



Jesus (the) Christ

His Life, Message & Mission

Lesson 1-5



Saint Gianna Beretta Molla

Born: 4 October 1922, Magenta Italy

Died: 28 April, 1962 at age of 39

Doctor and physician.

Married, Mother of four children

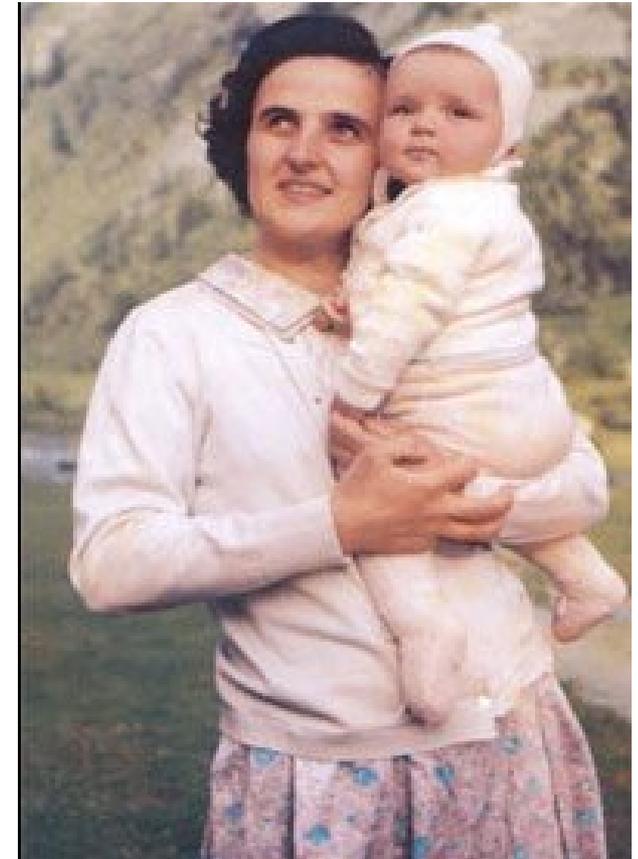
While pregnant with 4th child, it was discovered that she had a tumor in her uterus.

Advised by the doctors to abort the child, she refused, and chose to keep the pregnancy, and have an operation on her uterus.

Her child was born by Caesarean section.

she died 7 days later of septic peritonitis.

May 16, 2004 Canonization in St Peter's Square Rome





The canonization of Saint Gianna is the first of its kind in modern times. Many mothers have been beatified for their heroic virtues but they entered religious life after becoming widowed.

In St Gianna's case, the very condition of her being a spouse and mother is being exalted and highlighted.

St Gianna is the first canonized woman physician and professional who was also a "working mom".





- **Week 2**
 - **Church as Sacrament**
 - **Encounter with the Triune God**
 - **Experiencing God's Presence**

Review

Week 3

- **Concepts of God**
 - Agape -Unconditional Love**
 - **Yahweh – YHWH- I am who am**
 - **Source of all existence**

- **Week 4**

- **We Believe in God our Father**
 - **Creator of All (I Am Who Am)**
 - **Abba Father (personal, Loving Father)**
 - **Salvation -**
 - Reconciliation of Man with God**



- 1. Paradigm . . . One's unique view or perspective based on his/her life experiences**
- 2. Sacrament . . . Encounter with (experiencing presence of)
The triune God**
- 3. Agape . . . Unconditional, self-sacrificing, active,
volitional, and thoughtful love.**
- 4. Reconciliation .. Restoration of Intimate Relationship
Restoration – Suggests there has been a break
Intimate - Sharing in eternal life**
- 5. Incarnation . . . God the Son became flesh (human) in the person of
Jesus of Nazareth.**

Big Word(s) of the Week



I believe:

**in one Lord, Jesus (the) Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten not made, consubstantial with the Father,
through Him all things were made.**

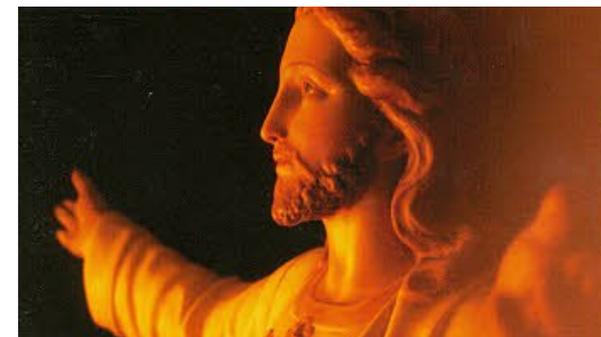
**For us men and for our salvation,
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.**

Words of the Creed



Jesus the Christ

- **Jesus - Yeshua in Hebrew - means “God saves”**
- **Christ-**
 - **A Title Not A Name**
 - **means “Messiah” or “Anointed”**
- **“Son of God”**
 - **Describes special relationship with the Father.**
 - **Member of Holy Trinity**
- **“Lord” “Adonai”**
 - **Hebrew word, used to show respect to God**



Jesus (the) Christ



- **Mystery of the union of “divine” and “human” natures of Jesus is the Incarnation.**
- **Jesus was and is fully God and fully human.**
- **“True God and True man”**
 - **Perfect mediator between God and humanity**
 - **We are called to be “in the image of God” -- we were so created.**
- **Virgin Birth**



Incarnation



What does Incarnation Mean for Mary

Basics:

Mary is human, not divine

God favored her to be Mother of Jesus

Church honors Mary as Archetype of Discipleship

**Everything the Church says about Mary is reflective of
& subordinate to Jesus**



- **Theotokos-Greek word for “Mother of God”**
 - **A title reflective of the divine nature of Jesus, not of Mary**
- **God's Salvation Plan fulfilled through the free acceptance by the virgin girl-Mary**
 - **Favored by God**
 - **Immaculate Conception**
 - **Sign of God’s “special favor” given to Mary**
- **Her “Yes” becomes the cause of our salvation**



Mary, Mother of God



Gospels

- **The four Gospels provide the descriptions of Jesus mission, and tell of teachings**
 - **Kingdom of God**
 - **Not limited to a time or place**
 - **Jesus calls us to Conversion, that is, to turn toward God - to love God above all things and to Love our neighbor as ourselves.**
 - **And thus bring about the “Kingdom of God”**

Jesus' Life, Message and Mission



The Gospels tell us very little about Jesus' childhood and early adult life.

- **Jesus early childhood is a mystery, with few exceptions (often called the hidden life of Jesus)**
 - **As a boy in the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)**
 - **About my Father's Business**
 - **Most likely trained in Joseph's trade**
 - **Joseph is described as a "Tekton" in Greek**
 - **Can be translated as "craftsman", 'builder', or 'Carpenter'"**
- **Public ministry**
 - **Began with his baptism by John the Baptist**
 - **Sinless-did not need Baptism, but used this event to identify himself more closely with us, the sinners**
 - **Anticipates taking on sins of the world**

Jesus' Message and Mission



Teachings about the Kingdom

Old Covenant

You shall not murder.

Do not commit adultery.

Love your neighbor and defeat your enemy.

New Covenant

You should not even hold anger toward someone.

Do not even “lust” for someone else's spouse.

Love our enemies and pray for them. Everyone is your neighbor.

Jesus' Message and Mission



Teachings about the Kingdom

Old Covenant

10 Commandments

**Expressed in 613 Precepts Known
as “The Law”**

New Covenant

10 Commandments

**Summed up in the
Two Great Commandments:**

- 1. Love God above all things**
- 2, Love Your Neighbor
as Yourself**

Jesus' Message and Mission



- **Stories told with a “twist”**
 - **You need to understand culture and time to fully understand**
- **They often conflict with Jewish tradition and law**
 - **Parable of Good Samaritan**
 - **Jewish Belief-Samaritans are a despicable people who have polluted Judaism by mixing it with pagan beliefs and practices**
 - **Parable-the Samaritan shows proper Love of Neighbor while the Jewish passer-by refused to help**
 - **Parable of rich man and Lazarus**
 - **Jewish Belief - we receive rewards and punishments in this world. Poverty and disease as a sign of God's disfavor.**
 - **Parable – Blessed are you who are poor for your's is the Kingdom of God. Wealth is to be used to serve those less fortunate. Failure to take care of poor leads to damnation.**

Parables



- **Jesus shows compassion**
 - **Miracles**
 - **Physical healings**
 - **Exorcisms**
 - **Bringing dead back to life**
 - **Nature Miracles**
- **Jesus provides living examples for us**
 - **Feeding poor**
 - **Forgiving sins**
 - **Healing sick**
 - **Dealing with the “Unlovable” people**

Think about Pope Francis

Living the Kingdom of God



Who are Jesus' Disciples?

- **Students or followers of Christ**
 - **Ordinary people from different walks of life**
 - **Fishermen**
 - **A Tax Collector**
 - **Not the rich and powerful**
 - **12 special disciples (Apostles)**
 - **Bishops are considered the successors of Apostles**
 - **Many other disciples**
 - **Included many women**
 - **Women may have funded Jesus ministry**
 - **Were present throughout his travels**
 - **Witnessed his death and resurrection**
 - **Mary Magdalen - First Person to experience 'Risen Lord'**

Disciples



What is expected of Disciples?

- **Jesus teaches us that 'discipleship' requires 'Service'**
 - **Must provide Support and love for each other to be true disciples**
 - **We are called to proclaim the Gospel message to all**
 - **Through Actions**
 - **Through Attitude to Others**
 - **Through Words**
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 - **Think about the Catholic – Protestant Split**
 - **Faith alone vs. Faith & Good Works**
 - **The Cost of Discipleship is a call to Service (good works)**

Disciples



- **What other names are used for Jesus?**
 - **Son of God**
 - **Son of Man**
 - **Suffering Servant**
 - **Lord of Lords**
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- **What does it mean “Jesus Saves?”**
- **Who is Jesus to you?**
- **How do you share in the mission of Christ to give love and support to others?**
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- **Think Pope Francis. How is he trying to change the focus and/or emphasis of the Church?**

Discussion



Take Aways

Jesus the Christ

God the Son becomes Man

To Bridge the Gap between God & Man

Jesus' Message

2 Great Commandments

Agape

Discipleship is a call to Service



Week 5

- **Jesus the Christ**
- **Mystery of his Suffering, death & resurrection**
- **Together – a single act of Redemption**
- **Triduum**

Preview