

Something About Mary

Catholics celebrate the Immaculate Conception of Mary and exactly nine months later, we celebrate her birthday on September 8. What does this tell us? That Catholics believe life begins at conception. At her conception, our Blessed Mother was Mary. From the first instant of her soul's existence in the womb of St Anne, she was Mary. Her conception, celebrated on December 8 as a Solemnity and Holy Day of Obligation, was a natural physical conception.



God spared Mary from the stain of original sin through the merit of her Son's death on the Cross. Because we have faith in the supernatural and cannot explain God in our human understanding, the easiest way to think of it is that God the Father reached through time and space and applied Jesus' redeeming death on the Cross to Mary at the moment of her conception.

This is an awesome pro-life occurrence! Many have debated when life begins, does it begin at conception or some later time? Based on the Catholic Doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, we can say with complete confidence that the Catholic Church teaches, and we believe, that life begins at conception. This makes the horror of abortion completely unacceptable to Catholics. If Mary was Mary at the moment of her Immaculate Conception, then each one of us was our unique self at the moment of our conception. Moreover, all the tiny babies torn from their mothers' wombs were a distinct and unique individual person at the moment of their conception.

When we celebrate the conception of Mary, we celebrate life in the womb. The Church does not teach error. You may have heard it before but it bears repeating: it is not true because the Catholic Church teaches it; the Catholic Church teaches it because it is true.

Susan O'Brien, Pro-Life Ministry

"Love life, cherish life, defend life, from conception to natural death"

– St. John Paul II, October 8, 1995