

Mary

Teaching:

- For Grades 1-2, watch: [Stories of the Virgin Mary](#). This is a collection of four stories about Mary.
- For Grades 3-6, watch Catholic Central's video: [Mary](#).
- For Adults, watch Fr. Mike Schmitz's video: [Why Catholics call Mary their Mother](#).

This week marks two Marian feasts: The Immaculate Conception of Mary on December 8 and Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12. This week, let's explore what we believe as Catholics about Mary, the Mother of God.

Online Mary Activities

Choose one (or all) of these digital activities that celebrate Mary:

[Hail Mary Word Search](#)

[Marian Crossword Puzzle](#)

Picture Mary Puzzle:

Choose the number of pieces.

[Just a few](#) (12)

[A little more](#) (24)

[A lot!](#) (96)



Our Lady of Guadalupe

Watch one of the videos, then discuss the questions.

[Our Lady of Guadalupe](#) (Gr. 1-2)

[St. Juan Diego & Our Lady of Guadalupe](#) (Gr. 4-6)

[Celebrating Mary, Our Mother](#) (Gr. 7-8 & Adults)

* [Extended version: Celebrating Mary, Our Mother](#)



Discuss these questions:

~ Juan Diego, and his people, were overlooked by others. What message was Mary giving us when she appeared to him?

~ Why is it important for Mary to look and speak like the people?

~ What would Mary say to us today in the midst of the Black Lives Matter movement?

Make an Edible Rosary

Over 900 years old, the Rosary is one of the most popular Catholic prayers (after the Our Father). But did you know, the first two lines of the Hail Mary (a part of the Rosary) comes directly from the Bible? [Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you](#) (Luke 1:28) and [Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus](#) (Luke 1:42). In the 16th century, the last part of the prayer was added.

* Using your favorite foods (chocolate, cheerios, M&Ms, fruit snacks, raisins, fruit, or veggies, make an edible Rosary. For some examples, click [here](#).

* Then pray the Rosary together as a family. Click [here](#) for instructions how to pray the Rosary and a link to the prayers of the Rosary.



The Immaculate Conception

One of the greatest misunderstandings in the Catholic Church, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception refers to Mary's being conceived without sin. The word, *immaculate* means pure or without blemish. It's important to note that Mary was not "immaculate" on her own, but through the saving grace of Jesus Christ (the grace that washed us of original sin at baptism). In the case of Mary, the saving grace of Jesus Christ preserved her from being stained by original sin in the first place. She was conceived with the same original innocence and holiness that Adam and Eve had before they sinned. She was, as the angel Gabriel declared, "full of grace" (Luke 1:28). To celebrate this feast, enjoy a [white-themed meal](#) as a reminder of Mary's purity.



Hail Mary

**Pray using one (or both)
of these videos to close
your lesson.**

**Oh Mary, Mother
of God Hymn**