

INTEGRATION OF THE GOALS

THIS APPENDIX TO THE 15 GOALS IS ADDED TO CONSCIOUSLY CALL EACH OF US TO REFLECT UPON MARY THE FIRST DISCIPLE. VATICAN II POINTS TO MARY AS MOTHER AND EXEMPLAR FOR US AS CHRISTIANS AND FOR THE CHURCH. SHE DEMONSTRATES IN A POWERFUL WAY EACH OF THE GOALS:

TRINITY: SHE HAS THE MOST PROFOUND RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD: FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT. INDEED SHE COOPERATES WITH THE TRINITY IN AGREEING TO BE THE MOTHER OF THE WORD IN THE INCARNATION.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD: THROUGHOUT HER LIFE MARY STAYED CLOSE TO GOD AND CHOSE NEVER TO SIN. SHE PONDERED JESUS AND HIS WORDS IN HER HEART.

CHURCH: MARY WAS GATHERED WITH THE APOSTLES AND THE BELIEVERS IN THE UPPER ROOM ON PENTECOST WHEN AT THE END OF THE EUCHARIST CELEBRATION THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME UPON THEM AND THE APOSTLES WENT OUT IN WITNESS TO THE TRUTH OF JESUS CHRIST.

FAITH: MARY'S FAITH WAS DEMONSTRATED AT THE INCARNATION AND AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS.

SCRIPTURE: MARY'S MAGNIFICAT DEMONSTRATES HER KNOWLEDGE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES.

CREATION: MARY RECOGNIZES THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE MATERIAL WORLD TO GOD AND AS THE NEW EVE COOPERATES WITH GOD'S GRACE.

SACRAMENTS: MARY PARTICIPATED IN THE EUCHARIST FOLLOWING THE RESURRECTION OF HER SON.

COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS: MARY WAS AN IMPORTANT MEMBER OF THE EARLY CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY. BELIEVERS TURNED TO HER AS THEIR MOTHER IN FAITH.

HUMAN DIGNITY: MARY RECOGNIZED HER OWN SACRED DIGNITY AND PRESERVED IT FREE FROM SIN. SHE ALSO RESPECTED THE DIGNITY OF OTHERS.

MORAL CONSCIENCE: MARY UNDERSTOOD WELL THAT RIGHT LIVING WAS NOT ABOUT SIMPLY OBSERVING SOME EXTERNAL RULES, BUT OF HAVING A HEART THAT WAS CLOSE TO GOD AND LIVING ONE'S LIFE IN A WAY THAT MAGNIFIES THE GLORY OF GOD.

DISCIPLESHIP: MARY IS THE FIRST DISCIPLE AND A GREAT WITNESS TO EVANGELIZATION.

RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS: MARY RELATES TO EACH HUMAN PERSON WITH THE LOVE OF JESUS

SOCIAL JUSTICE: TREATING PEOPLE WITH RESPECT AND WITH A MATERNAL CARE FOR ALL, BUT PARTICULARLY FOR THE POOR AND THE NEEDY.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE: MARY PUTS HER LOVE OF GOD INTO SERVICE. FIRST WHILE SHE LIVED IN THIS WORLD, LIKE AT CANA, AND THEN FROM HEAVEN IN HER MATERNAL INTERCESSION.

PRAYER: MARY'S PRAYER IN JOINING HER HEART WITH THE SACRED HEART OF HER SON AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS. HER LIVING IN THE RELATIONSHIP OF GRACE WITH THE TRINITY.