



†
J.M.J.

Ephesus Notes



A Catholic Newsletter Dedicated to Our Lady of Ephesus

A free publication designed by Fr. F. Gruber for the needs of the elderly. Prepared with the help of Grok. ©2026 Archives available at www.mothersforpriests.org/ephesus-notes

VOLUME 4 · ISSUE 52 TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2026 MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

TODAY'S SOLEMNITY

December 8: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. A holy day of obligation.

Bl. Pius IX solemnly defined this dogma on December 8, 1854, in the bull *Ineffabilis Deus*.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA

Q: Under which title is Our Lady the patroness of the United States?

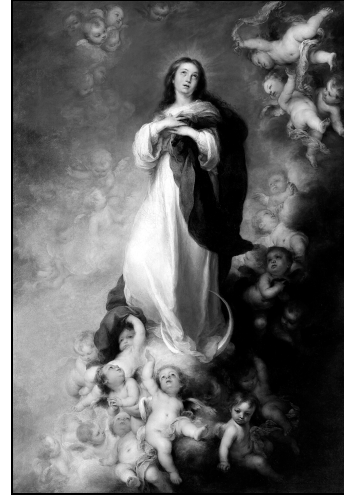
A: The Immaculate Conception, chosen by the U.S. bishops in 1846 and confirmed by Pius IX in 1847.

FROM THE CATECHISM

96. What does the "Immaculate Conception" mean?

God freely chose Mary from all eternity to be the Mother of his Son. In order to carry out her mission she herself was conceived immaculate. This means that, thanks to the grace of God and in anticipation of the merits of Jesus Christ, Mary was preserved from original sin from the first instant of her conception.

*Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church,
Q. 96*



The Immaculate Conception, Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (17th century)

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

—*The Angel Gabriel, Luke 1:28 (today's Gospel)*

PRAYER FROM THE LITANY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

O Almighty and Eternal God, Who didst prepare for Thy Son a worthy habitation, by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: we beseech Thee that, as Thou didst preserve her from every stain of sin, through the merits of the preordained atonement of Jesus Christ, so Thou wouldst grant that we also may come without spot to Thee.

Through the same Jesus Christ Our Lord.

(Mothers for Priests brochure M08)

Mary, Queen conceived without original sin, Pray for us.

Recommended Prayer Brochure: M08 Litany of the Immaculate Conception



Daily Gospel Word Find Puzzle

(Luke 1:26-38, December 8, 2026)

Find the all-capitalized words in bold print.

M	I	C	K	I	N	G	D	O	M	F	A	V	O	R
A	M	O	K	W	T	H	R	O	N	E	T	A	P	H
R	P	N	O	V	E	R	S	H	A	D	O	W	O	A
Y	O	C	A	J	G	G	O	V	I	R	G	I	N	N
B	S	E	N	Z	O	A	R	U	D	N	O	E	D	D
A	S	I	G	A	A	S	B	A	B	A	A	E	E	M
R	I	V	E	W	B	R	E	R	C	L	V	U	R	A
R	B	E	L	C	Y	T	E	P	I	E	E	I	E	I
E	L	T	B	E	T	R	O	T	H	E	D	D	D	D
N	E	L	I	Z	A	B	E	T	H	A	L	G	L	N

The **ANGEL GABRIEL** was sent from God to a town of Galilee called **NAZARETH**, to a **VIRGIN BETROTHED** to a man named **JOSEPH**, of the house of **DAVID**, and the virgin's name was **MARY**. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of **GRACE**! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly **TROUBLED** at what was said and **PONDERED** what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found **FAVOR** with God. Behold, you will **CONCEIVE** in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the **THRONE** of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,

and of his **KINGDOM** there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "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. And behold, **ELIZABETH**, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called **BARREN**; for nothing will be **IMPOSSIBLE** for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the **HANDMAID** of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.