

Marian Trivia

We're coming up on the celebration of the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary on its traditional fixed date of September 8, nine months after the December 8 celebration of her Immaculate Conception as the child of Saints Joachim and Anne. In honor of her feast day I thought I'd share some trivia about our Blessed Mother:

- Of all the people who have ever lived, Jesus was the only one to choose his mother.
- Mary was the only one there both at the beginning and the end of Jesus' earthly life.
- Of all creation, Mary has an entirely unique relationship with the Holy Trinity. She is Daughter to the Father, Spouse to the Holy Spirit, and Mother of the Son.
- Mary is the only creature who ever bore her creator.
- Mary spent more time with Jesus than anyone else did - 33 years!
- Mary saw Jesus speak his first words, take his first step, etc. She even guided him with her own hands.
- Mary is "The only Mother ever chosen by her child".
- Jesus' first recorded words were in response to Mary's question, when He was 12 years old.
- Jesus' first recorded miracle was in response to Mary's request. It was also the first recorded instance of intercession with Jesus.

- Jesus must have conversed with Mary more than any other person on earth.
- The Gospel writers knew Jesus only for a few years. Mary knew Him intimately for about 33 years.
- Jesus gave us his Mother while he was consummating the sacrifice of Himself. The gift of his Mother was one of his last wishes and gifts to us.
- Mary is called by many names, such as Queen of Heaven, Our Lady of Good Remedy, Our Blessed Mother, etc. but reflect on her most important title for a moment: Mother of God. That is an amazing title for a human being!
- Our Blessed Mother wins the prize for most feast days. There are literally hundreds of Marian feasts annually, covering most every day of the year, in which the Blessed Virgin is venerated under various titles. At least 17 of these feasts have been incorporated into the Catholic liturgical calendar, though regionally there may be more.

Let me close with a quote from Saint Maximilian Kolbe:
"Prayer is powerful beyond limits when we turn to the Immaculata who is queen even of God's heart."

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