

WHY I AM NOT A CATHOLIC
Part 3: False Worship

- I. Veneration of PRIESTS
 - A. Called to office by the CHURCH (*Catechism*, p. 446)
 - B. Forbidden to MARRY (*Catechism*, p. 446; cf. 1 Tim. 4:1-3)
 - C. Empowered for SERVICE
 - 1. To change bread and wine into the BODY and BLOOD of Christ (*Catechism*, p. 394)
 - 2. To FORGIVE SINS (*Catechism*, p. 397, 416)

- II. Veneration of SAINTS
 - A. *Canonized* by the CHURCH
 - 1. As MODELS of "heroic VIRTUE" and "fidelity to God's GRACE" (*Catechism*, p. 239)
 - 2. As INTERCESSORS through PRAYERS offered to them (*Catechism*, p. 707, 271)
 - B. Revered through IMAGES and RELICS (*Catechism*, p. 573; Keating, pp. 40-41, 261-262)

- III. Veneration of MARY
 - A. Doctrine of *Immaculate Conception*
 - 1. She was conceived without ORIGINAL SIN (*Catechism*, p. 138)
 - 2. She lived her life without PERSONAL SIN (*Catechism*, p. 138, 142)
 - B. Doctrine of *Perpetual Virginity*
 - 1. She "remained a virgin THROUGHOUT HER LIFE" (*Catechism*, p. 143; Keating, p. 282)

2. Jesus' BROTHERS and SISTERS were actually COUSINS (*Catechism*, p. 141; Keating, p. 283)
- C. Doctrine of *Bodily Assumption*
1. Mary was taken "BODY and SOUL into the glory of HEAVEN (*Catechism*, p. 274)
 2. Relies on DECREE of Pope Pius XII in 1950 (*Catechism*, p. 274)
 3. Relies on "negative historical PROOF" (Keating, pp. 273-275)
- D. Doctrine of *Supreme Mediatrix*
1. Mary is "the channel of all GRACES" (Keating, p. 279)
 2. "No grace accrues to US without HER intercession"
 3. Admits "scriptural proofs are LACKING," but argues it is "reasonable because it is FITTING" and accepts it, "on the authority of the CHURCH rather than on the authority of clear scriptural references" (Keating, p. 279)
- E. Doctrine of *Co-Redemptress*
1. Mary "cooperated...in the Savior's work of restoring supernatural LIFE to SOULS" (*Catechism*, p. 274)
 2. Her "intercession continues to bring us the gift of ETERNAL LIFE (*Catechism*, p. 275)
 3. Her "prayers and good works...are truly immense, unfathomable, and even pristine in their VALUE before GOD and are added to the "treasury of heaven" to help provide our salvation (*Catechism*, p. 412)
 4. Cite their translation of Genesis 3:15, "I will put enmities between thee and the woman, and thy seed and her seed: SHE shall crush thy head, and thou shalt lie in wait for HER heel"

IV. Conclusion

- A. Catholicism is IDOLATROUS in its reverence for priests, saints, and Mary, thus CORRUPTING the biblical doctrines concerning the Person and work of CHRIST as Savior and Mediator
- B. Therefore, Catholicism cannot be a true CHRISTIAN CHURCH