

### Talk 3: The Church-Making Christ present to the world

#### Relationship of Mary to the Church

1. She is the preeminent member, she belongs to the Church, gifts of grace adorn her
2. She is the mother of the Church
  - a. She is mother of Jesus who is the head of the mystical body of Christ of which we are members
  - b. She is mother by what did by bring Christ into the world and what she does now in Heaven
3. She is the icon, image of the Church
  - a. She receives God fully and bring him into the world
  - b. What can be said of Mary can be said of the Church, virginity shows perfect fidelity, maintain the integrity of the faith, pure and not contaminated
4. Mary displays the life of a disciple
  - a. She is the model of faith, hope and charity
5. She is a flower of the Church
  - a. She has realized our vocation, to be in heaven with God

#### The Church in the Scripture

- The Church in the Old Testament
  - Genesis reveals a communion of love between Adam and Eve at the beginning
  - That communion is ruptured due to sin and the Church seeks to restore the communion
  - Israel prefigures the Church as chosen by God and the people through who God acts
  - Israel was a sign of God's blessing to others, witness to others
  - Israel is called "People of God"
    - Talked about a communion with God and they are set apart
    - It is Israel's most profound identity
    - There is an idea of journeying and being taken somewhere
    - Called together to celebrate the Liturgy
    - God pledges himself to his people
  - Temple is the dwelling place of God in the Old Testament
    - House on solid rock and permanent
    - Place where God's word is encountered
    - Place where people serve God and reconcile with him
- The Church in the New Testament
  - Christ is the New Temple where God dwells fully
  - The curtain in the Holy of Holies tears showing the temple ceases to be the dwelling place of God
  - His Humanity is the New Temple and God is dwelling in his humanity
  - His flesh is the medium of our redemption and salvation
  - "You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church."
    - Petrine Primacy
      - Peter first one in the tomb
      - The other apostles appeal to Peter, see Galatians, Paul journey's to Jerusalem and submits to Peter
      - Peter is always the first in the lists of Apostles
      - Peter is the first to confess Jesus is the Christ, speaks at the Transfiguration, Gethsemane
      - Only one given a new name

- Jesus is the source of Peter's role, gives the keys
- Church is founded on forgiveness, Peter do you love me?
- Incarnation and Pentecost shape the Church
  - There is a deeper union between God and Man as a result of the Incarnation
  - There is direction given by Pentecost
  - Look at Pentecost to understand the Church
- Pentecost: Acts of the Apostles, Chapter 2

“When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire,\* which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, “Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his own native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome,<sup>11</sup>both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God.” They were all astounded and bewildered, and said to one another, “What does this mean?” But others said, scoffing, “They have had too much new wine.”

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed to them, “You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem. Let this be known to you, and listen to my words.”

- Peter goes on to proclaim the Christ came to unite us to God and to forgive us of our sins
  - He calls to repent and be baptized
  - Access through Christ in the one Spirit to the Father
- One- it is united in Christ, not tolerance, but unity in heart and mind
  - Holy- it is set apart, called to be a light to others, made holy by Christ
  - Catholic- it is here on Earth for all peoples
  - Apostolic- founded on the apostles, connected to Christ
1. What is one thing you have learned from this teaching?
  2. How does that help you shape your view of the Church?
  3. How can you more live in relationship with the Christ and his Church?