

The Life of Mary as seen by the Mystics (Schoenau, Bridget, Mary of Agreda, Emmerich)

Nihil Obstat¹: John A. Schulien, S.T.D (Censor Librorum)

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Declaration of Obedience:³

“Even if an angel from heaven were to preach a gospel other than that which we have preached to you, let him be anathema⁴” (Gal 1:18)

Laws used by Church to validate both divine and private revelations

1. Cannot be new
2. Must agree with Holy Spirit and Tradition, with morality and decisions of the Church

Mary lived by faith as the model and mistress of faith

Introduction

Read this book as religious novel, not as a fifth Gospel; do not consider this to be a historical biography of St Elizabeth of Schoenau, St Bridget of Agreda, Venerable Mother Mary of Jesus of Agreda or Blessed Sister Anne Catherine Emmerich

Types of Private Revelations: (*The Life of Mary*, pg 2)

Divine revelation is *guaranteed, universal public revelation* which is contained in the Bible and the Apostolic Tradition of the Church

Private revelation to saintly men and women (Apostles' revelations require belief; all others that occurred throughout Church history do not require belief, even when approved; not to be used as deciding questions of history)

Disagreement on Minor inaccuracies/details

Example: Bridget and Mary of Agreda differ on some details of Nativity; Emmerich saw 3 nails for crucifixion, Bridget saw 4; only three agree to number of years Blessed Virgin lived after Crucifixion

1. God does not deceive us when He modifies details; considers *soul's* sanctification/arouse love of Jesus' suffering; He adds historical scene in order to bring out the *secret meaning* of the mystery

“A vision need not guarantee its accuracy in every detail.” The Catholic Encyclopedia, Fr Poulain

- I. St Elizabeth of Schoenau** (1129-1164): Entered Benedictine monastery at age 12; experienced frequent extraordinary mystical graces; was never *formally* beatified, however, had profound influence on medieval spirituality (pg 6)
- II. St Bridget of Sweden** (1303 – 1373): Daughter of wealthy provincial governor, married, had eight children. Husband entered Cistercian monastery and died the next year; Bridget went to Rome and died there in 1373, canonized in 1391; world renowned for her sanctity. Her revelations are written in nine books, 1500 pages called *Heavenly Revelations* from Jesus and Mary on many subjects; her revelations, while approved, are private revelations and cannot give them assent to human faith, not divine revelations (Pope Benedict XIV); most read in late Middle Ages based on her *spirituality* and contain an entire **Mariology**. It is the Blessed Virgin most often who describes the scenes of the childhood and Passion of Christ to her. (pg. 6)
- III. Venerable Mother Mary of Jesus of Agreda** (1602 – 1665): Born in Old Castille, Spain; she, her youngest sister and mother entered the Conceptionist Poor Clare convent; father and two brothers became Franciscans; In 1630's, it was documented she was able to bilocate to Indians of western TX, AZ and NM without leaving her convent in Spain-she instructed them in Catholic faith and sent them southward to be baptized by Franciscan missionaries; wrote *Mystical City of God*, a biography of Blessed Virgin that set off much controversy. (pgs 6 – 7)
- IV. Blessed Sr Ann Catherine Emmerich** (1774-1824): Born to a poor family; entered convent in 1802; from early childhood experienced many extraordinary *mystical* graces

The Life of Mary as seen by the Mystics (Schoenau, Bridget, Mary of Agreda, Emmerich)

including the stigmata and her visions of the life of Christ, visions of salvation history from creation to the death of the Blessed Mother. Many respected and renowned commentators and scholars have garnered incredible insights and renewed faith from the reading of her work *The Complete Visions of Anne Catherine Emmerich* (pgs. 15 – 20)

Chapter 1: St Ann and St Joachim (pgs. 25 – 32)

Mary's Ancestors

Holy Trinity decreed that Son of GOD would be born of purest human being ever lived, free from Original Sin

- Holy Trinity planned to *train* a chosen people (**Israel**) to serve and to workshop the LORD faithfully in the religion which He Himself revealed to them through their patriarchs and prophets
 - How to *purify* their hearts by leading a decent and holy daily life
 - How to *pray* for the coming of the Savior that was promised as their King
- The **Chosen People** (Israel) did not listen or obey except for one group - Mary's ancestors
 - GOD developed/guided them to be the ancestors of His future Mother
 - Extremely simple, devout, gentle, peace-loving, charitable; lived *mortified*⁵ (self-denial/disciplined, very humble) lives
 - Lived in small, rural communities, worked the land, tended sheep, gardens, orchards, very conscientious regarding their religious duties (Prepared themselves with prayer and fasting and penance before offering sacrifices at Temple), helped any who needed help; often scorned by other Jews
 - Married couples practiced *sexual continence* (self-restraint) over long periods of time especially holy seasons.

(GOAL: raise children who would contribute toward bringing salvation to the world)

St Ann: Born in Bethlehem to wealthy but generous parents; family moved closer to Nazareth

- Loved to pray/think about GOD, very helpful, model daughter, prayed ardently for GOD to hasten the coming of the promised Savior
- Ann's mother told Ann that she was the chosen vessel and to pray for a worthy husband
- Ann prayed for husband who would help live according to Divine Law (a shy, middle-aged bachelor named Joachim was also praying for a wife and admired Ann)
- Blessed Trinity heard prayers and decreed this couple would be the grandparents of the future Messiah; Archangel Gabriel sent to announce to both Ann – age 24 (in visible form) and Joachim – age 42 (while he was sleeping, "*Blessed be thou by the LORD, Joachim! Persevere in the practice of justice and perfection. The LORD wants thee to take Ann as thy wife. Take care of her, esteem her, for she is dear to Him and give thanks to GOD.*")

Ann and Joachim: Lived economically and charitably on parent's estate; divided the income and sheep into three parts: 1/3 to Temple, 1/3 to poor, 1/3 for themselves (they prospered)

- Very serious, mature, devout couple; never discussed the messages they had received
- Their cross was they were childless for total of thirteen years (greatest misfortune, socially disgraceful, couple considered *unworthy* by the LORD; were repeatedly insulted and humiliated by others)
- Moved to smaller farm, began a more *mortified*³ life (increased charity/gifts to poor, trained themselves in *continence* (self-restraint, especially with regard to sex), took solemn vow to dedicate their child to His service in the Temple; they believed this shame was caused by their own unworthiness)

The Life of Mary as seen by the Mystics (Schoenau, Bridget, Mary of Agreda, Emmerich)

- Shamed at Temple and by others, couple continues to pray for child and for coming of Messiah
- Both suffered much emotional pain and isolation

Archangel Gabriel to Ann (pg 30): appeared *physically* to her and gave *joyful* news from the Most High: *You have been chosen to be the mother of her who is to give birth to the Redeemer of mankind...call her Mary...Joachim has been told only that he will have a **holy daughter** (not that she would be the mother of the Messiah)...guard this secret...go to Temple and meet Joachim at Golden Gate..."*

Archangel Gabriel to Joachim (pg. 30): appeared in a dream and told him: *Ann was going to give birth to a **blessed daughter** consecrated to GOD...meet Ann at Golden Gate of Temple.*

- **Joachim anointed at the Temple:** At Temple, another angel appeared and stated his *childlessness was not a disgrace but an honor...a most perfect flower of the race of Abraham...angel took him into the **Holy of Holies**⁶, ...anointed his forehead and gave a certain mystical blessing which freed him from all sensuality.*
- **Joachim (accompanied by Temple priests) and Ann** (accompanied by group of devout women including **Anna the Prophetess**) at Temple; prayed, thanked GOD, renewed their vow to offer their child to Temple...*a cloud of heavenly light enfolded them, while a great number of angels hovered above them. St Ann and St Joachim became luminous. Never had a human couple achieved such supernatural purity of soul. The suddenly the heavens opened up, and the Blessed Trinity looked down with joy and love on this saintly pair and gave them a special blessing*

The Blessed Virgin said to St Bridget of Sweden

*It is truth that I was conceived without Original Sin and not **in sin**. A golden-hour was my conception. My Son Joined my father and my mother into a marriage of such chastity that a purer union has never been seen. **Sensuality** was extinguished in them.*

Thus, my flesh was formed through divine charity.

Chapter 2: Nativity of Mary (pgs. 33 – 36)

GOD created Mary's immaculate soul...and the angels in Heaven rejoiced; Mary's *soul* was *infused* into her body, and her holy mother St Ann was filled with the Holy Ghost; was constantly blessed but Satan (who did not know her to be mother of the Savior, tried to tempt and harm her in many ways; he failed.

St Ann's preparation and delivery: Three friends came to attend her and were resting. St Ann prayed fervently before an altar containing relics of **Patriarchs of Israel**; a *supernatural light* filled the room; friends awoke saw light, hid their faces and threw themselves to floor; light made Ann *invisible*; a few minutes later, she appeared holding *beautiful, spotless, radiant baby without usual labor and pain.*

GOD's instructions to Ann: Raise her with motherly love and care but retaining *inwardly* her veneration for the future Mother of the Messiah

GOD's gifts to Mary: gave her *pure soul* mystical vision of Blessed Trinity in Heaven, full use of her reason, and all her senses, saw angels who would guard and protect her.

GODS's message to those in Limbo: Prophets, Patriarchs and all other souls in Limbo

Others response: All nature was in joy, many people felt *spiritual exaltation* (but not why), many evil and possessed people were disturbed (but not why)

Simeon: Freed possessed man who cried out: *I must flee...A Virgin has bee born...!*

Anna the Prophetess/other holy women: Saw visions about this child

Announcement in Heaven: *"Our Chosen One shall be called Mary, and this name is to be powerful in grace."*

Chapter 3: Mary's Infancy (pgs. 37 – 41)

Family gathering: Eight days after Mary's birth (according to custom, mother does not attend); several priests attended from Nazareth for formal naming of child

The Life of Mary as seen by the Mystics (Schoenau, Bridget, Mary of Agreda, Emmerich)

Presentation at Temple: St Ann/St Joachim took Mary to Temple for Presentation; St Ann renewed vow to give Mary to GOD's service in the Temple w/in 3 yrs.; beam of light shined on mother and child

Simeon: Dimly saw the light and wondered if this child the mother of the Messiah; devil did not recognize her and passed her over as *just another pious woman*

Nazareth: Mary passed her 3 yrs. never causing any problem and had a *pleasant countenance mixed with gravity of a certain majesty*; she prayed and mediated and performed interior acts of love for GOD

NOTE (pg 38): *Being in possession of all her faculties even from birth, Mary could have talked clearly and intelligently even as a baby if she had wished to. But out of modesty and submission to the Will of GOD, she deliberately refrained from speaking at all until she was a year and a half old. However, when alone, she did often converse with her guardian angels, and in secret she also prayed verbally to the Lord.*

St Ann and Mary: Passed many hours in sweet conversation about holy things; often spoke of the Messiah's coming and who she would be (St Ann never revealed to Mary that she was the chosen one); Mary insisted to be dressed in cheap, coarse plain ash-gay material

Mary's spiritual life: GOD revealed to her at age 2 how sins of men offended Him; she spent much time prostrate in prayer in her room; she begged alms and works of charity

The Blessed Virgin to Venerable Mother Mary of Agreda

*"At first sight of the Highest Good, my heart was wounded with love, and I gave myself entirely to Him... I underwent the hardships of infancy like other children. I felt hunger, thirst, sleepiness and other infirmities of the body. In all the difficulties which I endured after I was born into the world, I was resigned and contented, since I have merited none of GOD's gifts...
Be very devout toward my most sweet name."*

Chapter 4: The Presentation of Mary at Temple (pgs. 42 – 47)

Visit of Temple priests (age 3 ½): Mary's demeanor/appearance was more of 5 or 6 yrs. old. Three priests came to determine if she was worthy of being accepted for service in the Temple; very solemn proceeding; under guidance and inspiration of her angels, Mary was serious, wise and perfectly recollected; she was accepted

Traveling to Jerusalem for presentation: stayed with **Zacharias** (priest; future father of John the Baptist) who sponsored a great reception; 10 yr. old girl present (Later to be known as **St Veronica**); many women/girls escorted Mary to Temple. Mary dressed in sky-blue robe w/garlands of flowers around her neck

Escort into Temple: St Joachim, Zacharias, priest met group at outer entrance to Temple, crossed the Women's Court to steps to great Nicanor Gate where St Ann and St Joachim made formal offering of Mary to the service of the Temple; girls singing **Psalms 44**; Mary ascended steps filled with holy fervor and joy; met her teacher, the **holy prophetess Anna**; after Mary was taken into Temple, St Ann told women with her, **The Ark of the Covenant is now in the Temple.**

Mary in service at the Temple (age 3 ½ yrs. old): Mary embrace other girls of Temple and offered to be their servant; her room had view of the *Holy Place* and the *Inner Temple* that contained the *Holy of Holies*; Mary prostrated herself and prayed with her angels; conversation with GOD and Mary takes vow of *chastity* before GOD; Lord asked her what she desired-she stated, *to send the Redeemer to the world so that all men might know Him, to bless her parents with grace, and to console the poor and the afflicted in their troubles.*

THE BLESSED VIRGIN SAID TO ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN

"From my infancy, the Holy Spirit was perfectly with me. And as I grew, It filled me so completely as to leave no room for any sin to enter...When I had attained an age to know something of my Creator, I turned to Him with unspeakable love and desired Him with my whole heart...I vowed in my heart to observe virginity if it was pleasing to Him, and to possess nothing in the world- but if GOD willed otherwise, that His Will, not mine, be done, I committed my will absolutely to Him."

The Life of Mary as seen by the Mystics (Schoenau, Bridget, Mary of Agreda, Emmerich)

Chapter 5: In the Temple (pgs. 48 - 61)

Mary's first day in Temple: Asked teacher (**Holy Prophetess, Anna**) to give away all her personal possessions to the poor; Mary asked for a **Rule of Life**: 1) Pray always for the Temple of the Lord, 2) Do as your teacher directs, 3) Engage in manual work, 4) Study the Scriptures, 5) Take exercise before meals, 6) In all things be humble, courteous and obedient. Mary grew in wisdom and grace and **infused mystical knowledge**.

Death of St Joachim: Mary was told day/hour of his death and prayed/requested some of her angels to console him and for him to see them (Joachim told only then that Mary was to be the Mother of the Messiah); St Ann also heard message; was taken to the *Limbo of the Patriarchs*

Science of Suffering: Was time for the Lord to train Mary in the **dark night** by *suspending all visions and similar graces, and ordered all her angels to conceal themselves from her* (Mother Theresa spoke of this) and allowed Satan to try her. Mary did not sin, so Satan had others persecute her by insulting/hitting her and accused her of provoking them to quarrel among themselves. The Lord intervenes in a dream to a priest and to Anna that this girl was holy and falsely accused. The Lord kept His distance (and her angels) from her until she reached age 12.

Death of St Ann (56 yrs. old): Angels announced St Ann's pending death; angels allowed to carry her bodily to St Ann's bedside where her mother gave her last wisdom/advice: 1) **Never forget the presence of the Lord**-you will now live under His guardianship, 2) *Do not leave Temple before choosing your state of life, with the advice of the priests*, 3) *If GOD's will, pray for a husband of race of David*, 4) *Share your inheritance with poor in loving generosity*, 5) **Without ceasing ask the Almighty to show His mercy by sending His promised Messiah and beseech Him to be your protection**. (Mary's angels again became visible to her)

Mary's Mystical Experiences: GOD endowed Mary's pure soul with new gifts and tranquilized her spirit, raising her to a still higher plane, He again revealed Himself to her in an exalted vision which amply rewarded her suffering and loving anxiety.

THE BLESSED VIRGIN SAID TO VENERABLE MOTHER MARY OF AGREDA

"It is true that on account of the blessings of the Lord, sin was impossible for me. (But (this) is hidden from me. I saw that as far as it depended on myself alone, I could fall. Thus GOD left me in holy fear of sinning during my pilgrimage. From the instant of my conception until my death, I never lost this fear, but rather grew in it with time." (Mary gave similar messages to St Elizabeth and St Bridget)

Chapter 6: The ESPOUSALS (pgs. 61 – 66)

Mary: (Age 13 ½): Almighty GOD, in a vision, commanded Mary to enter state of matrimony (Mary had taken early vow of chastity and perpetual virginity) was a sacrifice as painful as that of Abrahama was commanded to kill his son. Mary resigned to herself to the *Will of GOD*)

St Simeon: Lord spoke to him in sleep and commanded him to arrange marriage of Mary (**whom He regarded with special love**)

The Lord's message to Mary: *My dove, let not thy heart be sad or disturbed. I will guide the priests by My light, and I will give thee a husband selected by Myself, and one who will not hinder thy holy desires (vows of chastity and virginity). I will choose a man perfect and according to My heart."*

St Joseph: Born near Bethlehem; unmarried carpenter, humble; parents wealthy; 3rd of six brothers; **sanctified** (made holy) in womb of his mother at seven months; at age 3, had unusual graces and began to know GOD; at age 7, **had attained perfect use of reason and high degree of holiness**; was quiet, likable and humble boy; raised by a tutor; was teased by his brothers; parents complained Joseph *too serious, solitary, too simple and lacked ambition*; Joseph only wanted to quietly pray and perform manual labor; escaped as a teen and worked for old carpenter, prayed in some **grottos, in one of which the Child Jesus was later born**; brothers found/scolded him outside Bethlehem (embarrassed by his manual labor). Joseph moved to *Taanach* (Plain of Esdraelon) then to *Tiberias* by Lake of Galilee; **spent**

The Life of Mary as seen by the Mystics (Schoenau, Bridget, Mary of Agreda, Emmerich)

much time in prayer; at age 12, took vow of chastity, had *angelic* purity of soul; at age 33, angel appeared to Joseph to stop adding onto his house; Joseph did not understand; as *unmarried* descendant of King David called to Temple in Jerusalem; *was handsome, modest, serious man with pleasing, honest features.*

Mary: age 14: Mary presented to the young men, High Priest explained purpose of meeting (Mary went to her room and cried). Each man given dry branch, told to pray for one whom GOD had chosen for Mary (because she was beautiful, virtuous maiden with *good inheritance*, all were interested-except Joseph?); each man brought branch to altar facing *Holy of Holies*, Joseph was last but before he laid on altar, branch blossomed into a white lily-like flower and a dove of pure, dazzling white descended and rested on his head and GOD spoke to him: *Joseph, My servant, Mary shall be thy spouse. Receive her with all care and respect, for she is pleasing in My sight. She is just and pure in mind and body. And thou shalt perform all that she shall ask.*

The Betrothal: Mary introduced to Joseph, priest solemnly betrothed them, they parted until the wedding

The Wedding: Ceremony takes place in house at Mt Sion; Mary given sky-blue wedding gown/cape; Joseph wore plain, long gray robe.

Mary leaves Temple: Sadly says goodbye and set out with *perfect* resignation and *trust* in GOD, for the new life He was leading her in Nazareth.

Chapter 7: Preparation for the Annunciation (pgs. 67-- 73)

Early Married Life (pgs. 67-69): Lived in Mary's inherited house; Joseph said to Mary (first time Mary had ever spoken alone to a man-asked her guardian angels to stand around her)

"...My dear spouse, though I judge myself unworthy even of your company, I give thanks to the Lord for having chosen me as your husband. Please help me to make a proper return in serving Him with upright heart. Therefore consider me your servant, and by the true love which I have for you, I beg you to put up with all my deficiencies in the domestic duties which as a worthy husband I should know how to perform. Just tell me what you want, so that I may do it."

Mary to Joseph:

My master, I am fortunate that the Lord has chosen you for my husband and that He has thus shown me that He wishes me to serve you. But if you allow me, I will tell you my thoughts and intentions which I wish you to know for this purpose."

Joseph to Mary: *Speak, dear Lady, Your servant is listening."*

Post-Marital Vows: Mary: *"God has chosen us to serve Him together...I have consecrated myself to GOD in perpetual chastity of body and soul..."*: **Joseph:** *"I also consider myself under greater obligation to the Lord than other men...at age of 12, I also made a promise to serve Him in perpetual chastity...I beg you to accept my chaste love and to consider me your brother."*

GOD gave St Joseph new purity and complete command over his natural inclinations, so that he might lovingly serve his holy wife without any trace of sensual desire.

Way of Life: Divided Mary's inheritance (1/3 to Temple, 1/3 to the poor/ Joseph to decide the rest); Joseph continued as carpenter

First Dispute: Disputed who should obey the other – Mary won; man was head of family and this would not change; only asked his permission to continue to help the poor

Joseph: Thoughts of Mary: GOD filled his heart with admiration and love, noted her rare nobility, purity of soul, calm, beautiful, majestic

Mary at home: never idle; did servile work; no servants; *...spent every moment in profound inner recollection, prayer and spiritual communion with GOD in her heart, worshiping and beseeching Him to send the promised Redeemer to suffering mankind...*

Mystery of the Annunciation: GOD prepares Mary (pgs. 71-73):

The Life of Mary as seen by the Mystics (Schoenau, Bridget, Mary of Agreda, Emmerich)

- **Day 1:** Mary's soul "...was raised to a closer union with GOD; He revealed to her how He created the universe purely out of overflowing Love...Lord urged her to pray constantly for the union of the Divinity with human nature..."
- **Days 2-9:** Mary received **infused** of various works of GOD in creation, given comprehension and power over elements of nature (stars, winds, water, minerals, plants and animals-never for herself); He prepared her to become the *Mother of Mercy and Advocate of sinners*; revealed to her the new **Law of Grace** and healing blessings which He was going to pour on men through the **Sacraments of His holy Church**, the rejection by many souls...
- GOD's promise to Mary: After Mary prayed fervently for all men, GOD gave **explicit promise by the Holy Trinity** that the Son of GOD was now to be sent into the world...
- **Day 7:** GOD said to Mary: "**Our Chosen Dove, We wish to accept thee anew as Our Bride, and therefore We wish to adorn thee worthily...**"; and two seraphim did so symbolizing various virtues of her soul
- **Day 8:** GOD speaks to Mary, He asked her desire...Mary responded: *I beseech Thee to send us our Redeemer!"*
- **Day 9:** GOD revealed to Mary entire harmonious constitution of the universe and said to her, *"My chosen Dove, I have created all creatures, which thou beholdest in all their varity and beauty, solely for the love of men, for the elect congregation of the faithful. Thou, My Spouse, hast found grace in My sight, and if thou at a loyal spouse, thou mayest dispose of them as thou desirest..."*

Mother of GOD (pg. 73): Symbolic crown "... placed on Mary's head which bore the mystic inscription: "Mother of GOD": but did not see these words). All the heavenly spirits duly revered and honored her. Lastly the Lord renewed and increased the unique beauty of her pure soul, so that her entire being dazzling reflected His own divine light."

Mary's reaction: *The higher GOD raised her, the more lowly were her thoughts concerning herself...the mere thought of her being chosen to be the Mother of the Messiah simply could not enter her Immaculate Heart.*

Mary's Story (pgs. 74 – 80): Given to the mystics with quotations from her own words in italics. My Love for God burned in my heart even more intensely than before and every day my soul was enkindled with new fervor and longing. So, I withdrew from everything even more than formerly... On the day before the occurrence of this mystery, I thought I would die and my heart would burst with love and longing, If God's Providence had not comforted me. He filled my soul with the firm hope that the Savior would descend from Heaven without delay. But on the other hand, my humility made me fear lest my presence in the world might perhaps delay His coming...I was afraid that my lips might say or my ears might hear something against God, or my eyes see something evil. Even in my silence, I was timid and very anxious that I might be silent when I should rather speak. When I was thus troubled in heart, I committed all my hopes to God...

Archangel Gabriel (pgs. 76-77): Blessed Trinity gave him exact words to greet and speak to Mary; thousands of angels descended from Heaven with him; Mary, now age 14 ½, began to pray for the coming of the Savior, meditating on great power of GOD, then...*I saw a star, but not like those that shine in the sky – I saw a light that was greater and brighter than the sun, yet unlike any light in this world and I inhaled a scent, but not like one that comes from plants or anything of that kind...Then I heard a voice, but not a human voice - and then suddenly there appeared before the Angel of God...Mary bowed but Gabriel bowed before Mary and he said to her, "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with Thee. Blessed art thou among women!"...Mary kept her eyes lowered...but God began to make her understand that He had chosen her for His Mother, ...I want Thee to be My Son's Mother and Giver, so that thou wilt not only have Him, but thou wilt also be able to give Him to whomever thou wishest..."*

Archangel Gabriel's Response: *"Do not be afraid, Mary, for thou hast found grace with God. And behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a Son. And thou shalt call His name Jesus. He shall*

The Life of Mary as seen by the Mystics (Schoenau, Bridget, Mary of Agreda, Emmerich)

be great and shall be called the Son of the Most-High. And the Lord God will give Him the throne of David His father, and He shall be king over the House of Jacob forever. And of His Kingdom there shall be no end."

Mary: *"I still did not believe myself worthy. And so, I did not ask the Angel why or when, but I asked how it could happen that my unworthy self should become the Mother of God..."*

Gabriel: *Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and power of the Most-High shall overshadow thee...For nothing shall be impossible for GOD."*

Mary: *"...felt an exceedingly fervent desire to be the Mother of GOD...Behold the handmaid of the Lord – Be it done according to Thy word."*

Mary's Visions: Celestial bright light-beam revealed brilliant *figure* of the Blessed Trinity

Holy Spirit: *Appeared in winged form with...masses of flame shot out on His right and left. Then three intense rays flashed and darted into the **right** side of the Virgin and became entirely suffused with a glowing light.*

In Mary's own words (pg. 78): Jesus was instantly conceived in her womb by the Holy Spirit...*He took flesh in my most pure body...*; Mary had vision of Holy Trinity and the mystery of the *hypostatic union of the Divine and human natures in the person of the Holy WORD and confirmed in her title and rights of Mother of GOD*; Mary had vision of life and death of her Son.

GOD's answer to Mary's prayer: *"My Dove, do not fear, for I will assist thee and guide thee in all things necessary for the service of My only-begotten Son."*

The Aftermath: Angel left; many closed white roses dropped over Mother of GOD and a new sanctuary fulfilled the words of the **Prophet-King:** *The Most High hath sanctified His own tabernacle. GOD is in the midst therefore...*

The Magic Hour: The LORD infused into the hearts of *just men* a new feeling of extraordinary joy and inspiration; *Nature's GOD became man*

THE BLESSED MOTHER SAID TO ST ELIZABETH OF SCHOENAU (speaking of Annunciation):

"Do you know why GOD did this? Because I believed in Him and because I humbled myself."

Chapter 9: The Visitation (pgs. 81- 88)

Chapter 10: Trials (pgs. 89- 95)

Chapter 11: Mary and Joseph in Nazareth (pgs. 96- 100)

Chapter 12: Journey to Bethlehem (pgs. 101- 104)

Chapter 13: The Nativity (pgs. 105- 107)

Chapter 14: Adoration of the Shepherds (pgs. 108- 113)

Chapter 15: The Circumcision (pgs. 114 - 118)

Chapter 16: The Adoration of the Magi (pgs. 119 - 127)

Chapter 17: The Purification (pgs. 128- 133)

Chapter 18: The Flight to Egypt (pgs. 134- 140)

Chapter 19: The Holy Family in Egypt (pgs. 141- 148)

Chapter 20: The Return to Nazareth (pgs. 149 - 151)

Chapter 21: The Boy Jesus in the Temple (pgs. 152- 157)

Chapter 22: The Hidden Life in Nazareth (pgs. 158- 162)

Chapter 23: The Death of St Joseph (pgs. 163 - 166)

Chapter 24: Preparation for Public Life (pgs. 167- 174)

Chapter 25: The Wedding at Cana (pgs. 175 - 182)

Chapter 26: Mary During Public Ministry (pgs. 183- 192)

Chapter 27: Judas (pgs. 193- 195)

Chapter 28: Prelude to the Passion (pgs. 196 – 199)

Chapter 29: Holy Thursday (pgs. 200- 203)

Chapter 30: The Passion (pgs. 204- 212)

Chapter 31: The Crucifixion (pgs. 213- 218)

Chapter 32: The Resurrection (pgs. 219- 222)

Chapter 33: The Ascension (pgs. 223- 227)

Chapter 34: Pentecost and the Early Church (pgs. 228- 236)

Chapter 35: Mary's Last Years (pgs. 237- 245)

Chapter 36: The Dormition (pgs. 246- 252)

Chapter 37: The Assumption and Crowning (pgs. 253- 259)

Bibliography (pgs. 260 – 263)

Supplement to the Bibliography (as of 1975) (pgs. 264 – 265)

² **Imprimatur:** an official license by the Roman Catholic Church to print an [ecclesiastical](#) or religious book.

⁴ **Anathema**: a formal curse by a pope or a council of the Church, excommunicating a person or denouncing a doctrine.

"they wish to return to heaven by **mortifying the flesh**"

The Holy of Holies

HOLY OF HOLIES

The Ark of the Covenant

Curtain Divider

10/13/23 Compiled by Raphael Brown (Imprimatur: Moses W Kiley, Archbishop of Milwaukee 06/08/51) 9