

COMMENTARY:
How To Answer a Protestant about Praying to Mary and the Saints

By a soul

These days, I do not post much in Facebook, however, yesterday, I posted in a prayer group a link to the request for prayers to the Blessed Mother for the success of the U.S. elections. And someone responded negatively to my prayer request. So, I sent him a private message through Facebook with my reply.

Now, often, I see Protestants and Catholics getting into heated debates in Facebook, quoting Sacred Scripture and making emotional appeals to various differences between Protestant Christianity and Catholicism. And typically, I see a lot of lack of civility between parties, etc.

I do not like to debate. I actually was on the debate team in high school, college, and law school. So, I know how to debate, but these days, I do not like to debate, because I am a much different person since I returned to the Catholic faith during my last year of graduate school. I am actually much more quiet and reflective these days. And I am a lot simpler, just simply enjoying myself in prayer and reflecting on heavenly messages. I do not like to engage in intense conversations, etc., and I like to keep to myself.

However, I want to share my response to this person that I privately wrote, because I believe that it will be very instructive to many people who are challenged on the beliefs of praying to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Saints in Heaven. I feel that it is a good example of how to effectively respond to people challenging our faith in forums such as Facebook. So, here is my response.

MY RESPONSE BY PRIVATE MESSAGE (By a soul):

You posted a response to my link in the [Facebook] group about the Blessed Mother needing prayers for the U.S. elections yesterday.

Do you truly not know who the Blessed Mother is, or are you asking me this question in sarcasm? Sarcasm is not a Christ-like behavior and is beneath the dignity of a Christian.

Are you a Protestant or Catholic?

God is not the god of the dead, but of the living. Those who die in Christ are alive. I invite you to visit the Catacombs in Rome and witness what the early Christians truly believed in during the first 300 years of the Christian Church. All the tombs of the

early Christians have markings of prayers for the dead and to the Martyrs in Heaven and the Blessed Mother. This is miles and miles of early Christian graves having prayers to the Saints and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The early Christians believed in Purgatory and that the dead needed prayers to go to Heaven.

Also, you seem to like to quote Bible verses. Do you even know how you received the Bible that you believe in your hands? If it were not for the Catholic Church, you would not even have a Bible to quote.

St. Ignatius was a disciple of St. John the Apostle. He was the Bishop of Antioch and died a holy martyr in 109 AD at the hands of the Romans. He wrote many writings on the Christian faith and in his writings, he called the early Church the "Catholic Church."

If you doubt that the authentic faith is the Catholic Church, then you are basically saying that the early Christian Church was corrupted in the first generation of Christians. When I say that St. Ignatius was a disciple of St. John, that means that he was directly taught by St. John the Apostle who was taught by Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Himself.

I send this message to you privately to save you from public embarrassment in your ignorance of the history of Christianity. And if you doubt my words, then I challenge you to visit the Catacombs in Rome and tell me what the early Church believed—Christianity was built on the back of Martyrs.

Truly, to know the history of Christianity and to read the writings of the early Saints—the Church Fathers—is to cease being a Protestant.

God bless you in your faith journey.

Also see helpful commentary (by a soul):

Why it is Okay for All People to Ask the Blessed Virgin Mary to Intercede for Them

<https://maryrefugeofholyllove.com/2016/08/17/why-it-is-okay-for-all-people-to-ask-the-blessed-virgin-mary-to-intercede-for-them/>