

**RCIA Lesson 9: Mary and the Saints**  
***We Believe* – Chapter 6: Jesus Gives Us Communion with the Saints**  
**Devotion: Rosary**



**Opening Prayer:**      **The Hail Holy Queen (The Salve Regina)**  
Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy,  
our life, our sweetness, and our hope.  
To you we cry, poor banished children of Eve;  
to you we send up our sighs,  
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.  
Turn, then, most gracious advocate,  
your eyes of mercy toward us;  
and after this, our exile,  
show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.  
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.  
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

**Song:** Breath of Heaven

**Catechism references for further reflection: Mary**

Immaculate Conception: Mary is conceived without sin. CCC 490-494

Assumption: Mary's Assumption into Heaven. CCC 966

Mother of God: Mary, the Mother of God. CCC495

Mary's perpetual virginity: CCC 499-507

**Catechism references for further reflection: The Saints**

Canonization of Saints: Those who lead holy lives were formerly named saints.  
CCC 828

Communion of Saints: All who are joined to Christ on earth, in heaven, and in purgatory.  
CCC 946-962

**Scripture:**

Luke 1:28-38 (Annunciation)

Luke 1: 39-45 (Visitation)

**Questions for Discussion:**

- Why do Catholics believe Mary remained a virgin all her life if the Bible says Jesus had "brothers and sisters"?
- .- What do Catholics really mean when they say they pray to Mary and the Saints?
- Why do Catholics honor Mary and the Saints?
- Why are the Saint's prayers so powerful?
- Can we be drawn closer to God through the Saints? How?
- What are the four Catholic Dogmas about Mary?
- What do they teach us about Jesus' and the Father's plan for salvation?
- Who is your patron Saint? ,Why?
- Are we all called to be Saints or are just some very special people given this call?

**- Rosary**

**- Weekly Gospel Reading: 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Mt 22: 34-40)**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking,

"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

He said to him,

"You shall love the Lord, your God,

with all your heart,

with all your soul,

and with all your mind.

This is the greatest and the first commandment.

The second is like it:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

**- Closing Prayer.**