Jesus Christ – True God and true man

One of the principal beliefs of the Catholic Church is that Jesus Christ has two natures – He is fully God and fully man. This is called the Hypostatic Union of the Eternal Word with His human nature which took place at the moment He was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary. In this Hypostatic Union, the divine and human natures of Christ are united in His person without being mixed or confused with each other.

The two natures of Christ are needed because His divine nature allows Him to act as a perfect sacrifice for humanity's sins, and His human nature allows Him to fully relate to human experience and suffering. The two natures of Christ allow Him to be the ideal Mediator between God and man; while He alone has the power to redeem us, He can also empathize with our struggles and hardship.

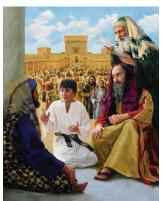
Does Jesus have a human soul? Yes, the Church was led over the course of centuries to confess the full reality of Christ's human soul, with its operations of intellect and will, and of His human body (CCC 470). Just to reiterate and to be clear, the divine nature of Christ did not change by uniting a human soul to His person.

Did Jesus have human knowledge? Yes, Jesus did have human knowledge which developed and grew. The Gospel of Luke tells us that the 12-year old Jesus "advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man" (Luke 2:52). Yet, at the same time, Jesus had divine knowledge in that He had an awareness of being the Son of the Father: When Mary and Joseph found



Jesus in the temple after three days of searching, He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" (Luke 2:49). The self-knowledge of Jesus depended on the Father's continuing revelation:

- 1. When Jesus was baptized in the Jordan, a voice came from heaven saying, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased" (Luke 3:22, cf. Matthew 3:17, Mark 1:11).
- 2. Jesus said to the Pharisees, "I have much to say about you in condemnation. But the one who sent me is true, and what I heard from Him, I tell the world" (John 8:26)
- 3. Jesus said to His disciples, "I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father" (John 15:15).



As Jesus was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples approached Jesus privately and said, "Tell us, when will this happen, and what sign will there be of your coming, and of the end of the age?" (Matthew 24:3) Jesus answered, "But of that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone" (Matthew 24:36) Jesus wasn't making an excuse for not telling, nor was He lying; at that point in time, Jesus did not know because the Father had not yet revealed it to Him.

Did Jesus have a human will? Jesus had a human will and His during His earthly life, He made free decisions though His human will. The best example of Jesus exercising His human will is when Jesus prayed at the Garden of Gethsemane, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done" (Luke 22:42). The Son of God... worked with human hands; He

thought with a human mind. He acted with a human will, and with a human heart He loved. Born of the Virgin Mary, He has truly been made one of us, like to us in all things except sin (Gaudium et Spes 22§2).

Prayer List: Liu Guifang, Lydia Chen, Lu Shumi, David Wang, Chen Jianxin, Liang Chenjing, Pan Bohao and Xu Taicheng.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Father Bill would like to thank all those who helped make our Christmas Day celebration a memorable event. Thank you to our Sunday School children, parents and volunteers who put together the Christmas pageant, thank you to our church choir, altar servers and volunteers who helped in the Christmas Midnight Mass and Christmas Day Mass, thank you to all who brought food to the Christmas potluck, thank you to all who put together our Christmas

program and emcees, thank you to Santa Claus and all the performers, thank you to all those who donated prizes for our Christmas raffle, thank you to all who helped decorate our church and social hall, thank you to all those who helped clean up after the Christmas celebration, and

thank you to all who we have failed to mention in this announcement. May the Lord bless you and reward your hard work and selfless service to the Church!

January 1,2025, Wednesday, is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, it is also a holy day of obligation. Mass in Chinese will begin at 12:00 noon.

Attention all Chinese Cursillo members: We will have our monthly ULTREYA today. Please proceed to the conference room immediately after Mass.



O Lord Jesus Christ, you lived in the home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. There you advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. Bless our homes with wisdom and understanding, love and peace.

O Blessed Virgin Mary, you nurtured Jesus as an infant and never stopped caring for Him. Pray for us!

O Saint Joseph, as foster father to Jesus and husband to Mary, you worked as a carpenter to provide for them. Pray for us!

O Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I consecrate my family to you.

May all Christian families aspire to grow in virtue, to overcome divisiveness and to live in peace. Keep us strong in faith, diligent in our work, persevering in prayer and generous to those in need. Amen.

Mass Schedule	Confessions	Bible Study
Sundays 10:30 AM (Chinese)	Sundays 9:00-9:30 AM	Wednesdays 10:00 AM (Chinese)
Sundays 2:00 PM (English)	Tuesdays 2:00-3:00 PM	Mondays 6:00 PM (English)
	By Appointment	
Mondays 12:00 PM (English)		Eucharistic Adoration
Tuesdays 12:00 PM (English)	Anointing of the Sick	Sundays 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Wednesdays 12:00 PM (Chinese)	First Sundays after 10:30 AM	Tuesdays 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM
	Mass	
Fridays 12:00 PM (English)		
First Friday 7:00 PM (English)		
First Saturday 10:00 AM (Chinese)		