

Reflection Monday Week 10, Mary Mother of the Church 2022

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, a title given to Mary since she gave birth to Christ, the Head of the Church, and became the Mother of the redeemed people before her Son had died on the Cross. Pope Paul VI solemnly confirmed the title in the Second Vatican Council (21/11/64) and decreed that the whole Christian people should use this beautiful title to give still greater honour to the Mother of God.

'The joyous veneration given to the Mother of God by the contemporary Church, in light of reflection on the mystery of Christ and on his nature, cannot ignore the figure of a woman (cf. Gal 4:4), the Virgin Mary, who is both the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church. This was already present in the mind of the Church from the premonitory words of Saint Augustine and Saint Leo the Great. The former says that Mary is the mother of the members of Christ, because with charity she cooperated in the rebirth of the faithful into the Church, while the latter says that the birth of the Head is also the birth of the body, thus indicating that Mary is at once Mother of Christ, the Son of God, and mother of the members of his Mystical Body, which is the Church' (Decree of the Sacred Congregation for Divine Worship).

Like Eve, Mary has enabled life to be given to all here on Earth, like Eve, and also in heaven. We can never thank her enough. Mirroring here Son, Jesus, who gave the whole of his life and whole of his love to win for all freedom from sin and death, Mary gave all her love and the whole of her life while here on earth and now in heaven, so that we will benefit as much as possible from the life Jesus offers us. Mary is a true Mother in every sense of the word.