

## **Catholics Do Not Worship Mary Or Pray to Her, As If She Were God**

Devout **Catholic people experience**, in their prayer life, in their worship (the Holy Mass), and in every other circumstance of life, **the intimate relationship with God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit given to them by Jesus Christ.**

**Catholic people also believe in the Communion of Saints.** The Body of Christ, the Roman Catholic Church, believes that its head Jesus Christ has ascended into heaven. Jesus's mother Mary, who he gave to us from the cross (John 19:26-27) to be our mother, has been assumed into heaven; and we believe that other Saints are also in heaven. Why can't Jesus give us his mother, to be our mother? He gave us God his Father, to be Our Father.

We don't pray to Mary as a God. We do ask her to care for us, as a mother, and to pray for us. The Hail Mary prayer is the prayer which devout Catholics pray most often; to remember the holiness of Mary, and her calling to intercede for us, as our mother, and the Mother of God, Jesus Christ.

**Note:** The prayer is in bold type. The first part of the prayer is scriptural. We greet Mary, as the Angel and Elizabeth greeted her. Read Luke 1:26-56. Then, **we ask Mary to pray to God for us.**

**Hail Mary, full of grace,  
The Lord is with you!  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now, and at the hour of our death.**

**We should turn to Mary often, and ask her to pray for us;** especially, in light of the way she succeeded in moving Jesus, who seemed reluctant to perform his first miracle, to change water into wine at the wedding feast in Cana. Read the Gospel according to John 2:1-11.

Love endures; so we never stop loving and never stop praying for those we love; and asking those Saints who love us, to pray for us. They are closer to God now, than they ever were during their lives on Earth.