

Who Is Jesus Christ?

✠ Jesus is perfect God.

- ⇒ He always was, is, and will be one divine Person.
- ⇒ He has the same divine nature (substance / essence) as God the Father.
- ⇒ God the Son, *Jesus*, and God the Father and God the Holy Ghost are one.
- ⇒ He is eternally begotten of the Father, and so we call Him the “Son of God.”
- ⇒ We also refer to Him as the *Logos* (or Word) of God the Father.

✠ Jesus is perfect man.

- ⇒ At the incarnation, God the Son assumed a human nature.
- ⇒ He was conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary.
- ⇒ He is the Son of Mary.
- ⇒ He is like us men in all things, except sin (cf. Hebrews 4:15).

✠ The Hypostatic Union

- ⇒ We use this term to describe the unique mystery of Jesus Christ, namely that He is One Person in Whom are united two complete natures - divine and human - which remain distinct, unchanged, indivisible, and inseparable.
- ⇒ We also often refer to this as the **Mystery of the Incarnation**, which is the second most fundamental mystery of the Catholic Faith. All our Christian dogmas flow from the truths of the Mystery of the Holy Trinity and of the Incarnation.

Why does this matter?

✠ Jesus Christ is Truth!

- ⇒ Christians in past centuries better understood:
 - Salvation depends on who Jesus is (*what is not assumed is not saved*).
 - Man must believe the Truth to be saved.
 - What we believe affects how we live (*lex credendi, lex vivendi*).
- ⇒ Today, we are far too immersed in a spirit of indifferentism. Thus, heresy abounds and all the moral and social evils that flow therefrom.

Jesus asks each one us, “Whom do you say that I am?” (cf. Mt 16:13-17)

✠ Jesus is Son of God and Son of Mary.

- ⇒ Jesus is the Son of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
 - As a “Son,” He must be a person and He must be one (a son can’t be two persons).
 - Since Mary is a human, He must have a human nature.
 - Since She is ever-Virgin, He must have a divine nature.
- ⇒ Our Blessed Mother defeats all heresies and crushes the infernal devil.

See questions #31 - 46 in The Fatima Center's *Catholic Catechism*.