

2007-08 BSP 6
SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES

(A) We venerate Mary as one of the two primary biblical figures through whom God’s plan to redeem the human race was carried out, not only because of the *Protoevangelion* of Genesis 3:15, but also because of many other beautiful Marian passages in the bible including, to name just a few:

- Revelation 12:1-5, 13-18 – Mother of God, bodily assumption and immaculate conception
- Genesis 3:15, Luke 1:28 – Immaculate conception
- Luke 1:31-35 - New Eve = Church
- Luke 1:38 – New Eve untying the disobedience of Eve
- Luke 1:43 - Mother of God
- Luke 1:39-56, Revelation 11:19 – Ark of Covenant
- John 2:4, Genesis 2:23 – The “woman”, New Eve ushering in the era of salvific grace at a wedding banquet that anticipates the wedding banquet of the Lamb
- John 19:26-27 – Mother of the Church
- Mt 1:23, Isaiah 7:14 – Virginal birth, Mother of God
- Mt. 1:1-17 – Untying a genealogy of sin and Mary’s key role in bringing the Messiah

(B) “Mary is the woman who from the book of Genesis until the book of Revelation accompanies the revelation of God’s salvific plan for humanity, taking part in that monumental struggle against the power of darkness.” (*JPII, The Mother of the Redeemer #47*)

(C) Eve and New Eve

Eve	Mary (New Eve)	Scriptural Ref.
A virgin	A virgin	cf. Gen 4:1, Lk 1:27
Full of grace before the fall, created sinless	“Hail, full of grace!”, born sinless	Lk 1:28
Approached by an angel – Satan	Approached by an angel – Gabriel	Gen 3:1, Lk 2:26
Received Satan’s word of death – the first lie	Received Gabriel’s word of life – the Gospel	Gen 3:4-5, Lk 1:31-33
Disobedient to God – No!	Obedient to God – Yes!	Gen 3:6, Lk 2:38
Outcome – sin and death	Outcome – Salvation and eternal life	
Biological mother of mankind	Spiritual mother of mankind	John 19:26-27

(D) Ark Imagery in Luke – See attachment.

- (E) Mary accomplished all this in a process that can be compared to a journey, the pilgrimage of faith, that is the story of all human beings. She continues to go before the people of God. Mary accomplished her journey, but she does not cease to be the “Star of the Sea” for all those who are still on their journey of faith....The obedience of faith, by which someone gives himself or herself freely to God, found perfect realization in Mary. (JP II, the Mother of the Redeemer, 6&13)
- (F) This is not only a question of doctrine, but a question of the life of faith, and thus of an authentic Marian spirituality and its corresponding devotion. (JP II, The Mother of the Redeemer, #49)

It is quite possible to live a fruitful Christian life without a true knowledge of Mary as the New Eve (as we see among our Protestant brethren). This must mean that the presence of Mary in the Catholic (and Orthodox) Church is a gift to the Church. A gift goes beyond what is “necessary.” (Hearts Aflame, p. 54)