

3. Who do Catholics worship: God or Mary?

Catholics worship God! We believe in the Holy Trinity, God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. However, given the very significant role Mary played in God's plan of salvation we hold her in very high regard. Mary's yes to God, "*Let it be done to me according to Your word*" (Lk. 1:38), to be the mother of Jesus, set in motion the earthly aspect of God's salvation plan which led to Jesus' eventual death on the cross for our sins.

Resulting from our belief in the Triune God is the revelation that as Jesus is God, Mary is therefore the Mother of God and deserves her place of reverence in our lives. Mary's reverential designation as our Blessed Mother also has a scriptural foundation. In the gospel of Luke, Mary's cousin Elizabeth received a revelation about the Incarnation, God-made-flesh. This occurred when Mary visited Elizabeth subsequent to her visitation by the Angel Gabriel. On seeing Mary, Elizabeth exclaimed, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Lk 1:42-43).