

Catechism Course 2021
Clondalkin
#7 The Blessed Virgin Mary

The Four Marian Dogmas are:

1. Immaculate Conception: She is conceived without original sin.
2. Motherhood of God: Mary is truly mother of God because she gave birth to the second person of the Trinity.
3. Perpetual Virginity: Mary was a Virgin when she conceived Jesus. She remained a virgin throughout her life.
4. Assumption into heaven: At the end of her earthly life Mary was assumed body and soul into Heaven.

We also looked at three other titles or expressions used to explain the Virgin Mary:

The Daughter of Zion: “Zion” meant Jerusalem. The Daughter of Zion is an Old Testament figure who symbolises the faithful people of God, awaiting the coming of God.

The New Eve: Just as Jesus is the New Adam, Mary is the New Eve. Whereas Eve did not fully trust God, Mary trusts God. Whereas Eve sinned and brought death into the world, Mary brings life into the world.

Mother of the Church: Mary remains a virgin in order to take on the role of mother of the Church, of all Christians. She represents the Church in a unique way.

Further reference:

Read John 19: 25-27

Catechism: paragraphs 484-511, 963-975

Von Balthasar, Ratzinger: *Mary the Church at its source*

Manual of Marian Devotion: for prayer, a nice collection of excerpts on writings about Mary.