



## Sept. 12: Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary

Eight days after the birth of the Blessed Virgin, her holy parents, Saint Joachim and Saint Anne, inspired by God, gave her the name of Mary.

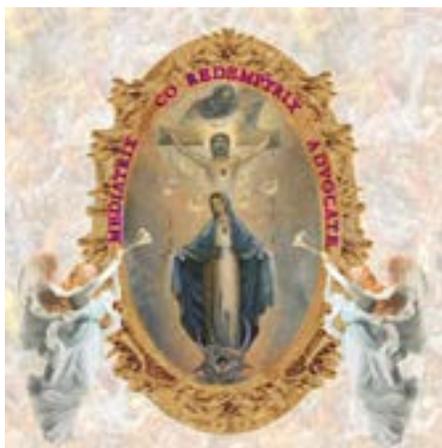
The name Mary means Lady, and also Star of the Sea. Just to say her holy name is a prayer. It gives everyone who does so favor with God and power over the devil.

Blessed Pope Innocent XI set up the feast of the Holy Name of Mary in 1683 to thank her for the victory which the Catholic army under John Sobieski, King of Poland, gained over the Turks (Mohammedans), who were trying to

sack Vienna and move in and conquer all the Catholics of the West.

Mary's name occurs in the first part and in the second part of the Hail Mary. In the middle of the Hail Mary, one speaks the Holy Name of Jesus. Great apostles of the Holy Name of Mary have been: Saint Anthony of Padua and Saint Bernard of Clairvaux. Saint Bernard of Clairvaux says,

*"O most holy Virgin Mary, your name is so sweet and admirable that one cannot say it without becoming inflamed with love toward God and toward you."*



## Devotion to Maria Bambino

The Church celebrates Mary's birthday Sept. 8

Most Catholics are familiar with devotion to the Christ Child; an image of Baby Jesus in the manger at Church, or perhaps the Infant of Prague. But fewer Catholics may know about a devotion to the holy Virgin Mary in her

infancy and childhood.

Yet devotion to "little Mary" is strong in Milan, Italy (where Radio Maria began) and Mexico City, Mexico, and it has a history rooted in Catholic

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September 9 is Our Blessed Mother's birthday!

## The little known devotion to Maria Bambina -- 'Little Mary'

Continued from pg. 1

hagiography and liturgy.

### Early Sources

The New Testament is silent on Mary's birth and childhood. We first see her in the Gospel of Luke as a 13-year old girl betrothed to Joseph. But early Christians soon began to write extrabiblical accounts of Mary's early life.

The first of these is called the Protoevangelium of James. It was written around 120 AD, and discusses the events surrounding Mary's birth, childhood and betrothal, as well as embellishing on the biblical account of Jesus' birth.

From this book we learn that Mary's parents were named Joachim and Anne (Y'hoyakhin and Hannah in Hebrew). It also claims that Mary spent her childhood serving in the Temple of Jerusalem. Many of the stories contained in this and similar apocryphal writings influenced Catholic iconography and "mystical" accounts of Mary's life, such as Blessed Mary of Agreda's *Mystical City of God* and the revelations of Venerable Anne Catherine Emmerich.

Two later works of this nature, the Gospel of Pseudo-Matthew and the Nativity of Mary, draw heavily from the Proto-



evangelium.

### Feast of the Nativity

The feast of the Nativity (birth) of Mary (Sept. 8) was first celebrated in the East by the Church of Jerusalem. In the 5th century a Byzantine church was erected there, on the spot where a tradition says the house of Sts. Anne and Joachim once stood. Many believe this to be the very place where the future Mother of the Messiah was conceived and born, and that church became a focal point for her birthday celebration. (The Western Church adopted this joyful feast by the seventh century).

Unfortunately, the original church was decimated during the Crusades. A new church was later built on that spot; this one still stands today and is a center of pilgrimage. Many people still go there to honor the child Mary.

### Maria Bambina

Milan boasts a beautiful little image of the Infant

Mary, often referred to as "Maria Bambina".

A Franciscan nun made this statue of the little Virgin out of wax sometime before 1730. She later gave it to others, and after passing as a gift through various hands it was finally given to the Sisters of Charity in Lovere, Italy. In 1876 they brought it to their motherhouse in Milan (where it has stayed ever since). By this time, the statue had become worn & gray.

One of the nuns, Sister Josephine Woinovich, suffered from paralysis in her feet and arms. She

could not get out of bed and was confined to the infirmary in great pain. In 1884, on the Feast of Mary's Nativity, Sister Josephine convinced the Mother General to leave the statue of Maria Bambina in her room overnight. The next morning Mother decided to take the little statue on a "tour" of the infirmary, to visit all the ill sisters there.

It so happened that a very devout novice named Guilia Macaro was in the infirmary, suffering from a serious condition which restricted her movement. When the image of Maria Bambina was brought to her bed, Guilia took it in her arms and fervently pleaded with Mary to ask God to heal her. Miraculously, Guilia was healed immediately!

The image was also suddenly transformed; it lost its old gray color and took on the color of living flesh, which it still has to this day! Sister Josephine was also ultimately cured through her devotion to Maria Bambina.



# Thanks for listening!

The following are comments we have received from our listeners through the mail or emails. Feel free to write us anytime and let us know what you think about Radio Maria and its programming and how it has made a difference in your life.

• I listen to Radio Maria

almost every day. It is a great help at this time of life. Thank you, Radio Maria. William

• I am writing to tell you how much I appreciate you airing Fr. Joseph Ianuzzi's program of Living in the Divine Will. I am sending a donation of \$150 to support this pro-

gram. Thank you for all Radio Maria does. Lena L. Ft. Lauderdale, FL

• I think Radio Maria is the purest radio station. Ray A.

• Keep up the good work! Que Dios los bendiga. (God bless you!) Maria C., Ossining, NY

• Blessed be our Holy Mother. Thank you Radio Maria USA for your service and dedication.

Selva D., Doral, FL

• I am privileged to listen on my way to work each morning to the Word of God, and to have something positive and truthful in this hectic world. I tithe every two weeks to my church, and on my way home God spoke to (my heart) and asked to help you during your current financial drive. Keep up the good work. Your friend in Christ. Jack H., Gulfport, MS

## Thank You!

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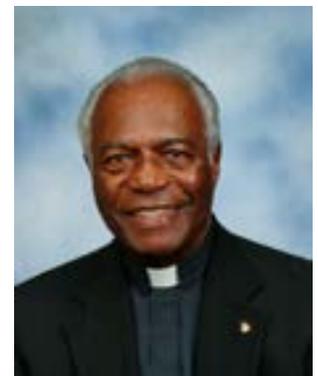
## Former Radio Maria presenter Fr. August Thompson passes away

Father August Louis Thompson, a retired priest of the Diocese of Alexandria, passed away August 11, 2019 in Houston, Texas. Father Thompson was a longtime volunteer, supporter, and presenter at Radio Maria.

Fr. Thompson was a well-respected priest of the diocese for 62 years and achieved significant recognition in areas of social justice throughout his priestly service.

While serving as pastor at Our Lady of Prompt Succor Church in Mansura, La., during the early 70s, Fr. Thompson built the Uganda Center and served as a voice for Black Catholics on a local and national level.

He served as a member of the Board of the National Black Catho-



lic Clergy Caucus from 1968-1980 and as diocesan spiritual director for the Legion of Mary. He founded a rent-subsidy housing project in Mansura known as Imani Court for which work he received a national award from the National Black Catholic Convention in 1973.

After retirement, Father celebrated Mass often at the Radio Maria studio in Alexandria.

## Radio Maria USA

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Radio Maria was born as a parish radio in 1983 in the Diocese of Milan, Italy. Its purpose was to keep parishioners informed and to help them through prayer, the daily Mass and the Rosary. But it quickly grew in popularity into other countries. Radio Maria began broadcasting from its first English-speaking station in the US on May 25, 2000 in Alexandria, La. It has since expanded to include 30 frequencies in five other states.



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*The number, to listen to Radio Maria through the phone, has changed. The new number is:*

**1- 641-793-3080**

### August 2, 2019 Message to Mirjana

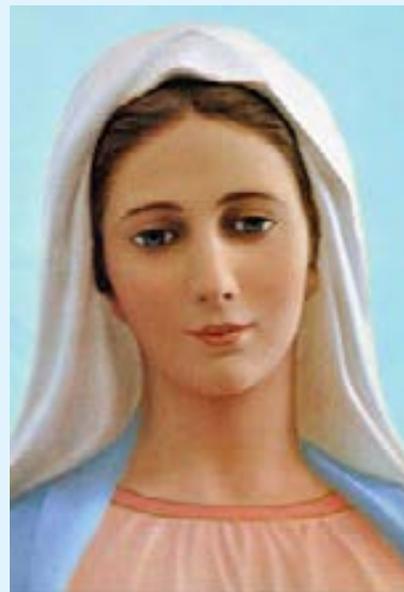
“Dear children,  
Great is the love of my Son. If you were to come to know the greatness of His love, you would never cease to adore and thank Him. He is always alive with you in the Eucharist, because the Eucharist is His Heart.

The Eucharist is the heart of faith. He has never left you. Even when you tried to go away from Him, He has not [left] you. That is why my motherly heart is happy when I watch how you—filled with love—return to Him, when I see that you are coming to Him by the way of reconciliation, love, and hope.

My motherly heart knows that when you set out on the way of faith, you are shoots—buds. But along with prayer and fasting you will be fruits, my flowers, apostles of my love; you will be carriers of light and will illuminate all those around you with love and wisdom.

My children, as a mother I am imploring you: pray, think, and contemplate. Everything beautiful, painful and joyful that happens to you—all of this makes you grow spiritually, so that my Son may grow in you.

My children, surrender yourselves to Him, believe Him, trust in His love, let Him lead you. Let the Eucharist be the place where you will feed your souls, and afterwards, will spread love and



truth—will bear witness to my Son. Thank you.”

### August 25, 2019 Message to Marija

“Dear children!  
Pray, work and witness with love for the Kingdom of Heaven that it may be good for you here on earth. Little children, God will bless your effort a hundred fold; you will be witnesses among peoples, souls of unbelievers will feel the grace of conversion and Heaven will be grateful for your efforts and sacrifices. Little children, witness with the Rosary in hand that you are mine and decide for holiness.

Thank you for having responded to my call.”

Note: These messages are not yet recognized by the Catholic Church as having a supernatural origin.

# Listen to Radio Maria 24/7

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- **Listen online** at radiomaria.us
- **Download** on your Smart phone, the new World Family of Radio Maria free mobile app.
- **Call to listen** to Radio Maria. Dial 1- 641-793-3080 - in the U.S (For U.S. audience only. No extra cost, when using unlimited mobile minutes. Check your long distance plan if using a land-line).
- **On the Radio** (see list of frequencies on page 4)



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Radio Maria is 100% listener supported. It is through your prayers and donations that Radio Maria is able to bring orthodox Catholic programming to the world, day in and day out. Please prayerfully consider making a contribution to help keep Our Lady's radio on the air.

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