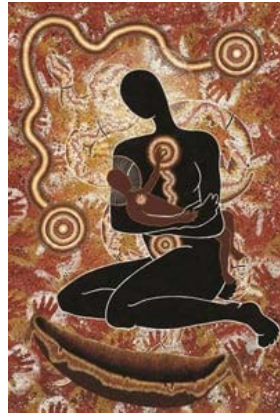


The Immaculate Conception of Mary

Feast Day- 8th of December



[Madonna and Child](#) - Richard Campbell

- On the 8th of December, the Catholic Church celebrates the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- This Feast Day highlights the Catholic belief that Mary, the mother of Jesus, is thought to be without sin, including original sin, throughout the entirety of her life.
- This feast day is not based in Scripture, but was declared a dogma (*a principle or set of principles laid down by an authority as incontrovertibly true*) of faith in 1854 by Pope Pius IX.
- Many people confuse this celebration with what is called the “virgin birth of Jesus”. Others mistakenly think that this feast means that Mary, herself, was conceived by the Holy Spirit.
- The birth of Jesus is announced in the Feast Day’s readings.
- Mary is the first witness to the blessings God has bestowed through Jesus.
- Mary is a witness who is faithful to God’s word. She is a model for Christians as to how to ponder the mysterious actions of God in their lives.

Summarised from Mary Coloe’s Commentary, sourced from Liturgy Help

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