On The Origins of the Name Heading Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint
by Charles Croissant

Editor’s Introduction: Several weeks ago, Joan Milligan, Special Collections Cataloger at Marian Library of the University of Dayton Libraries, posted a query to the listserv of the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC), asking how the name heading Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint came to be established in that particular form and noting that this heading seemed to have been originally a subject. Charles Croissant, Senior Catalog Librarian at Pius XII Memorial Library at Saint Louis University, responded to this question with an illuminating and thorough explanation of the rationale behind the form of the heading and commentary on its history. Because this is a question of no little importance to catalogers in Catholic libraries — see, e.g., Oliver Leonard Kapsner, O.S.B. Cataloging Bulletin, No. 30 (Jan. 2015), p. 1 — and some readers of the Kapsner Bulletin might not be subscribers to the PCC Listserv, it seemed appropriate to reproduce, in amended form, Mr. Croissant’s explanation here. The editor would like to thank Mr. Croissant for graciously agreeing to publish a slightly expanded version of his post here.

I think the short answer to the question of why the name authority form Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint has the form it has, is that the cataloger who established this heading consulted The New Catholic Encyclopedia, a standard reference work on the history and doctrine of the Catholic Church, and adopted the descriptive phrase which it uses, namely "Blessed Virgin." A consultation of the New Catholic Encyclopedia shows that all of its articles which pertain to Mary begin with the heading "Mary, Blessed Virgin."

This name heading would have been established under AACR2. Although the wording of the instructions for establishing the forms of personal names changed
substantially between AACR2 and RDA, the result of applying the instructions remained pretty much the same.

This is a name which includes no surname, so the first element of the access point is the person's given name, in this case "Mary"; see Instruction 9.2.2.18 in the Original Toolkit version of RDA.

The "other characteristic" "Blessed Virgin" is commonly associated with Mary's name, so it is included as an “integral part of the name,” preceded by a comma; see the second paragraph under RDA Instruction 9.2.2.18.

The judgment about what phrase to use in conjunction with her name was presumably made on the basis of the way she is presented in the aforementioned *The New Catholic Encyclopedia*. The choice is documented in the 2nd 670 of Name Authority Record n 81018544, which cites the New Catholic encyclopedia -- the first 670 in NAR n 81018544 documents the form of name found in the item being cataloged.

Anyone who has been canonized by the Catholic Church receives the element "Saint" as an addition to their name; see RDA Instruction 9.19.1.2.4.

In this way, we arrive at the authorized form Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint.

With regards to the question of treating the Virgin Mary’s name as a subject heading, back in the day, a significant number of entities got established in both the name authority file and the subject authority file. As far as machine-readable versions of authority records go, the name authority record for Mary was created first, in March of 1981. We can see this by going to the LC Names and Subjects History File, available via OCLC, and searching on the LCCN n 81018544. This machine-readable record was probably transcribed from an existing card in Library of Congress’s manual authority file. The form of name **Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint** was probably chosen sometime between the introduction of AACR2 at the Library of Congress, in the late 1970’s, and the time when the card was entered into the online authority file in 1981. Some time later, in February of 1986, Mary was established in the subject authority file as well, under the LCCN sh 85081692. In both records, her form of name appears as **Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint**. Under previous catalog rules, or in earlier versions of the subject headings, it's possible that a different form was used. In the mid-1990’s, it was determined that it was redundant to have two separate records, and the subject authority was merged to the name authority. For Mary, this happened in 1998.
Something can also be said about the history of the subject heading prior to its incorporation into the online National Authority File. As early as 1895, the *List of Subject Headings for Use in Dictionary Catalogs* published by the American Library Association – the earliest general subject heading list to appear in the United States – included a subject heading *Mary, virgin* (My thanks to Joan Milligan, Special Collections Librarian at the Marian Library, University of Dayton for this reference). Eighty years later, in 1975, this subject heading was still listed in the *Library of Congress Subject Headings* under the form *Mary, Virgin* (My thanks to Mark Ehlert, Cataloging and Metadata Librarian at the University of St. Thomas, for this reference). It is this latter form that was used by subject catalogers until the time that AACR2 was adopted.

Editor’s Postface – *Mutatis mutandis*, Mr. Croissant’s explanation of the form of the name heading *Mary, Blessed Virgin, Saint* also applies to other complex headings for Apostolic-age saints such as *Peter, the Apostle, Saint* and *Thomas, Apostle, Saint, active 1st century*.

**Personal Name Access Points**

On March 25, 2021, renowned American children’s author Beverly Cleary died at the age of one hundred and four. She was born as Beverly Atlee Bunn on April 12, 1916, in McMinnville, Oregon. Beverly spent her earliest years on a farm in rural Oregon but, when she was six, her family moved to Portland, Oregon, where she attended elementary and high school. She attended college in California, beginning at Chaffey Junion College and then transferring to the University of California, Berkeley, where she received a bachelor’s degree in English in 1938. Aspiring to become a children’s librarian, she then undertook studies at the University of Washington’s School of Librarianship, earning a bachelor’s degree in library science in 1939. After spending a year as a children’s librarian in Yakima, Washington, Beverly Bunn married Charles Cleary, a young man she had met while at Berkeley. This marriage was not without controversy in her family, for her parents, who had raised her as a Presbyterian, disapproved of Cleary’s Roman Catholic faith: as a result, Charles and Beverly eloped and moved to California, where they were married, though Beverly chose not to convert. During World War II, Beverly Cleary worked as post librarian for the U.S. Army Hospital at Camp John T. Knight in Oakland; after the war, she also worked at a bookstore in Berkeley, before she and her husband settled at Carmel-by-the-Sea, where she would live until her death. Feeling that the children’s literature of the time did not offer younger readers characters to whom they could relate, Beverly decided to try her hand at writing such books. Drawing largely on her own experiences growing
up in Portland, she wrote her first book about a boy from Portland named Henry Huggins, his dog Ribsy, and two neighborhood friends of his, Beezus Quimby and her younger sister, Ramona: titled after its main character, it was published in 1950. Depicting the lives of ordinary children, *Henry Huggins* was a success and inaugurated a series of books centering around Henry and his friends, published between 1950 and 1964. In 1955, the same year that she gave birth to twins, Beverly also began writing books featuring Beezus and Roman as the main characters, continuing to produce books in this eight-volume series until 1999: the Ramona series of books, featuring titles such as *Beezus and Ramona* and *Ramona the Pest*, are considered iconic works of American children’s literature today. In addition to the Henry Huggins and Ramona series, Beverly wrote a number of other books, featuring varied child and animal characters (such as Ralph S. Mouse). Her skill as an author for children was recognized throughout her career: she won numerous awards, including the American Library Association’s Laura Ingalls Wilder Award (1975), a Newbery Medal (1984), the Catholic Library Association’s Regina Medal (1980), and the National Medal of Arts (2003), as well as being named a Library of Congress Living Legend (2000). The correct access point for works by or about Beverly Cleary, is:

**Cleary, Beverly**

On April 6, 2021, the well-known theologian and priest **Hans Küng** died in Tübingen at the age of ninety-three. He was born March 19, 1928, in Sursee, Switzerland. From 1948 until 1955, he studied philosophy and theology at the Gregorian University in Rome, and was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Basel on October 10, 1954. From 1955 until 1957, he undertook doctoral studies at the Sorbonne and the Institut Catholique de Paris, earning a doctorate in theology from the latter institution with a thesis on justification in the thought of Karl Barth. This thesis, devoted to the thought of a Protestant theologian and attempting to reconcile his teaching on justification with that of the Catholic Church, signalled an important and permanent leitmotif in Küng’s thought – ecumenism. From 1957 until 1959, Fr. Küng served as a parish priest in Luzern. In 1959, he became a lecturer in the Catholic Theological Faculty of the University of Münster; a year later, he was named professor of fundamental theology in the Catholic Theological Faculty of Tübingen, a position that he would hold for the next twenty years. During the Second Vatican Council, Fr. Küng served as a *peritus* (i.e., theological expert) for Carl Joseph Leiprecht, the Bishop of Rottenburg, proposing a strongly progressivist and reformist program, parts of which were incorporated into the final council declarations. After the completion of the council, he recommended that another young *peritus*, Josef Ratzinger, be appointed as a professor of theology at Tübingen. The two men taught there together from 1965 until 1969, when Ratzinger left
Tübingen to take up a professorship at Regensburg. Whereas Ratzinger came to increasingly distance himself from progressivist interpretations of the Council, Küng became one of their most energetic and articulate spokesmen. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, he called for the liberalization of Church teaching and practice in a number areas, arguing, *inter alia*, for the abolition of celibacy, the ordination of women, permission of contraceptives for birth control, relaxation of ecclesiastical stricures on divorce and abortion, shared communion with Protestant churches, and reform of the papacy. Although Fr. Küng’s views had already been the subject of some controversy in the 1960s, it was the publication of his book *Unfehlbar? Eine Anfrage* [In English: *Unfallible? An Inquiry*] (1970s), in which he questioned the doctrine of papal infallibility, that led to a sustained conflict with the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. This conflict culminated in the withdrawal of his *missio canonica*, or right to teach church doctrine, in 1979. As a result, Fr. Küng was compelled to leave the Catholic Theological Faculty at Tübingen; instead, he was appointed to a personal chair for ecumenical theology and the directorship of the Institute for Ecumenical Research at the same university, which he held until his retirement from teaching in 1996. While continuing to publish copiously on theological subjects and to issue public critiques of the institutional Church and its leaders, Fr. Küng initiated a new ecumenical project in the early 1990s – Projekt Weltethos, which seeks to synthesize a universal ethics from all religious traditions – and served as president of the Weltethos Foundation from 1995 until 2013, promoting interreligious dialogue on ethical issues. Despite his profound disagreements with official Church teachings on a number of points of dogma and discipline and his unrelenting criticism of the Church hierarchy, Fr. Küng remained true to his priestly vocation and to his Catholic identity until his death. The correct access point for works by or about Fr. Hans Küng, is:

**Küng, Hans, 1928-2021**

Father **Josef Molitor** was born on March 14, 1842, in the town of Valašské Meziříčí in northeastern Moravia. After finishing high school, he began seminary studies in the city of Olomouc, eventually transferring to the American College in Louvain, Belgium, to train for missionary work in the United States. Shortly after his ordination in Louvain in 1866, Fr. Molitor came to the United States, where he took up an assignment as pastor of the recently formed St. Wenceslaus Parish in Chicago, a position that he would hold until his death some forty years later. Fr. Molitor proved to be a strong and capable parish administrator in an environment that required such strength. Most notably, he shepherded the parish through a crisis in the later 1870s, when a drawn-out dispute over the ownership of church property between the parish council and the Archdiocese of Chicago precipitated the secession of a large number of parishioners, many of whom stepped out of the
Catholic Church altogether, and became a cause célèbre for anti-Catholic elements in the Czech-American community in Chicago. Despite the trauma of this event, Fr. Molitor oversaw the reorganization of the parish and improvement of the church grounds. His skill as pastor and administrator was recognized by Archbishops Patrick Feehan (reg., 1880-1902) and James Edward Quigley (reg. 1903-1915), both of whom named him as an archdiocesan consultor. Fr. Molitor also contributed to Czech-American print culture. In October 1867, he founded, with the help of several clerical associates, the first Czech-language Catholic newspaper in the United States, the Chicago-based Katolické noviny [in English: The Catholic News]. This enterprise proved to be short-lived, as the newspaper folded after only eight months of operation. Undeterred, three years later, Fr. Molitor helped Msgr. Josef Hessoun of St. Louis to establish a new newspaper, Hlas [in English: The Voice], which, after an initial period of instability, became a leading – and long-lived – Czech-American Catholic newspaper, continuing in print until 1950. Fr. Molitor was also active as an author, contributing articles to Hlas, as well as preparing Czech-language versions of the Baltimore Catechism. After a life of many-sided service to his church and community, Fr. Molitor died in Chicago on August 23, 1906. The correct access point for works by or about Fr. Josef Molitor, is:

Molitor, Josef, $d 1842-1906

John Charlton Polkinghorne was born in the town of Weston-super-Mare in Somerset, England on October 16 1930. He studied mathematics at Cambridge University, graduating as the Senior Wrangler (i.e., the best undergraduate student in mathematics) in 1952. Polkinghorne continued graduate studies at the same university, earning a doctorate in physics in 1955. After a postdoctoral fellowship at the California Institute of Technology and a stint as a lecturer at the University of Edinburgh, he returned to Cambridge University, where he taught first as a lecturer, then a reader, and finally a professor of mathematical physics. During this time, his research focused on mathematical theories relating to elementary particles and related problems in quantum mechanics. A committed Christian and member of the Church of England from his youth, Polkinghorne decided in 1987 to train for the Anglican priesthood and, two years later, resigned his professorship to devote himself fully to seminary training. After three years of study at Westcott House, Cambridge, he was ordained a priest on June 6, 1982 at Trinity College, Cambridge. After working as a parish priest for five years, Rev. Polkinghorne returned to Cambridge as dean of chapel at Trinity Hall in 1986, soon being appointed president of Queen’s College, a capacity in which he served for a decade. In 1994, he was appointed canon theologian of Liverpool Cathedral, a position that he would hold until 2005. During the second, theological phase of his career, Rev. Polkinghorne became a leading commentator on natural theology and the relation of science and
religion, adopting a position as a critical realist and arguing for the existence of
God on the basis of such features of the universe as its intelligibility and the fine
tuning of its basic parameters to support human life. The author of thirty-four books
on physics and on science and religion, Rev. Polkinghorne received a number of
honors during his lifetime: most notably, he was named a Knight of the British
Empire (KBE) in 1997 and, five years later, received the prestigious Templeton
Prize, which is awarded annually to those who “harness[] the power of the sciences
to explore the deepest questions of the universe and humankind’s place and purpose
within it” (https://www.templetonprize.org/). He died in Cambridge at the age of
ninety on March 9, 2021. The correct access point for works by or about Rev. John
Polkinghorne is

Polkinghorne, J. C., $d 1930-

SUBJECT CATALOGING NEWS

Selected LC subject heading additions & changes from the Library of Congress
Subject Headings (LCSH) Approved Lists 01 (Jan 15, 2021) - 03 (March 13, 2021)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>KEY</th>
<th>UF = Used for</th>
<th>BT = Broader term</th>
<th>RT = Related term</th>
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N.B. You may wish to confirm the current state of the authority record by consulting LC's
authority file or the OCLC authority file—editor.

150 Gates in the Bible [sp20219103136]

110 Capilla de la Nuestra Señora de los Ojos Grandes (Catedral de Lugo) [sp2020010580]
410 UF Capilla de la Virgen de los Ojos Grandes (Catedral de Lugo)
410 UF Chapel of Nuestra Señora de los Ojos Grandes (Catedral de Lugo)
410 UF Nuestra Señora de los Ojos Grandes Chapel (Catedral de Lugo)
410 UF Virgen de los Ojos Grandes Chapel (Catedral de Lugo)
510 BT Catedral de Lugo
550 BT Chapels—Spain

150 Chapels—Spain [sp2021000036]

150 Christian drama, Hungarian [May Subd Geog] [sp2020008927]
053 PH3084.5
450 UF Hungarian Christian drama
550 BT Hungarian drama
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Thomas M. Dousa 773-702-8782 (phone)
Joseph Regenstein Library, Room 170 e-mail: tmdousa@uchicago.edu
1100 E. 57th St.
Chicago, Illinois 60637
U.S.A.

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