

In answer to the question of whether women can be ordained priests:

- 1) ***“Wherefore, in order that all doubt may be removed regarding a matter of great importance, a matter which pertains to the Church’s divine constitution itself, in virtue of my ministry of confirming the brethren (cf. Lk 22:32) I declare that the Church has no authority whatsoever to confer priestly ordination on women and that this judgment is to be definitively held by all the Church’s faithful.” -Pope John Paul II, Apostolic Letter, Ordinatio Sacerdotalis, 1994**

****Infallible declaration that ensures this matter is settled and will never change.***

- 2) Some women simply want to have what they can't have? Should men be angry at God or jealous of woman because only woman have the greatest gift of giving life? The Jewish culture and customs of His time had no effect on Jesus' decision not to choose women to be priests and apostles. If Christ wanted women to be priests he would have chosen women to be apostles and clearly said so. Jesus broke many, many of the Jewish religious practices and customs of His day, like breaking the Sabbath and His apostles not performing the ceremonial washing of hands, calling himself the Son of God, and telling people they must eat His flesh and blood. Jews were not allowed to touch blood or eat any meat with even a hint of blood in it because to do so would have made them ceremonially unclean to offer sacrifice at the Temple. Yet Jesus told the Jews they must eat His flesh and drink His blood. This was horrifying to any Jew. Jesus, calling Himself "I AM" was the greatest blasphemy that a Jew could commit and the excuse they used to kill him. If Jesus wanted women priests, He would have done so and it would have certainly been a far less of an offense to Jews than saying he was the son of God and "I AM"; they would not have killed him for having women apostles and priests. **To say that Jesus discriminated against women is to accuse Him of sinning. To say that Jesus submitted, acquiesced, and allowed the discrimination of women by the Jewish culture of his times is to say that Jesus cooperated with sin and thereby sinned Himself and to say this his to deny is divinity as God.**
- 3) 1 Timothy 2:11-14
 - a) A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. **I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent.** For Adam was formed first, then Eve. And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. But women will be saved through childbearing-if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.
- 4) 1 Corinthians 14:33-38
 - a) For God is not a God of disorder but of peace. **As in all the congregations of the saints, women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission, as the Law says. If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home; for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church.** Did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached? If anybody thinks he is a prophet or spiritually gifted, **let him acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command. If he ignores this, he himself will be ignored.**
- 5) 1 Peter 3:1-6

Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, **they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives**, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.

- 6) Numbers 23:19
 - a) **God** is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should **change** his mind.
- 7) Ephesians 5:22
 - a) **Wives, submit** to your husbands as to the Lord.
- 8) Colossians 3:18
 - a) **Wives, submit** to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
- 9) Ephesians 5:24
 - a) Now as the church submits to Christ, so also **wives** should **submit** to their husbands in everything.
- 10) Titus 2:1,3-4
 - a) You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine. Likewise, teach the **older women to be reverent in the way they live**, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then **they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children**, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.
- 11) Acts 13:50
 - a) The Jews, however, incited the women of prominence who were worshipers and the leading men of the city, stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas.
 - b) Today, deceivers and wolves in sheep's clothing are doing the same thing that the Jews did to Paul and Barnabas. These deceivers and liars are stirring up women to defy the Church and God by attempting to become priests, pastors, and ministers.
- 12) Luke 23:29
 - a) Jesus declares, "For behold, the days are coming when they will say, `Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never **gave suck!**'"
- 13) Genesis 3:15
 - a) "I will put **enmity** between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall crush your head, and you shall bruise his heel."
 - b) Satan hates all of mankind, but his hatred is especially intense for women because he is jealous because they can give life and despite all of his supernatural powers, he cannot. For this reason, Satan specifically targeted and tricked Eve into falling into disobedience to the will of God. In the same way, Satan still targets women to this day by tricking them into falling into disobedience and straying from their God given role.
- 14) In the Garden of Eden, Eve did not obey the role that God created for her. Instead, she strayed outside of her role and brought down all of mankind in the process. On the other hand, the second Eve, Mary, stayed true to her God-given role as the mother of God and in the process, God redeemed all of mankind. Each woman must chose which example she will follow, the fallen path of Eve or the redeeming path of Mary.
 - a) Woman and men have equal, but different roles. In the same manner, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are all equally and fully God, yet they also have different roles and Jesus was always obedient to His role by being submissive to His Father. In the same way, men and women must be obedient to God by being submissive to the important roles that God has assigned to each gender.

- b) How can anyone question the pedestal and place of high honor that the Catholic Church has bestowed on women? To put it bluntly, the Catholic Church is the greatest advocate for women, that the world has ever known! No other major world religion exalts women to the level of the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church has two ex cathedra declarations on Mary. The highest *created* human of either gender is Our Blessed Mother, the virgin Mary. She is the only created being of either sex that has the honor of being without sin. She is crowned the Queen of heaven and earth and the mother of God. The Catholic Church has been accused of centuries of worshipping a woman! This is untrue because Catholics only worship the Holy Trinity. However, we do give Mary great honor because no one could ever honor Mary to the degree that God honored Mary by choosing her to be the Mother of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ. The Catholic Church does not denigrate women. Far from it, the Catholic Church venerates the perfect woman! If Protestants think women should preach, why don't Protestants acknowledge Mary?
- 15) Jesus makes it clear in **Matthew 25:40**, "And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.'" Unborn children are certainly considered the "least of these" by many in this fallen world. In this sense, every unborn child is like unto Jesus. In a similar sense, if every unborn child is like unto Jesus, then every mother is like unto our Blessed Mother Mary. Every woman must decide what type of woman she will model and strive to emulate - our Blessed Mother the Virgin Mary or Eve. Is being the mother of God really that bad?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kgou9QDR4KM>