

Happy Birthday, Mary!

September 8 • The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A beautiful beginning in God's story of love.

A Short Story for Kids

Long before Jesus was born in Bethlehem, a little girl named Mary was born. Catholic tradition tells us that her parents were Saints Joachim and Anne. They loved their daughter and cared for her as she grew.

Mary's childhood is not described in the Bible, so we do not know all the details of her early years. But we do know that Mary would grow up to have a very special place in God's plan.

Years later, the angel Gabriel came to Mary with amazing news: God had chosen her to be the mother of Jesus. Mary trusted God and answered, "May it be done to me according to your word." (Luke 1:38)

Every September 8, the Church celebrates Mary's birthday. Her birthday reminds us that God can begin something beautiful in ways that seem very small and ordinary.

Fun Facts About September 8

- The feast is called the **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**.
- The Bible does not tell us the date of Mary's birth.
- Catholic tradition names Mary's parents as **Saints Joachim and Anne**.
- Mary's life points us toward her Son, **Jesus**.
- A wonderful way to celebrate is to pray, thank God for Mary, and do an act of kindness.

A Prayer to Say Together

Dear God,

Thank You for the gift of Mary and for the faithful way she said yes to You.
Help us trust You, love Jesus, and say yes to what is good and loving each day.

Blessed Mother Mary, pray for us.

Amen.

Printable Activity: My Birthday Gift for Mary

Mary's life teaches us to love God and care for others. Think of one loving thing you can do today as a "birthday gift" for Mary. Write or draw your idea below.

I can say YES to God by...

Optional family idea: Place flowers near a statue or image of Mary, pray a Hail Mary together, or enjoy a simple birthday treat while thanking God for Mary's life.

BE SIMPLE BE REAL KIDS