



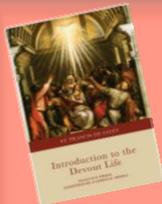
OUR HOLY REDEEMER SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Epiphany of the Lord

3 January 2021

Wishing You a
Happy and Blessed
New Year



FORMED
BOOK OF
THE WEEK
INTRODUCTION
TO THE
DEVOUT LIFE

Written over 400 years ago, the **INTRODUCTION TO THE DEVOUT LIFE** is still one of the most popular books for those pursuing holiness. **St. Francis de Sales** explains how to turn that desire for sanctity into resolutions that yield grace-filled results. Themes include:

- Pursuing a devout life wholeheartedly
- Incorporating prayer and Sacraments into a busy schedule
- Growing in virtue
- Battling wisely against temptation

...Whether you are just beginning your spiritual journey or are more advanced in the spiritual life, you'll be able to apply this timeless wisdom immediately. Let **St. Francis de Sales** illumine the path to holiness and strengthen your desire to walk that road with the Lord.

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A Year with Our Blessed Mother Through the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*HOLY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH,
PRAY FOR US*

Excerpt from: Lumen Gentium,
the Dogmatic Constitution of the Catholic Church
promulgated by *Pope Saint Paul VI*

III. On the Blessed Virgin and the Church

There is but one Mediator as we know from the words of the Apostle, "for there is one God and one Mediator of God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as Redemption for all." The maternal duty of Mary toward men in no wise obscures or diminishes this unique meditation of Christ, but rather show His power. For all the salvific influence of the Blessed Virgin on men originates, not from some inner necessity, but from the divine pleasure...

Predestined from eternity by that decree of divine providence which determined the Incarnation of the Word to be the Mother of God, the Blessed Virgin was on this earth the Virgin Mother of the Redeemer and above all others and in a singular way the generous associate and humble handmaid of the Lord...

This maternity of Mary in the order of grace began with the consent which she gave in faith at the Annunciation and which she sustained without wavering beneath the cross, and lasts until the eternal fulfillment of all the elect. Taken up to Heaven she did not lay aside this salvific duty, but by her constant intercession continued to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation. By her maternal charity, she cares for the brethren of her Son, who still journey on earth surrounded by dangers and cultics, until they are led into the happiness of their true home. Therefore the Blessed Virgin is invoked by the Church under the titles of Advocate, Auxiliatrix, Adjutrix, and Mediatrix. This, however, is to be so understood that it neither takes away from nor adds anything to the dignity and efficaciousness of Christ the one Mediator.

The Church does not hesitate to profess this subordinate role of Mary. It knows it through unfailling experience of it and commends it to the hearts of the faithful, so that encouraged by this maternal help they may the more intimately adhere to the Mediator and the Redeemer.

