

May 4, 2021

Good Morning All,

This weekend we will be celebrating First Communion at the 5:00 Mass on Saturday (May 8th) followed by Confirmation with the Bishop next Tuesday (May 11th). Please pray for our First Communicants and Confirmation candidates as they approach the date for these sacraments.

On Saturday, 22 students will receive their First Communion! "If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion." *St. Maximilian Kolbe*

1. Today's Readings: [Tuesday of Fifth Week of Easter | USCCB](#)

2. The RE Corner with Jan Heithaus: Today we look at the difference between *dulia*, *hyperdulia* and *latria*. What are they, how are they different and how do they apply to us as Catholics? While *dulia* in this article applies to reverence given to the saints, a broader definition includes honor given to one's superiors. This definition comes under the virtue of justice as we are called to honor those in positions greater than ours.

3. Quote of the Day: "Look for Christ Our Lord in everyone, and you will then have respect and reverence for all." *St. Teresa of James*

4. Quote about the Blessed Mother: "When needed, Mary provides for the defense and salvation of her children extraordinary graces and wonderful miracles. What wonders have caused, sustained, spread everywhere, a confidence among Christian people! What striking proofs of her protection the Church recalls to our memory in solemn feasts and devout practices, enriched by precious indulgences! What titles Christians give her to testify to their gratitude, 'Help of Christians, health of the sick, comfort of the afflicted, refuge of sinners, gate of heaven, our life, our sweetness, our hope!' What a multitude of people gather to the places where she is most honored, where she obtains the most assistance to those who call on her! What prayers and acts of thanksgiving are offered at the foot of her altars! In our days, what conquests have been made by Our Lady of Victories! What favors have been bestowed on all hearts devoted to the heart of Mary!" *St. Ignatius of Loyola*

Blessed Mother Mary, Pray for Us!
St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

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Worship: Latria, Hyperdulia and Dulia



Protestants often accuse Catholics of idolatry whenever we venerate the saints or pray to them. They frequently quote a passage from the book of Exodus to make their point that we are guilty of idolatry for venerating and praying to saints. In order to understand where this accusation is coming from, we have to first to know the Protestant understanding of worship. Protestantism believes that prayer and worship are synonymous and that its object is only God. This Protestant notion of worship is different from what the Bible says and what the Catholic Church believes.

The Catholic Church believes that prayer and worship are distinct from each other; for Catholics prayer is not tantamount to worship, when we pray to the saints, we do not worship them like how we worship God. When a Catholic prays to a saint he is asking the saints intercession or asking the saint in heaven to pray for him, like how we ask our friends to pray for us. This concept of asking our friends to pray for us or the saints to pray for us is deeply rooted in Scriptures.

St. Paul in his epistle to Timothy urge Christians to pray for one another .

First of all, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone. *1 Timothy 2:1*

This teaching of St. Paul is the basis why we ask our friends to pray for us, especially the saints who are in heaven because the prayers of the righteous is powerful *James 5:16*.

Catholicism and Protestantism have a different understanding of the word “worship”. Protestants believe that worship automatically equates to adoration of God. Whereas Catholicism follows the biblical understanding of worship wherein it is a general term that have three distinct actions.

Latria – An act of adoration or worship due to God (Holy Trinity) alone (This is what Catholics do during the Holy Mass). *Exodus 20:1-5*

Hyperdulia – An of respect towards the Blessed Virgin Mary *Luke 1:48*

Dulia – An of respect towards the saints *Romans 13:7*

The term “worship” being a general term itself is perfectly demonstrated in the Old Testament in the book of Daniel we read:

Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell down and worshiped Daniel and ordered sacrifice and incense offered to him. *Daniel 2:46*

King Nebuchadnezzar “fell down and worshiped” Daniel yet notice that Daniel did not correct the king and told him not to worship him. How is this possible? Why did the prophet Daniel accept the homage done to him by the king? The prophet Daniel perfectly understands that what the king is doing is not “Latria” or adoration due to God alone, but an act of veneration or respect.

This is exactly what Catholics are doing towards Mary and the saints, we are not worshiping them like how we worship God. We are rendering veneration or act of respect towards Mary and the saints.

Source: apologeticessay.wordpress.com