

The Blessed Virgin Mary was given the great privilege to be the Mother of God. Jesus existed in Heaven from the beginning. But through the consent of the Blessed Mary, he became Incarnate (God in the Flesh).



The angel Gabriel greeted her, "Hail, full of grace." No other person in Scripture was ever addressed this way. It means that Mary was filled with supernatural gifts that made her fit to be the Mother of Jesus. This special grace was freedom from sin, even Original Sin from the moment she was conceived in her mother's womb. This is called the Immaculate Conception.

In response to God's invitation to become the mother of our Savior, our Blessed Mother replied, "Let it be done to me according to your word." **JOY! Just One Yes**, changed the world and ushered in our salvation! Mary's Immaculate Heart was always in accord with God's will "from moment to moment and hour to hour" as St. John Eudes states. God's will was Mary's ambition, "My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." She reminds us that God's work is being done through us.

St. John continues, "What abundance of grace did the Holy Spirit pour into her Heart to make her worthy thus to continue her office of Motherhood towards such a Son!" Mary took pity on mankind to bear the Son of God, to offer Him up at the Presentation and again at Calvary for our salvation. St. John ponders, "If Jesus bestows an eternal kingdom to those who give a glass of water to the poor for love of Him, what gifts, what treasures, what graces did He constantly pour into Mary's pure Heart..."

As God entrusted His only Son to Mary, He also entrusted to her the Infant Church. St. John Eudes explains that our Blessed Mother is present at the Sacrament of the Altar with "unutterable devotion." Our Blessed Mother watches over each of us, helping us to turn our hearts and minds to Jesus. Rejoice! Let our souls magnify the Lord! Our Blessed Mother will help us.

"Oh Mother of perfect grace, you were the woman chosen to find the grace that all mankind so unhappily lost. Through you, the God of grace and goodness restored to us what we had lost." ~ St. John Eudes, *The Admirable Heart of Mary*