

We Believe: The Catholic Faith Re-Presented
Session 9 – The Communion of Saints and the Blessed Virgin Mary

1. The communion of saints: “...we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...” (Hebrews 12:1)
 - a. Church militant (Ephesians 6:11-17)
 - b. Church suffering (1 Corinthians 3:10-15)
 - c. Church triumphant (Revelation 7:9-17)

2. Canonization process
 - a. Venerable
 - b. Blessed
 - c. Saint

3. The Blessed Virgin Mary
 - a. Marian dogma
 - i. Mother of God (Theotokos)
 1. Council of Ephesus (431 A.D.)

ii. The Immaculate Conception

1. "Full of grace" vs. "favored one"

iii. Perpetual virginity

iv. Bodily assumption into heaven

b. Queen of Heaven, Queen Mother, Mother of the Church, our mother in the order of grace

4. "Beneath Your Protection"

We fly to Thy protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from all dangers,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin. Amen.