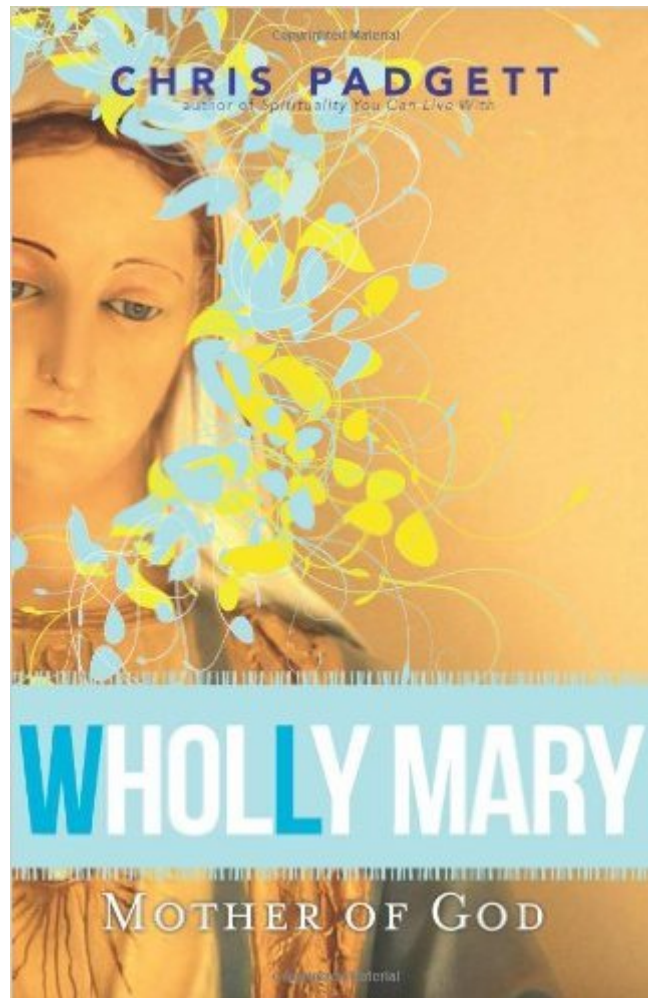


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Wholly Mary: Mother Of God



Synopsis

There's a little bit about Mary in Scripture. We can glean a bit more from the tradition of the Church. Some of the approved apparitions add a little insight, too. But where can we go to get the complete picture, to find out about the whole Mary? Wholly Mary does just that. In an engaging style, Chris Padgett walks us through what the Bible has to say about the Mother of God. What has she meant to the Church throughout the centuries, what do the apparitions add, what have the saints told us about her and, most importantly, what can we learn from her ourselves? Other facets of this explanation of the Blessed Mother include: The power of the rosary How the Mass relates to Mary Four important dogmas about Mary Mary and the Trinity Mary and ecumenism With the enthusiasm and passion Chris Padgett is known for, Mary is sure to come alive for you in a wholly new way!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this primer on Mary, Chris Padgett explains Marian devotion and why we should care about the Blessed Virgin. Mary, he writes, cheers us on and helps us in our transformation to the image and likeness of Jesus. As these basic ideas suggest, this is a book for those who have mistaken impressions or limited understanding of Mary as presented in scripture and Church teaching. With informal language and uncomplicated imagery, Padgett presents his material in a manner especially suited to youth. A glossary includes simple explanations of such terms as advocate, divine revelation, dogma, and original sin. The chapter on Mary and the Trinity explains Mary as daughter of the Father, mother of the Son, and spouse of the Holy Spirit. The next chapter tackles four major truths the Church teaches about Mary: (1) her role as Mother of God, (2) her perpetual virginity, (3)

the Immaculate Conception, and (4) the assumption. In a chapter on spiritual warfare, Padgett describes Mary as our advocate in the fight against Satan. He discusses the evil one's war against the family marked by masculinization of women; denigration of stay-at-home-moms and those with more than three children; the doctrine of pro-choice; surrogacy; long hours at day care; and divorce. Padgett quotes widely from Scripture and Vatican documents, providing readers with a wealth of sources to continue their study of Mary beyond the basics presented here.

This book was a delightful surprise and testament to the fact that there is always something more to say about the Blessed Virgin Mary. Padgett's words are vivid and he describes deep theology with a sense of humor and complete humility, a combination I found both unexpected and enjoyable. Whether you have a devotion to Mary or are looking to learn more, I recommend this book as a great addition for your personal (and parish!) library.

Five times he misquotes Genesis 3:15, in saying that Mary is the one who crushes the serpent's head. (Pages: 39, 41, 54, 61, 95-6). "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel." • Note the "he" and "his" is not Mary but her seed Jesus. As you read further in the book, his patronizing and condescending tone towards Protestants becomes more evident. When speaking of the Eucharist, he states, "this takes on a depth that most fundamentalist Protestant denominations honestly cannot comprehend." At one point he insists, "If we want to be like Jesus, we need to love Mary as our mother" and makes many other such comments, but then states the truth outright with, "God is not locked into one way when it comes to a person becoming a saint." His theological arguments were weak and on more than one occasion he jumps to conclusions with false reasoning. It is easy to see his love and devotion to the Blessed Virgin, but emotional arguments do not stand up to logic. On the positive side, he does use easy terminology for one who may not have grown up Catholic. I would recommend this book if you want to know more about some Catholic views on Mariology however it does have weak arguments that are easy to refute, but it does let one look into the mind of a devotee.

This gave a good basic overview of Marian theology, especially for a recent convert from Protestantism. I enjoyed Chris's inclusion of humor. His description of the struggles of family prayer time was pretty hilarious.

Matthew 12:46 While He was still speaking to the crowds, behold, His mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to Him. 47 Someone said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You." 48 But Jesus answered the one who was telling Him and said, "Who is My mother and who are My brothers?" 49 And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "Behold My mother and My brothers! 50 For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother." How dare the Son of God speak about the "mother of God" like that! Oh poor people who follow the RC church, deceived and misguided! Consider why you do not follow the "grandmother" or "grandfather" of God! My heart breaks for your souls. Turn to Jesus alone as Mediator and Savior!

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