Women, and Blessed is the Fruit of Thy Womb, Jesus (Luke 1: 43)** Elizabeth spoke these words when her unborn baby, John the Baptist, leaped in her womb as she greeted Mary. So Mary is the most blessed of all women, and her son is the Son of God.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.** Since Mary is the Mother of God, we can ask her to pray for us any time. Jesus gave his mother to us when he spoke to her and the apostle, John, from the cross saying, “Woman behold your son. Son, behold your mother (John 19:26). She can ask her Son, Jesus, for mercy in our judgment. She asked him for favors on earth (wedding at Cana, John 2: 1-12) so she can also ask him for favors in heaven

### **With the Trinity:**

- Mary is the mother of Jesus, who is the only begotten Son of the Father.
- She is the Mother of God because Jesus, who is God, took on human form in her womb.
- She stayed with Jesus as his Mother from conception until he died on the cross.
- She is seen as "the spouse of the Holy Spirit" because she conceived Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Questions:** Has Mary been an important part of my life, what questions do I have about Mary, what devotions to Mary have I found meaningful, what do I think about praying to Mary, what do I think about the apparitions of Mary: Lourdes, Fatima, Guadalupe.

[Answers to basic questions about Mary](#)

Responses from the groups: and comments

Annunciation from Jesus of Nazareth: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IjBh7Qm-YI8>

The Magnificat: Luke 1:46-55

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;  
my spirit rejoices in God my savior.  
For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness;  
behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed.  
The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.  
His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him.  
He has shown might with his arm, dispersed the arrogant of mind and heart.  
He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones but lifted up the lowly.  
The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy,  
according to his promise to our fathers, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.

### Holy is His Name

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord  
And my spirit exalts in God my savior  
For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness  
And my name will be forever exalted  
For the mighty God has done great things for me  
And His mercy will reach from age to age

And holy, holy, holy is His name

He has mercy in every generation  
He has revealed His power and His glory  
He has cast down the mighty in their arrogance  
And has lifted up the meek and the lonely  
He has come to help His servant Israel  
He remembered His promise to our fathers

And holy, holy, holy is His name

Holy, holy, holy is His name

### **Closing Prayer**