



**SAMPLE**

# THE BIBLE *and the* VIRGIN MARY

JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE

PARTICIPANT WORKBOOK



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JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE

Nihil obstat: Reverend James M. Dunfee

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Writers: David Scott, Emily Stimpson, Raquel Lopez, Joan Watson, Matthew Leonard

Media/Print Production: Matthew Leonard, Falling Upwards Productions LLC, Scionka INC, Nate Roberts, Alex Renn

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St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology  
1468 Parkview Circle  
Steubenville, OH 43952

Front Cover image: The Madonna of the Rose (Madonna della rosa).  
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Immaculate Conception. Photo Credit: Restored Traditions

# WELCOME TO JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE

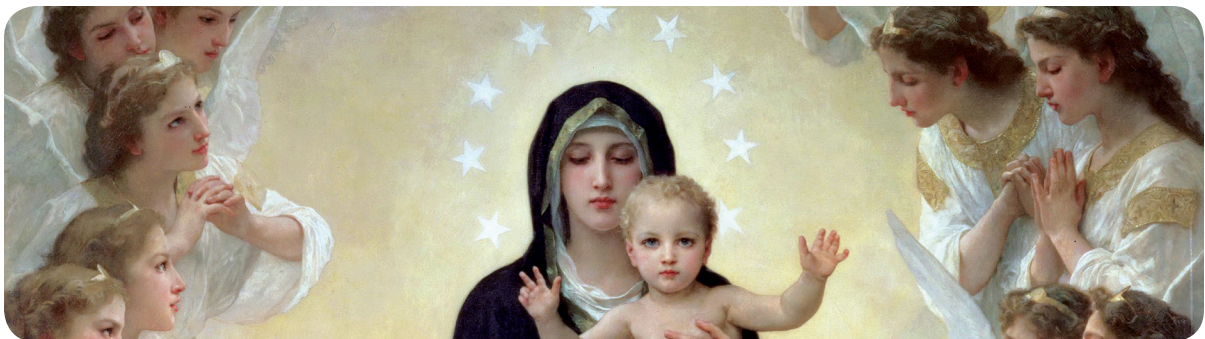


Journey Through Scripture is the St. Paul Center's dynamic Bible study program designed to help ordinary Catholics grow in their knowledge of the Scriptures while deepening their understanding of the riches of our faith. Distinctively Catholic, Journey Through Scripture reads the Bible from the heart of the Church, engaging both the Old and New Testaments and how they work together. It's grounded in history, yet actively engages topics faced by today's Catholic. More than just an ordinary Bible study, it's biblical catechesis.

This Participant Workbook will serve as your companion for the duration of *The Bible and the Virgin Mary*, one of the studies in the Journey Through Scripture family. It contains summary notes, lesson objectives, review and discussion questions, and more. There's even room to take notes.

At the end of every lesson are suggested readings designed to help you go deeper into the material. These readings come from Scripture, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and *Hail, Holy Queen* by Dr. Scott Hahn, the book upon which this study is based. *Hail, Holy Queen* is available for purchase at [www.JourneyThroughScripture.com](http://www.JourneyThroughScripture.com)

So get ready to explore the beauty and riches revealed to us in God's Word through his Church. It's going to change your life!



Queen of Angels. Photo Credit: Restored Traditions





# LESSON ONE

## A BIBLICAL INTRODUCTION TO MARY



The Madonna of the Rose (Madonna della rosa). Photo Credit: Museo del Prado, Madrid, Spain / HIP / Art Resource, NY.



The Niccolini-Cowper Madonna, detail. Photo Credit: Restored Traditions

# LESSON ONE

## A BIBLICAL INTRODUCTION TO MARY



If ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ, as St. Jerome famously stated, then ignorance of Scripture is also ignorance of Mary. This is because “What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ” (CCC 487). In other words, we can’t fully understand Christ without understanding Mary.

Following the interpretive pattern of the authors of Scripture and the Fathers of the Church, *The Bible and the Virgin Mary* examines the role of Mary in salvation history. Through a method called typology (see CCC 128–130) we’ll study her role as the New Eve, the Ark of the New Covenant, and the Queen Mother. This study also examines Catholic doctrine with regard to the Blessed Virgin, answering common objections along the way. As a bonus, we’ll also explore the Vatican-approved apparitions of Our Lady that have occurred over the last two millennia.

By the end of *The Bible and the Virgin Mary*, you’ll understand why Catholics honor Mary as the human person who most perfectly conforms to the image of God. She’s an icon of what we are to become. Let’s get started!



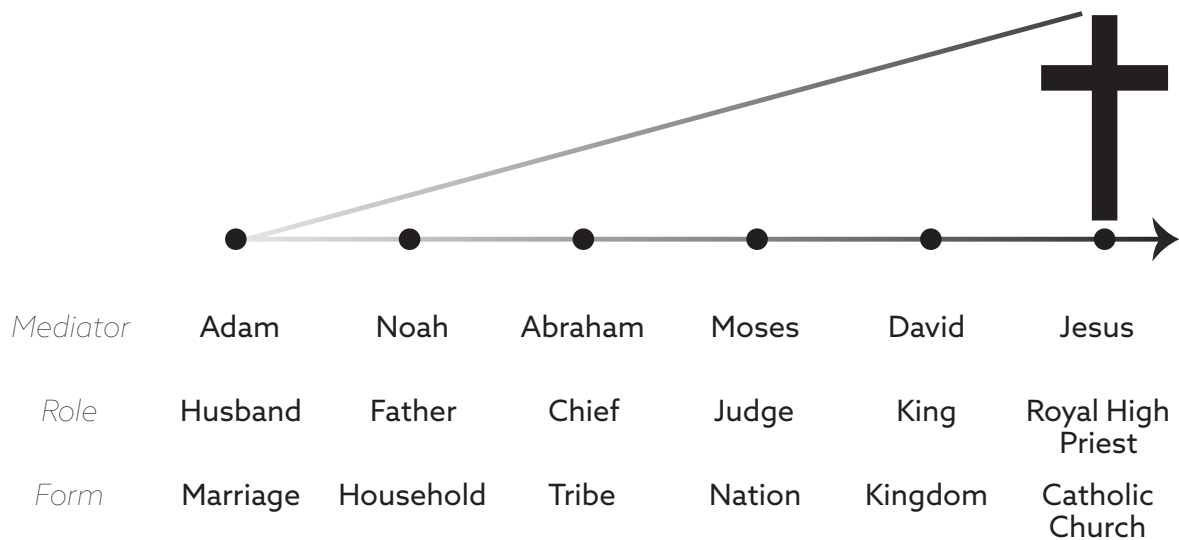
Madonna of the Rosary. Photo Credit: Restored Traditions

**WHAT WE'LL COVER IN LESSON ONE**

**Introduction:** Dr. Scott Hahn, Founder and President of The St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology

**Themes Covered**

- » How to properly read the Bible, particularly passages about Mary
- » Review the texts that mention Mary and begin to see the vital nature of her role in helping us get to heaven
- » Learn the connection between Jesus, Mary, and the nation of Israel
- » Discuss the importance of covenants in understanding the story of salvation history
- » See how Mary is the divine “sign” promised by God in the Old Testament
- » Overview of the rest of the study



**Scripture Verses Read By Cardinal Donald Wuerl In This Lesson**

- » 2 Timothy 3:16–17
- » Matthew 1:18–25
- » Matthew 2:6
- » Micah 5:2–3

## NOTES

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"All my own perception of beauty both in majesty  
and simplicity is founded upon Our Lady."  
— J. R. R. Tolkien —

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to do a literal or literary reading of the Bible?

2. What is salvation history? What is the place of covenants in salvation history?

3. How does the Gospel of Matthew position Mary at the center of Israel's history? At the center of human history?

4. Why is it important to understand the Old Testament context Matthew assumes when writing his Gospel?

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. The person of Mary has influenced artists, authors, and composers throughout the centuries. Have any of these impacted your devotion or faith life?

2. Why do you think non-Catholics struggle with Catholic teaching about Mary?

3. Have you ever had to defend the Church's teachings about Mary?

4. Have you ever struggled with Catholic teaching about Mary? Have those struggles resolved themselves? If so, how? If not, what questions do you have that still need to be answered?

**THIS LESSON'S MEMORY VERSE**

"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."  
2 Timothy 3:16-17

**FOLLOW-UP READING AND PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT LESSON**

- » *Hail, Holy Queen*, Chapter 1
- » Matthew 1
- » Luke 1:1-38
- » *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 484-486, 489

*Additional Study Resources Available at [www.StPaulCenter.com](http://www.StPaulCenter.com)*

