

Mary - Mother Of Jesus



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**“To Christ
through
Mary”**

To Christ through Mary

Chapter 1 of Luke describes in detail that Jesus came into this world through Mary.

Mary is not a pure accident. She is part of God's plan and mother in a full human sense.

To understand Mary means to understand Jesus better; she was his mother and educator. Subsequently, she was his first disciple.

To Christ through Mary

In John 2:3 it is demonstrated that Mary was instrumental in bringing about Jesus first miracle at Cana. Her discreet but nonetheless determined intervention -- subordinate to the will of the Son -- culminates in the essential meaning of this sentence: "To Jesus through Mary."

What she tells us is, in everything do his will.

To Christ through Mary

It should not be forgotten that in John 19: 25-27 Jesus has entrusted John to his mother. We are like John, disciples of Jesus and thus entrusted to Mary.



Role of Mary

Our Catechism reminds us "What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ. "God sent forth his Son", but to prepare a body for him, he wanted the free co-operation of a creature.

Role of Mary

For this, from all eternity God chose for the mother of his Son a daughter of Israel, a young Jewish woman of Nazareth in Galilee, "a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary" (Lk. 1:26,27).

Mary as Mother

Mother of God (Theotokos)

Daughter of the Father

Mother of the Redeemer

Spouse of the Spirit

Mother of the Church

Mother of the Domestic Church (every
Christian family)

Mother of all the Living

Intercessor & Mary of Perpetual help

Queen of heaven & earth

Importance of Mary

1. Nova Eva "Death by Eve, life by Mary" — Saint Jerome (Epistle 22) : She was viewed as the "Second Eve" whose "Yes" untied the knot caused by Eve's "No". Yes to God. Stamps on the head of serpent.
- Cause of Salvation- [Jesus :The "Last Adam"]



Mary - Mother Of Jesus

Importance of Mary

2. The Passion Partnership (Co-Redeemer)

3. Woman of the Apocalypse

The Woman of the Apocalypse (or Woman clothed in the Sun, is a figure from Chapter 12 of the Book of Revelation (written around AD 95). In this narrative the woman gives birth to a male child that is attacked by the Dragon identified as the Devil and Satan. When the child is taken to heaven, the woman flees into the wilderness leading to "War in Heaven" in which the angels cast out the Dragon. The Dragon attacks the woman, who is given wings to escape, and then attacks her again with a flood of water from his mouth, which is subsequently swallowed by the earth. Frustrated, the dragon initiates war on "the remnant of her seed" identified as the righteous followers of Christ.



Marian Dogmas- teachings of the Catholic Church

Marian Dogmas

- Divine Motherhood
- Perpetual Virginity
- Immaculate Conception
- Assumption



Divine Motherhood

Mary's divine motherhood was proclaimed at the Council of Ephesus in 431. Called in the Gospels "the mother of Jesus", Mary is acclaimed by Elizabeth, at the prompting of the Spirit and even before the birth of her son, as "the mother of my Lord".

Divine Motherhood

In fact, the One whom she conceived as man by the Holy Spirit, who truly became her Son according to the flesh, was none other than the Father's eternal Son, the second person of the Holy Trinity. Hence the Church confesses that Mary is truly "Mother of God".

Perpetual Virginity

The expression perpetual virginity, ever-virgin, or simply "Mary the Virgin" refers primarily to the conception and birth of Jesus. From the first formulations of faith, especially in baptismal formulas or professions of faith, the Church professed that Jesus Christ was conceived without human seed by the power of the Holy Spirit only.

Perpetual Virginity

Mary conceived "without any detriment to her virginity, which remained inviolate even after his birth" (Council of the Lateran, 649). "That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit", said the angel to Joseph about Mary his fiancée. The Church sees here the fulfillment of the divine promise given through the prophet Isaiah: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son."

Immaculate Conception

To become the mother of the Savior, Mary "was enriched by God with gifts appropriate to such a role." The angel Gabriel at the moment of the annunciation salutes her as "full of grace". In fact, in order for Mary to be able to give the free assent of her faith, it was necessary that she be wholly borne by God's grace. Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception.

Immaculate Conception

That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Pope Pius IX proclaimed in 1854: The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stains of original sin.

Immaculate Conception

The "splendor of an entirely unique holiness" by which Mary is "enriched from the first instant of her conception" comes wholly from Christ: she is "redeemed, in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son". The Father blessed Mary "in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places" and chose her "in Christ before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless before him in love".

Assumption

This Marian dogma was proclaimed by Pope Pius XII on November 1, 1950 on his Encyclical *Munificentissimus Deus*. A distinction needs to be made between Ascension and Assumption. Jesus Christ, Son of God and Risen Lord, ascended into heaven, a sign of divine power. Mary, on the contrary, was elevated or assumed into heaven by the power and grace of God. The dogma states that "Mary, Immaculate Mother of God ever Virgin, after finishing the course of her life on earth, was taken up in body and soul to heavenly glory."



Role of Mother Mary in the Catholic Church

Feast of the Annunciation

March 25

Angel Gabriel announces the Good news to Holy Mary and she submits herself to God's will. (Prayer-Angelus)



The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

May 31

Celebrates the visit of Mary, the Mother of God, with the child Jesus in her womb, to her cousin Elizabeth. The visit took place when Elizabeth was herself six months pregnant with Saint John the Baptist.



Assumption of Mary August 15

Mary was taken to heaven & coronated as Queen of heaven & earth.

[August 18: The Coronation of Our Lady

The idea of the coronation of Mary in Heaven after her Assumption took its rise in an accommodation of the words in the Song of Songs (4:8), "Come, my bride, from Lebanon..thou shalt be crowned..".]



The Queenship of Mary- August 22

Queen of Heaven is a title given to Mary, mother of Jesus, by Christians. The Catholic teaching on this subject is expressed in the papal encyclical *Ad Caeli Reginam*, issued by Pope Pius XII. It states that Mary is called Queen of Heaven because her son, Jesus Christ, is the king of Israel and heavenly king of the universe.



The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

September 8

Holy Mary born of her parents Joachim & Anna (Immaculate conception).



Our Lady of Sorrows : September 15

Seven Sorrows of Mary:

1. The Prophecy of Simeon. (Luke 2:34-35)
2. The escape and Flight into Egypt. (Matthew 2:13)
3. The Loss of the Child Jesus in the Temple of Jerusalem. (Luke 2:43-45)
4. The Meeting of Mary and Jesus on the Via Dolorosa.
5. The Crucifixion of Jesus on Mount Calvary. (John 19:25)
6. The Piercing of the Side of Jesus with a spear, and His Descent from the Cross. (Matthew 27:57-59)
7. The Burial of Jesus by Joseph of Arimathea. (John 19:40-42)



Our Lady of the Rosary : October 7

According to Dominican tradition, in 1206, St. Dominic was in Prouille, France, attempting to convert the Albigensians back to the Catholic faith. The young priest had little success until one day he received a vision of the Blessed Virgin, who gave him the Rosary as a tool against heretics. Rosary is a powerful tool against Satan.



The Presentation of the Blessed

Virgin Mary : November 21

The feast is associated with an event recounted not in the New Testament, but in the apocryphal Infancy Narrative of James. According to that text, Mary's parents, Joachim and Anne, who had been childless, received a heavenly message that they would have a child.



Tradition held that she was to remain there to be educated in preparation for her role as Mother of God.

The Presentation of the Blessed

Virgin Mary : November 21

In thanksgiving for the gift of their daughter, they brought her, when still a child, to the Temple in Jerusalem to consecrate her to God. Later versions of the story (such as the Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew and the Gospel of the Nativity of Mary) tell us that Mary was taken to the Temple at around the age of three in fulfillment of a vow.



Tradition held that she was to remain there to be educated in preparation for her role as Mother of God.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: December 8

Mary formed in
her mother's
womb
(immaculate
conception)





Holy Rosary

Holy Rosary

A PRAYER TO MARY AN OPPORTUNITY
TO REFLECT ON THE LIFE OF JESUS
A VOCAL AND MENTAL PRAYER:
REFLECT AND PRAY

"The Rosary, though clearly
Marian in character, is at heart a
Christ-centered prayer."

Pope John Paul II

The Joyful Mysteries

(Mondays and Saturdays)

1. The Annunciation of the birth of the Lord to Mary by the archangel Gabriel (Lk 1:26-38).
2. The Visitation of Our Lady with St. Elizabeth, the mother of St. John the Baptist (Lk 1:39-56).
3. The Nativity of Our Lord (Mt 1:18-25; Lk 2:1-20).
4. The Presentation of the Christ Child in the Temple (Lk 2:22-32).
5. The Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple (Lk 2:41-52).

The Sorrowful Mysteries

(Tuesdays and Fridays)

1. The Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane (Mk 14:32-42).
2. The Scourging of Jesus (Jn 19:1).
3. The Crowning with Thorns (Mk 15:16-20).
4. The Carrying of the Cross (Jn 19:12-17).
5. The Crucifixion (Mt 27:33-56; Mk 15:22-41; Lk 23:26-49; Jn 19:16-30).

The Luminous Mysteries

(Thursdays)

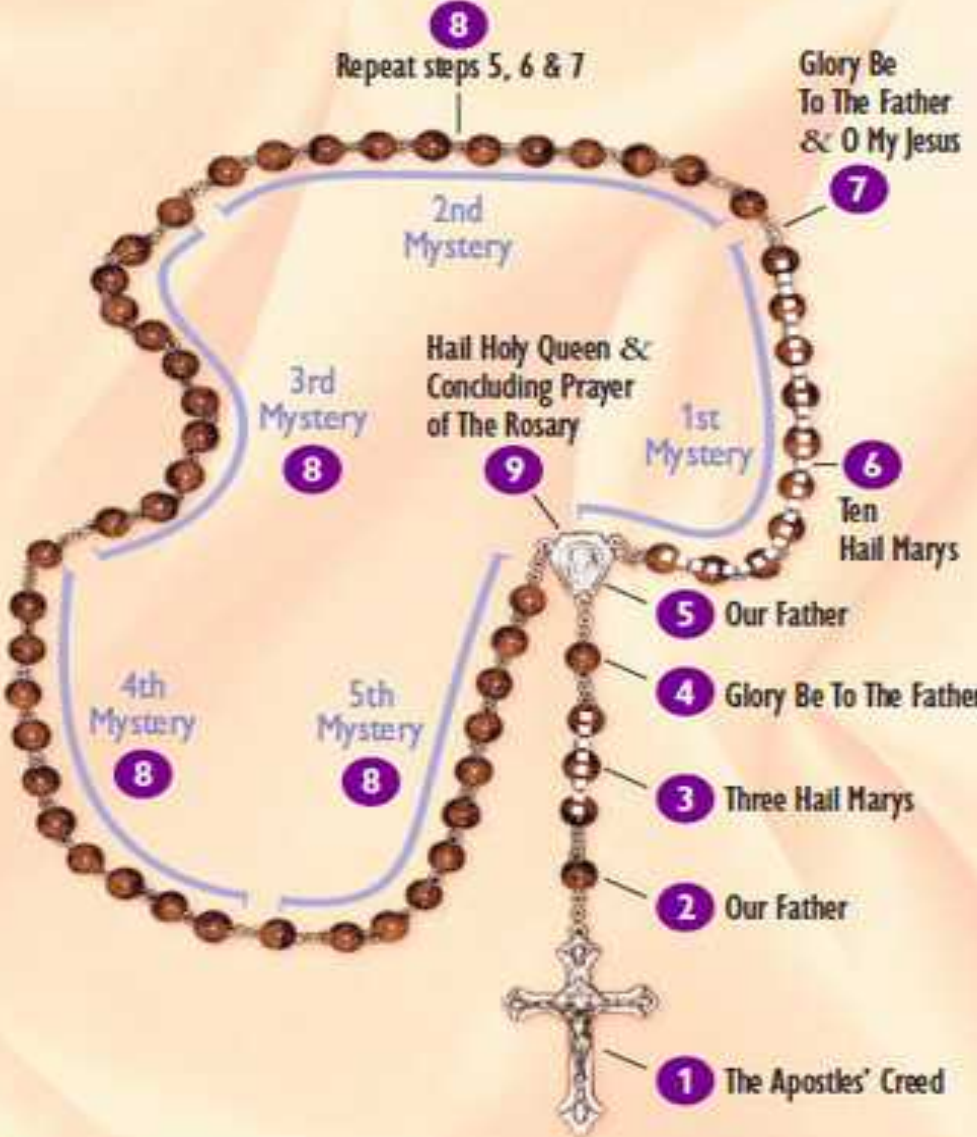
1. The Baptism of Our Lord in the River Jordan (Mt 3:13-16).
2. The Self-Manifestation of Our Lord at the wedding at Cana (Jn 2:1-11).
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God (Mk 1:14-15).
4. The Transfiguration of Our Lord (Mt 17:1-8; Lk 9:28-29).
5. The Last Supper, when the Eucharist was instituted (Mt 26).

The Glorious Mysteries

(Wednesdays and Sundays)

1. The Resurrection (Lk 24:1-12; Jn 20).
2. The Ascension (Lk 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-12).
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4).
4. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Song 2:8-14).
5. The Coronation of the Blessed Mother (Rev 12:1-4).

How to Pray Our Lady's Holy Rosary



Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Litany of The Blessed Virgin Mary, also known as the Litany of Loreto, is a popular prayer of supplication, once prayed in processions to atone for sins and to prevent calamities. Pilgrims at the famous Marian Shrine in Loreto, Italy used it in the 16th century, and it was approved in 1587 by Pope Sixtus V. Its invocations to our Blessed Mother include titles given to her by the early Church Fathers in the first few centuries of Christianity.

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary has also been set to music (as the Litany of Loreto) by such celebrated composers as Palestrina, Charpentier, and Mozart.

Lord, have mercy on us. ...

Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, One God,

Have mercy on us.

Holy Mary, pray for us. (repeat at end of each phrase.)

Holy Mother of God,

Holy Virgin of virgins, ...

Mother of Christ, ...

Mother of divine grace, ...

Mother most pure, ...

Mother most chaste,

Mother of our Creator...

Virgin most prudent, ...

Mirror of justice,....

Angelus

The Angelus (Latin for "angel") is a Catholic devotion commemorating the Incarnation. ("The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary"). The devotion is practised by reciting as versicle and response three Biblical verses narrating the mystery, alternating with the prayer "Hail Mary".

The devotion was traditionally recited in Roman Catholic churches, convents, and monasteries three times daily: 6:00 am, noon, and 6:00 pm (many churches still follow the devotion, and some practice it at home).

Angelus

The Angelus is usually accompanied by the ringing of the Angelus bell, which is a call to prayer and to spread goodwill to everyone. The angel referred to in the prayer is Gabriel, a messenger of God who revealed to Mary that she would conceive a child to be born the Son of God (Luke 1:26-38).

Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to Your Word.

Hail Mary

V. And the Word was made flesh,

R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your Grace into our hearts; that as we have known the incarnation of Christ, your Son by the message of an angel, so by His passion and cross we may be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ, our Lord.

Amen

Catholic prayers to Blessed Virgin Mary

The Memorare

The Memorare is a beautiful prayer that expresses our confidence in the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is attributed to St. Bernard of Clairvaux.

Hail Holy Queen

This prayer is a constant favorite among the prayers to Virgin Mary. It has long been a part of the the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church's official daily prayer.

Catholic prayers to Blessed Virgin Mary

The Magnificat

Scripture contains this prayer of Mary's joy and wonder at her role in the mystery of the Incarnation. The Church recites this beautiful prayer daily at Evening Prayer (Vespers) in the Liturgy of the Hours.

Mary, Mother of Grace:

Mary, Mother of grace, Mother of mercy, Shield me from the enemy. And receive me at the hour of my death.

Amen.



Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

The Church fathers loved to delve into Holy Scripture and find deep meanings and parallels; or types and shadows. One of the titles they gave to the Blessed Virgin Mary was New Eve or Second Eve: because the first Eve said "no" to God and brought about original sin and the fall of mankind.

Mary the "second" Eve (being immaculate and without sin from the time of her conception and thus analogous to Eve as regards sinlessness), said "yes" to God at the Annunciation and in so doing, played a key role in bringing about our redemption, as the Mother of God the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

Another fascinating analogy along these lines is the notion of Mary as the ark of the new covenant. The original ark was a marvelous gold-lined wooden box that was the holiest item in Judaism. It contained the tablets of the Ten Commandments, and God made His presence especially manifest over the ark, above what was called the "mercy seat" (Ex 25:22): between two carved golden cherubim (angels).

This was an early parallel to the eucharistic Real Presence.

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

The Church Fathers drew from the following biblical passages in developing this belief:

Luke 1:35 (RSV) And the angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God."

The Greek word for overshadow is *episkiasei*, which describes a bright, glorious cloud. It is used with reference to the cloud of transfiguration of Jesus (Mt 17:5; Mk 9:7; Lk 9:34) and also has a connection to the *shekinah* glory of God (Ex 24:15-16; 40:34-38; 1 Ki 8:10).

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

Mary is, therefore, in effect, the new temple and holy of holies, where God was present in a special fashion. Scripture draws many parallels between Mary, the "ark of the new covenant" and the ark of the (old) covenant:

Exodus 40:34-35 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting, because the cloud abode upon it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

The Greek Septuagint translation uses the same word, episkiasei, in this passage.

1 Kings 8:6-11 Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles. And the poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the holy place before the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside; and they are there to this day. There was nothing in the ark except the two tables of stone which Moses put there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the people of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

More direct parallels occur as well:

2 Samuel 6:9 And David was afraid of the LORD that day; and he said, "How can the ark of the LORD come to me?"

Luke 1:43 And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

2 Samuel 6:15 So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the horn.

Luke 1:42 and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!"

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

2 Samuel 6:14, 16 And David danced before the LORD with all his might; and David was girded with a linen ephod. . . . King David leaping and dancing before the LORD . . . (cf. 1 Chr 15:29)

Luke 1:44 For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy.

2 Samuel 6:10-11 So David was not willing to take the ark of the LORD into the city of David; but David took it aside to the house of O'bed-e'dom the Gittite. And the ark of the LORD remained in the house of O'bed-e'dom the Gittite three months . . .

Luke 1:39, 56 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, . . . And Mary remained with her about three months, and returned to her home.

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

The temple and tabernacle were holy, and this was especially the case with the holy of holies, where the ark was kept. The presence of God always imparted holiness (Dt 7:6; 26:19; Jer 2:3). The furnishings of the tabernacle could not be touched by anyone, save a few priests, on pain of death (Num 1:51-53; 2:17; 4:15).

The high priest entered the holy of holies only once a year, on the Day of Atonement (Num 29:8). A rope was tied to his leg in case he perished from improper behavior (Lev 16:2, 13), so that he could be safely pulled out. Uzziah merely reached out (quite innocently!) to steady the ark of the covenant when it was toppling over, and was struck dead (2 Sam 6:2-7). Others died when they simply looked inside of it (1 Sam 6:19; cf. Ex 33:20).

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

Second Maccabees, chapter 2 (verses 1-8), we read that the prophet Jeremiah "following a divine revelation, ordered that the tent [i.e. the tabernacle of meeting] and the ark [i.e. the ark of the covenant] should accompany him and how he went off to the mountain which Moses climbed to see God's inheritance [i.e. Mt. Nebo; see Deuteronomy 34:1-4]. When Jeremiah arrived there, he found a room in a cave in which he put the tent, the ark, and the altar of incense; then he blocked up the entrance."

Some of those who followed him came up intending to mark the way, but could not find it. 7 When Jeremiah learned of it, he rebuked them and declared: "The place shall remain unknown until God gathers his people together again and shows his mercy. 8 Then the Lord will disclose these things, and the glory of the Lord and the cloud will appear, as they were shown in the case of Moses, and as Solomon asked that the place should be specially consecrated."

Mary - The New Ark Of Covenant

Revelation 11:19 Then God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple; and there were flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder, an earthquake, and heavy hail.

12:1 A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. 2 She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pangs, in the agony of giving birth. 3 Then another portent appeared in heaven: a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads.



Appearances of Mary

Marian Apparitions - Guadalupe, Mexico

St. Juan Diego encountered Mary as he climbed the Hill of Tepeyac in Mexico during a routine walk in 1531. She identified herself as the Virgin Mary, the "mother of the very true deity" and requested that a chapel be built on the Hill in her honor. After two unsuccessful attempts to convince his bishop, St. Juan Diego explained to Our Lady that he needed to bring a specific sign in order to verify the validity of his vision.

Once St. Juan opened his cloak to the bishop, a cascade of roses fell from his tilma, revealing the ornate details of the miraculous and mysterious image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. To this day, the tilma remains in excellent condition, and Our Lady of Guadalupe is invoked by thousands of faithful all over the world.

Marian Apparitions - Fatima, Portugal

While herding sheep near their village of Fatima in 1916, Lucia Santos and her two cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto were witnesses of an angelic vision on three occasions, who they explained was "The Angel of Peace." The angel prepared them to increase their efforts at mortification and prayer. One year later, the children saw a woman "brighter than the sun" who wore a white mantle adorned in gold, holding a rosary.

The beautiful lady encouraged the children to pray the rosary daily in order to bring peace to the world and end the war. Mary continued to appear to the three children, revealing prophecies and even making the sun dance, so that the people would come to believe in her message.

Marian Apparitions - Lourdes, France

Likely one of the most beloved and well-known of the Marian apparitions, young Bernadette Soubirous, who was uneducated and poor, saw a beautiful lady standing near a wasteland where Bernadette and her sister were gathering firewood. February 11, 1858 was the first of several apparitions at Lourdes, where Mary revealed herself to Bernadette as "The Immaculate Conception," a dogma of the Church that was entirely unfamiliar to Bernadette. This added to the credibility of the vision.

As the Immaculate Conception, Mary was dressed in white, bearing a golden rosary and blue belt around her waist with two golden roses at her feet. After much controversy over these ongoing apparitions, they were eventually approved by the Church. Lourdes is a popular pilgrimage site and has been known to possess healing waters, where many miracles have been attributed to Our Lady's intercession.

Lord Jesus,
I give you my hands to do your work;
I give you my feet to go your way;
I give you my eyes to see as you do;
I give you my tongue to speak your words;
I give you my mind that you may think in me;
I give you my spirit that you may pray in me;
Above all, I give you my heart so that in me
you may love your Father and all mankind.

God, our Father, I come to say
Thank you for your love today.
Thank you for my family,
And all the friends you gave to me.
Guard me in the dark of night,
And in the morning send your light. Amen.

Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.