

18.12.80  
11.30 am.

Para,9

There remains a problem concerning the proper subject-matter of authoritative definitions. This was faced at Vatican I, which restricted such definitions to matters of "faith and morals." Particular difficulties arise in respect of the Marian definitions and our divergent views as to their relation to Scriptural faith. We recognise that Christian understanding of Mary must in no way be divorced from the doctrines of Christ and the Church nor <sup>should</sup> can it detract from the all-sufficiency of his saving work <sup>through which she is herself redeemed.</sup> The issue between us is that of the appropriateness and need for the Church to make statements of essential doctrine in Marian rather than in directly Christological terms. Such questions need further examination in the light of the growing relationship between our Churches.