

# THE STORY OF MARY

From the Dawn of Time to Today



**WORKBOOK**  
WITH ANSWER KEY



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## WORKBOOK WITH ANSWER KEY

TAN Books  
Gastonia, North Carolina

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# A Note to Parents

First, we would like to thank you for choosing *The Story of Mary* as a part of your family's curriculum. Our hope is that the knowledge young Catholics gain in these pages will blossom into love for the Mother of God, and, ultimately, for her Son, for this is the end purpose of Marian veneration: to draw closer to Jesus.

This workbook serves as a companion resource to the textbook. To help you prepare for the journey ahead, please take a moment to read these brief notes.

## **Workbook's Purpose**

The purpose of this workbook is to provide a simple tool you can use to ensure your child comprehends the material in the text. While some of the exercises serve as objective quizzes, many others should be fun and spiritually edifying. Consider letting them use the text as they answer questions. The point is not to stump them but to ensure they walk away with the knowledge and catechesis they need. Younger students especially may need a little "hand-holding" to get some of the answers, but that's okay, and is even encouraged.

## **Target Age**

The workbook is perfect for upper elementary and lower middle school students. There are enough activities that not every single one should be done, and the age of the child can be used to determine which are completed. For example, coloring pages can be used for younger students, while older children may skip those; conversely, younger students may skip some of the personal reflection short answers, while the older ones may be expected not only to answer them but also to write good and complete sentences. Please cater the workbook to your family's needs.

## **Types of Activities**

Most chapters will utilize a substantive activity (Matching, True/False, Short Answer, etc.) along with something fun, such as a puzzle, word search, coloring page, or craft. There are also some personal reflection exercises and prompts to complete a spiritual activity, such as praying a Rosary or making a local pilgrimage. Again, do not feel like you need to complete all the activities. Just move at a pace that suits your family's needs and never hesitate to skip over a few things.

## **Answer Key**

While many of the exercises are subjective and answers will vary, there are also plenty of objective answer exercises that will require grading. An answer key is provided in the back of the book for your use and convenience. If you like, have a conversation about honesty and integrity with your child as you teach them not to peek in the back.

## **We Are Here to Help!**

We hope we have provided you with everything you need, but if not, don't hesitate to reach out to your friends at TAN Books with any questions you might have.





# INTRODUCTION

## Before the Journey Begins

In the introduction to our book, we read a story about a young boy named Mathias living in the early years of the Church. His mother has just been martyred and he and his father are burying her in the catacombs of Rome. Mathias sees an icon of Mary painted on the stone wall over the tombs of other martyrs. She has one hand extended towards him, while her other hand points behind her (go back and look at the illustration in the text to see it again).

In the text, you were asked: “Where do you think she was pointing to? Better yet, *who* do you think she was pointing to?”

Write a short reflection answering these questions. What symbolism do you think lies in the posture of Our Lady, and how does it capture the essence of our relationship with her and the role she plays in the Church and in our lives?



# CHAPTER 1

## God Dreams of a Woman

### **The Predestined Mother**

Read the passage below from *Lumen Gentium* (a Church document from the Second Vatican Council) and answer the questions.

*“The Father of mercies willed that the incarnation should be preceded by the acceptance of her who was predestined to be the mother of His Son, so that just as a woman contributed to death, so also a woman should contribute to life.”*

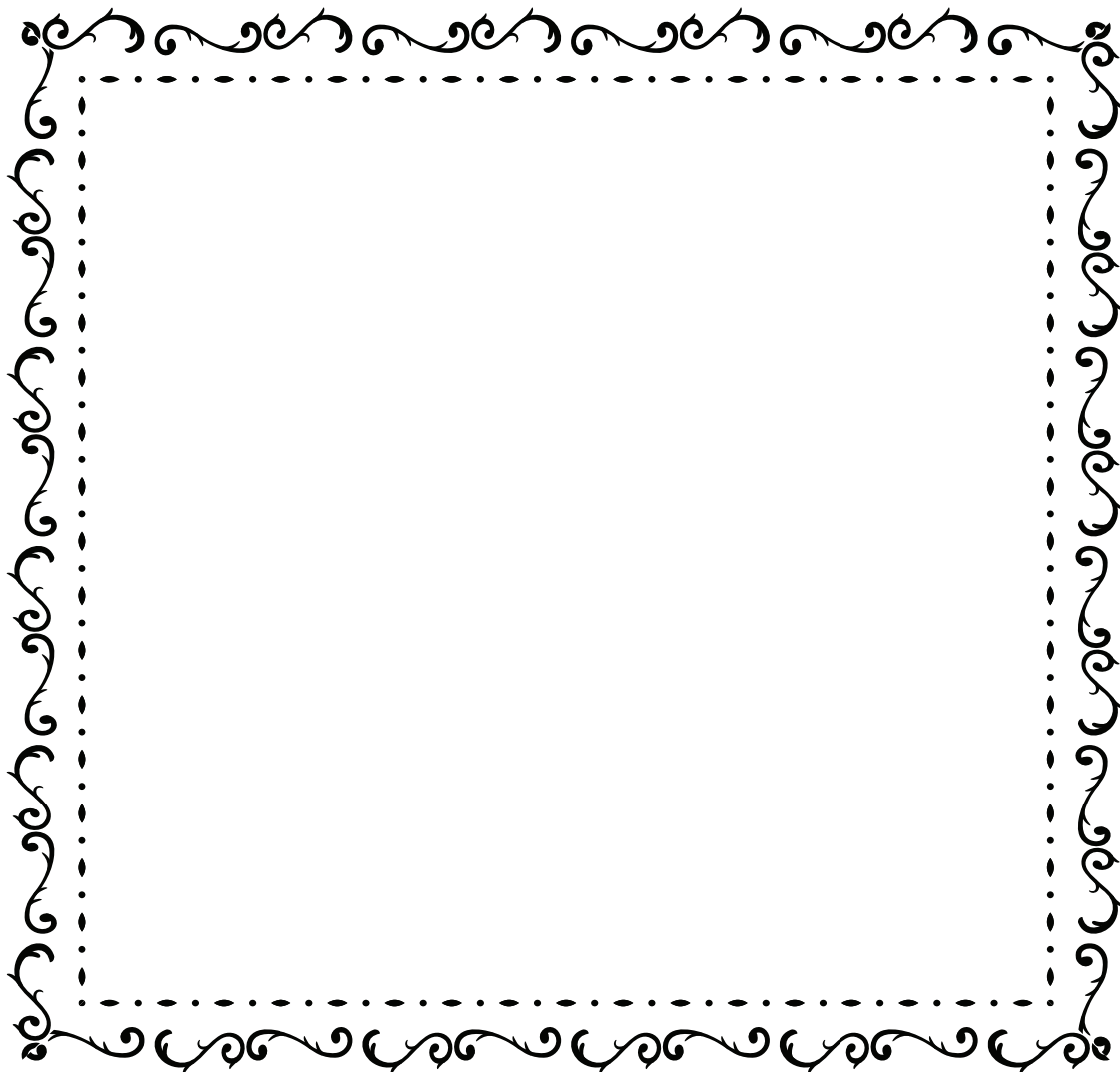
—*Lumen Gentium*, no. 56

1. Who is the “Father of mercies”?
2. What do you think the word “predestined” means? Write your own definition, then look up a formal definition.
3. What does it mean that “the mother of His Son” (Mary) was predestined?
4. How does the fact that Mary was predestined by God to be His mother affect the way you see her and understand her role in the life of the Church and in our lives?

5. The passage seems to make a comparison between two women: “so that just as a woman contributed to death, so also a woman should contribute to life.” If Mary is the second woman, who is the first? How did this woman contribute to death and Mary to life?

### God Dreams of a Woman

In the text we read that Venerable Fulton Sheen described Mary as the woman “God dreamed of before the world was made.” What do you think Mary looked like in God’s dream? Draw an illustration of Our Lady in the space provided. If you do not want to draw your own picture, color the image of Our Lady on the opposite page.





## **Public Revelation vs. Private Revelation**

In the box below, define public and private revelation and explain the difference between them.

### **The Trial of the Angels**

The private revelation visions given to Venerable Maria of Agreda teach us about the “trial of the angels” and the fall of Lucifer. Discuss this story with your parents or your teacher. What was the trial (or test) of the angels, and how does it relate to Lucifer’s downfall and his hatred of the Blessed Virgin Mary?

### **Why the Word Became Flesh**

Outside of saving us from our sins and redeeming us through His sacrificial death, what are the three reasons the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* gives for why the Word became flesh (why Jesus took on a human nature)? How do these show us that the Second Person of the Trinity may have still become human even if Adam and Eve had not brought sin into the world?

