



THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION — Mary's privilege of freedom from original sin shows that she is the chosen daughter of the Father, the faithful Spouse of the Spirit, and the devoted Mother of the Son.

SHORT CATECHISM OF MARY

By
Cardinal Charles Journet

**WITH TWO ADDITIONAL APPENDICES:
MARY IN THE LITURGY
AND POPULAR PRAYERS TO MARY**

Illustrated



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MOTHER OF THE CHURCH — On the first Pentecost, the Church was born when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles with Mary in their midst in the Upper Room (Acts 2:1-4).

Chapter 1

MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Summary

- It is God's exceptional love for Mary that is at the basis of her Divine Motherhood.
(qq. 1-3)
- The Blessed Virgin has truly the right to the title of Mother of God.
(qq. 4-7)
- At what moment did she become, freely and willingly, the Mother of God?
(qq. 8-10)
- Just as the Incarnation is the beginning of all the graces that Jesus received, so the Divine Motherhood is the beginning of all the graces that Mary received.
(q. 11)



MARY GIVES BIRTH TO JESUS — Mary gave birth to her firstborn Son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger (Luke 2:7).

True Love for the Blessed Virgin Is Inseparable from Love for God

65. Does love for the Blessed Virgin lead away from love for God?

No. If the Blessed Virgin is a path to God, the more we love God, the more will we love the Blessed Virgin. Hence, true love for the Blessed Virgin must always increase.

66. Can we not love God without loving the Blessed Virgin?

No. It is impossible to love God without loving the Blessed Virgin once we know that she is truly the Mother of God.

67. Is it necessary to think expressly of the Blessed Virgin every time we think of God?

No. The Blessed Virgin, even if she is not named, is happy about every prayer that rises to God.

68. Does true devotion to the Blessed Virgin run counter to the adoration due to Jesus?

Not at all. In fact, we see that wherever devotion to Mary is given up, faith in the Divinity of Christ tends to disappear.