

“BLESSED ART THOU”

Mary of Nazareth, called by the Catholic and Orthodox Christians of "Our Lady", is the woman identified in the New Testament and in the Quran as the mother of Jesus, the Messiah. She is considered the first adept to Christianity. She was preserved by God, from the moment of her conception, of the stain of original sin. Full of simplicity and great humility, she accepted in the presence of the angel sent by God the extraordinary privilege of introducing into the world the incarnation of the Divine Word, Jesus Christ. The Virgin Mary is mother, disciple and intercessor. She has been venerated since the beginning of Christianity.

**The "yes" of Mary was the most decisive answer that everyone can give in the face of God's plan.
The sublimity of her offering is the fullness of bestowal to the Creator.**

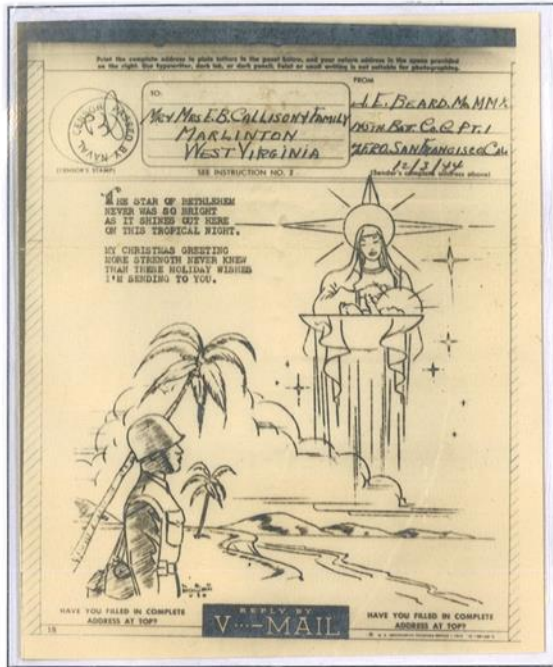


Portugal - Christmas Telegram - "Assumption of Virgin" (by Vasco Fernandes - 1506).

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1. MARY AND HER DIVINE MISSION



The Madonna (Danzig, 1937).



Shift perforation.

← V-Mail (WW-II US Mail - microfilmed and processed), sent in 1944, carrying Christmas message and illustration of Virgin Mary with newborn Jesus in her arms, blessing a soldier in the battlefield.

Throughout the history of Christianity to the present time, the Virgin Mary continues to be revered in all the continents around the world by most peoples and nations in the globe.

The name "Mary" comes from the Greek "Μαριάμ". The name in the New Testament appears several times and was based on its original Aramaic name "Maryām".



German meter stamp model Postalia D2/D3 - One of the many titles that the Virgin Mary has in various locations in the world.



Mary and Jesus in imperforated variety.



Greece, 1941. Postal stationery - Military Service (World War II).

The image of the Virgin Mary is portrayed in many types of postal stationeries around the world.



Belgium, 1933.

Our Lady of Orval, which has an Abbey built in 1132, in a monastery in the Gaume, a region of Belgium.



Spain, 1777.

Letter cover, postmarked "P.S. MARIA" (Port of Santa Maria, Province of Cadiz in the Andalusia region), circulated to the Monastery of Our Lady of Prouille, France.

1.1. A LITTLE GIRL CHOSEN BY GOD



Berlin (Germany), 1968. Commemorative stamp with illustration of Mary as a child with her mother, Saint Anne.



By painting Mary's eyes around 1660, the artist Zurbaran prefigures the fate of the Virgin.



The young Virgin Mary in prayer, painting by artist Alonso Cano.



Mary was raised by her parents from an early age, within Jewish precepts.

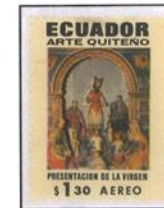


Fragment with commemorative stamp of Brazil, with the illustration of Mary, still a child, in the lap of her father, Saint Joachim.

According to Christian tradition, Mary is daughter of St. Joachim and St. Anne, and was raised by them according to Jewish tradition. The church celebrates on September 8 the Nativity of Mary. About three years old, she was presented at the Jerusalem Temple, where she remained until twelve years old in religious service, when her father, St. Joachim, died. With the death of his father, she moved to Nazareth, where would meet his future husband.



Poland, 1934. Postal stationery with art of Mary's presentation to the Temple, by artist Wit Stwosz.



→ Wood carving of the little Virgin Mary on the lap of her mother, St. Anne.



Poland, 1934. Postal stationery with the art of Mary's birth, by artist Wit Stwosz.

By fifteen years old, Jews demanded that young girls find a husband. A young, single girl, should build a married life by the Jewish laws of her time. The Virgin Mary asked God to help her in her choice, and He answered her prayers.

The chosen one was Joseph the carpenter, and like her belonged to the tribe of David. He also longed to live a life based on purity of body and soul, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.



Color proof (St. Pierre & Miquelon) – Mary & St. Anne.

1.2. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ARCHANGEL



France, 1999. Meter stamp model Havas, showing the Abbey of Le Barroux, dedicated to Our Lady of the Annunciation.

The Annunciation is the Christian celebration of Archangel Gabriel's announcement to the Virgin Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus Christ the Savior. Despite her virginity, Mary would miraculously give birth to a child who would be called the Son of God. According to the Catholic tradition, this event took place in the city of Nazareth (currently Israel), where today there is a temple of devotion and prayer.



The text of the Annunciation reported in the Gospels served as the basis for the creation of the "Hail Mary" prayer. It begins with Archangel Gabriel's greeting to Mary:

"Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with you!"



Poland, 1933. Postal stationery with the art of the Annunciation, by Wit Stwosz.



Vatican, 1982. Registered and traveled aerogram in honor of the Annunciation of Mary, with additional franchise.



The Virgin Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visits her cousin Elizabeth.



Registered and traveled cover with the Vatican series commemorating the 600th anniversary of the institution of the Visitation of the Virgin Mary, celebrated every month of May, 31st.



The Annunciation – "Primitive of Savoy" (15th century) – Savoy Museum of Chambéry.



Color proof (France).

1.3. THE NATIVITY OF THE SON

DEPARTAMENTO DOS CORREIOS E TELÉGRAFOS		TELEGRAMA SOCIAL	
Coleção JAYRE SANTOS - BROTAS 1960 Coleção JAYRE SANTOS - BROTAS 1960 Nº 069107 SÉRIE A		CARIMBO DA AGENCIA DE ORIGEM VILA MARIANA 24 DEZ 1942 SÃO PAULO - BRAS	
TELEGRAMA SOCIAL (URBANO) Nº 069191		Carlos Batista Zanotta NOME DO DESTINATÁRIO Largo da Polvora, 96 - Predio Januá RUA, AVENIDA, PRAÇA, ETC. N. BAIRRO CIDADE 407 Capital	
DEZ 1942-- 1945 27			
Sr. Carlos			
Que o Novo Ano corra feliz e cheio de venturas são os nossos votos e abraços.			
Ebe e João Kees			
MOD. 561/562 - SU			

The Christmas celebration for Christians around the world represents the birth of the Savior, Son of God, born from the Virgin Mary, as the prophets proclaimed. In Christian theology, the birth of the Virgin Mary's Son, the new Eve, is the incarnation of Jesus as the second Adam. It is the accomplishment of God's will in order to undo the damage caused by the fall of the first Adam.



In 1936, Estonia issued the world's first postal stamp reproducing the image of the birth of Jesus Christ.



Self-adhesive stamp.

← Brazil, 1942. Urban Social Telegram (model 561/562 - A Series), circulated in the city of São Paulo, with illustration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

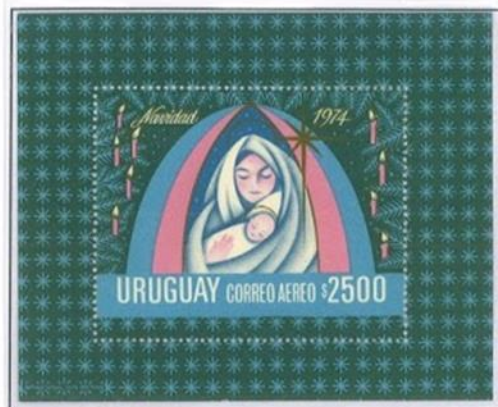


V-Mail (WW-II US Mail - microfilmed and processed), sent in 1943, traveled from Iran to USA with illustration of the birth of Jesus Christ.



Italy, 1997. Meter stamp model Francotyp-Postalia (specimen) with Christmas message and image of Virgin Mary with newborn Jesus Christ on her arms.

THE NATIVITY OF THE SON



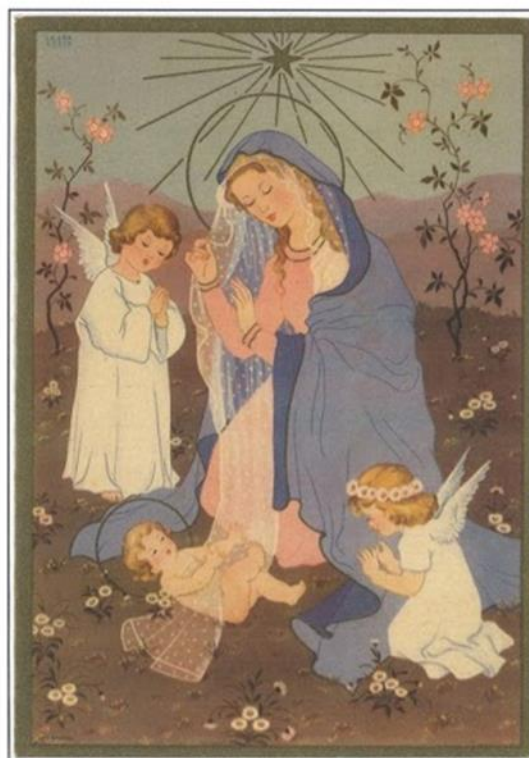
Print error: Rose color shifted right.



USA, 1958. Meter stamp Pitney Bowes model "RF, RT" with Christmas message.



The Gospel of Matthew and Luke do not mention a specific date for the birth of Jesus, but the birth is usually associated with the period of King Herod the Great. Most of the specialists generally assume the date of the birth between 6 and 4 BC.

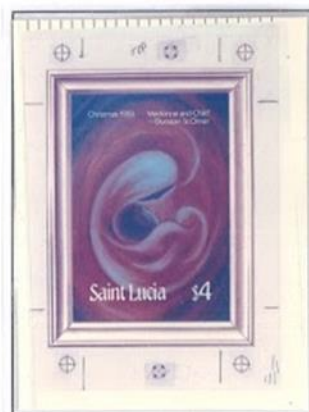


Postal stationery (Portugal) – Mary and her newborn son Jesus.



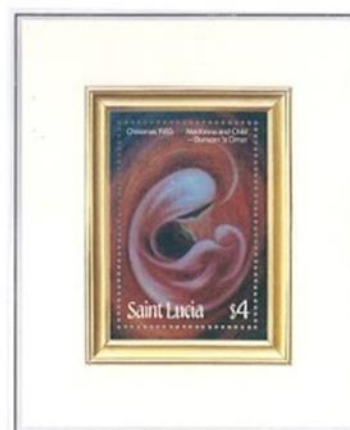
The "Christmas Day" is a Christian religious holiday celebrated annually on December 25 in most western countries. In Slavic and Orthodox countries, where calendars were based on the Julian calendar, Christmas is celebrated on January 7th. The date is the center of the end-year celebrations and holiday season, the beginning of the Christmas cycle during the total of twelve days.

Brazil, 1966. Vertical strip of 3 stamps with progressive pasted coloring.



Saint Lucia, 1985.

Proof in magenta and blue (cromalin) of issued mini-sheet – Maria and her newborn son Jesus.



Saint Lucia, 1985.

Mini-sheet – Maria and her newborn son Jesus.

THE NATIVITY OF THE SON



Great Britain, 1980. Machin stamps booklet with commemorative Christmas cover.



Imperforated proof.

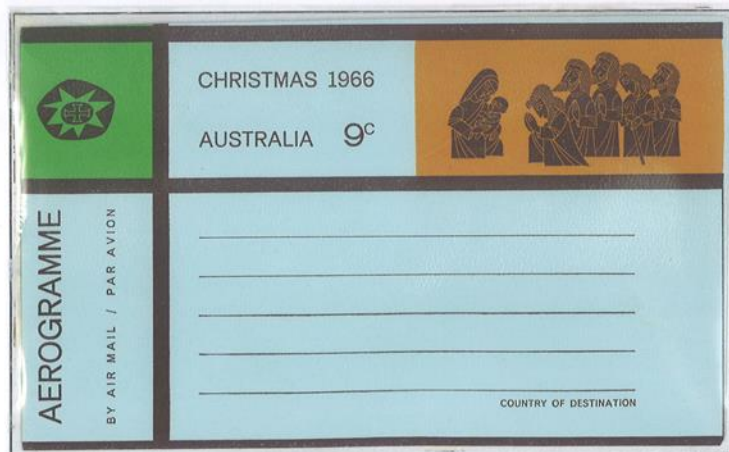
Soon after birth, Mary, Joseph, and the little Jesus were visited by Three Wise Men (Kings), who brought gifts. Called Belchior, Balthazar, and Gaspar, they offered gold, incense, and myrrh to little Jesus.



Shifted perforation.



Print error: Shifted colors.



Australia, 1966. Christmas aerogram.



Free-of-charge telegram (Portugal) with illustration of the newborn Jesus with his mother Mary receiving gifts and visitors from various regions.

1.4. THE HOLY FAMILY



Shifted perforation.

Described in the Gospel of Matthew, the Holy Family travels to Egypt when they receive information that King Herod had planned to kill all the newborns in the region. This episode of the "escape", is a frequent theme in Christian art and is considered the final episode of the Nativity.



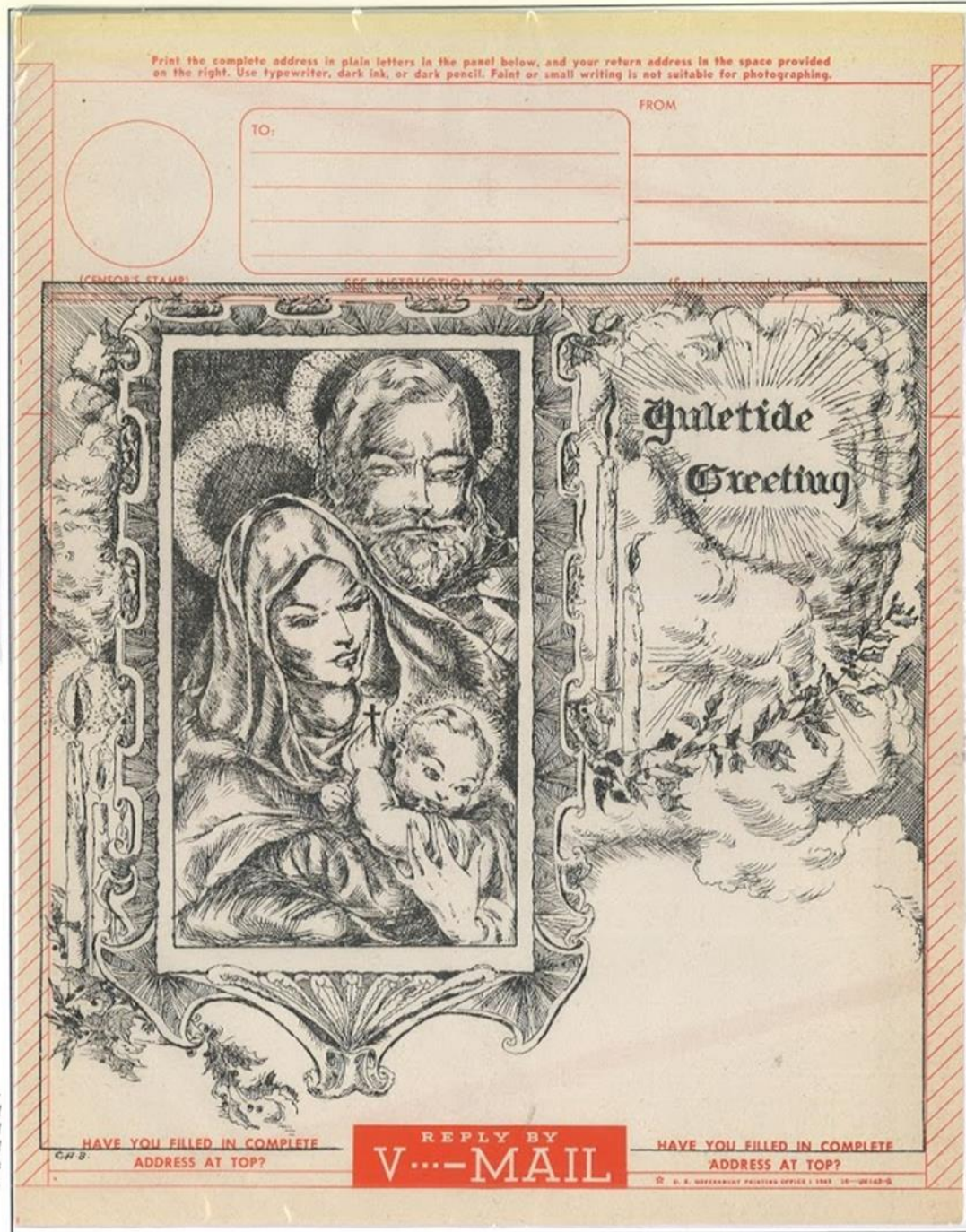
Surcharged stamp.



V-Mail (WW-II US Mail - microfilmed and processed), traveled in USA.



Portugal, 1950. Postal stationery internally traveled in Lisbon.



→
Unprocessed
original
V-Mail
form
(blank).

2. THE FIRST FOLLOWER OF CHRIST



German Empire, 1900. Postal stationery with a scene of the "Passion of Christ" staged in the city of Oberammergau, with Christ and his mother, the Virgin Mary, his first follower and disciple.



Triptych - The Virgin in prayer.



Italian meter stamp model Francopost (Specimen).

The "Wedding of Cana" in Galilee, where the Virgin Mary and other disciples witnessed the first miracle of Jesus, where he transformed water into wine.

She is the model of all disciples and evangelizers for her testimony of prayer, listening to the "Word of God" and being ready and faithful to serve the Kingdom. Mary is considered by Catholic Christians to be the most perfect disciple of the Lord.



The woman who knew how to meditate in her heart the actions and words of her Son. The faithful mother who remains with her son, persecuted, condemned and executed on the cross. Witnessed the risen Christ, and welcomed together with the other disciples the Holy Spirit who will always accompany the Church of Jesus.

As a mother, Mary was the first follower of Jesus, right at the beginning of his teaching. She intensely experienced every step of her son, becoming a faithful disciple and the first evangelizer of the Church.



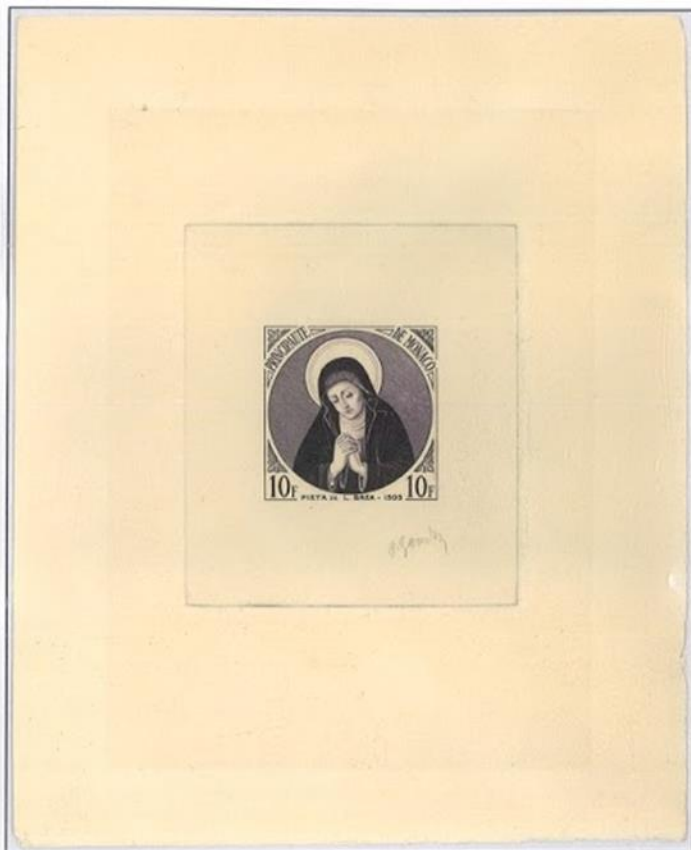
Belgium, 1961.

Postal stationery (Publibel) internal traveled (Virgin Mary, Jesus Christ and angel illustration).



Postal stationery proof (Publibel).

2.1. PASSION AND DEATH OF THE SON



Die proof in black signed by the engraver (Gandon).



Color trial proof.



Imperforated stamp.

Many are the works that bring the moments of the Passion and Death of Jesus. In almost all of them, we can see the presence of Mary, who silently suffers the pain of witnessing all the martyrdom of her loved Son. An example of mother, disciple and follower, she was present in all moments of Jesus public life.



The mother suffers, in silence, the pains of her Son's suffering - Stamp with the art of L. Brea.

The Gospels bring some accounts of who followed Jesus' suffering until the time of his death. They were at the foot of the cross with the Virgin Mary, the disciple John, Mary Magdalene and some other women.



Czechoslovakia, 1937. Traveled cover from Prague to Nymburk, mechanically obliterated with illustration of Jesus crucified being worshiped by Mary his mother and Mary Magdalene.



Lo crucifixon y se apartaron sus vestidos. (Marcos 27, 54)



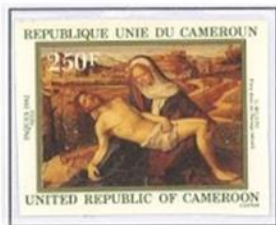
2.2. WITH SON'S BODY IN HER ARMS: PIETÀ



Landesgericht Linz
Tel. (0732) 26141, Postf. 261
4010 Linz, Fadingerstraße 2

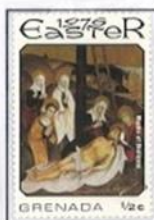
GZ.

Postgebühr bar bezahlt



Imperforated.

Color trial proof.
Michelangelo's Pietà reproduced on the stamp of the Republic of Mali.



An oas
Kreis- als Handelsgericht
4910 Ried/I.

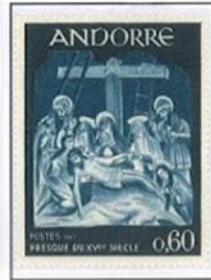
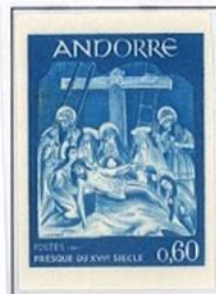
Poland, 1933.
Postal Stationery with a
reproduction of Pietà, by the artist
Wit Stwosz.

"After suffering for hours, Jesus'
body is taken down from the
cross. The Son, rests torn and
lifeless in his mother's arms."



Argentina, 1951.

Air cover
registered and
traveled from
Argentina to
France,
obliterated with
the 1st day of
issue postmark
with the image of
Michelangelo's
Pietà, with
arrival postmark
on the back.



Color trial proof.

Moments after Jesus' death, his body was removed from the cross and his friends and family watched over him. This event has been portrayed by many artists over the years. The works on "Lamentation", as this biblical passage is known, often appear in cycles about the life of Christ and, also, as an individual works. A specific type of Lamentation shows only Mary, the mother of Jesus, with the body of her dead son in her lap and is known as Pietà ("pity" in Italian).

Germany (FR), 1982.
Fragment with
commemorative postmark
with a classic form of
Pietà, very widespread in
the northern Alps since the
15th century (Klausen).



2.3. THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: PENTECOST



↑ Italy, 1935.
Response card with meter stamp model Francotyp
"Holy Spirit Institute" traveled from Roma to Ancona.



Pentecost is one of the most important celebrations on the Christian calendar and commemorates, according to this belief, the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles of Jesus Christ and on Mary, his mother, on the seventh day after the day of Jesus' Ascension into heaven.



France, 1810.
Folded letter (postage paid) with "Holy Spirit" postmark.



Vatican, 1983.
Fragment with obliterated stamp with commemorative postmark of Pentecost.



↑ Poland, 1934.
Postal stationery with reproduction of the Pentecost scene, by the artist Wit Stwosz.



↑ Brazil, 1936.
Internally traveled cover franchised with commemorative stamp
"IV centenary of the colonization of Espírito Santo (Holy Spirit)".

Brazil, 1918.
Traveled cover to Paris (France) obliterated with postmark
"Holy Spirit" with arrival postmark on the back. ↓

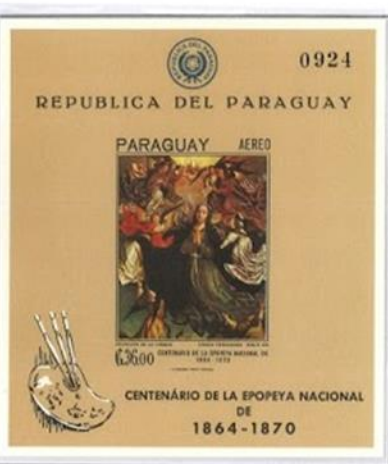


2.4. THE ASSUMPTION INTO THE HEAVENS



Vatican, 1951.

Registered and traveled cover franchised with the commemorative series of proclamation of the dogma of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.



Lombardy-Venetia, 1846. Letter fragment with postmark "Santa Maria da Assunção".



Poland, 1934. Postal stationery with reproduction of the scene of the Assumption of Mary, work by the artist Wit Stwosz.

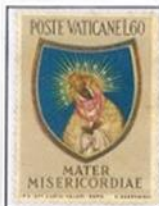


Paraguay, 1961. Postal stationery with additional 40c national telegraph, traveled from Asunción to Ghent in Belgium, with postmark of passage through Buenos Aires (Argentina).

The stationery have the image of the procession in honor of the Virgin of the Assumption, patron of Paraguay, held in "Plaza de Armas", central region of the country's capital.



3. DEVOTION TO THE VIRGIN



Most Holy Mary,
"Mother of mercy".



Since the early days of the Roman Catholic Church, the Supreme Pontiff has expressed his devotion to the Blessed Virgin, venerating her as the true mother of the son of God.

The devotion to the Virgin Mary extends to most of the nations where the Christian faith is present. Mary's mediation is understood as an extension of her maternal function over all the people of God and over the whole individual, as a son assumed at the foot of the cross. It means that the Virgin Mary is the perfect icon of the Church, integral in the faith for her virginity and fruitful in the love for her motherhood, generating a life of grace for the faithful. In this context, she is always invoked as an advocate and protector of the faithful people, as one who intercedes for all grace, as the heavenly Mediatrix "in Christ" and "with Christ".

→
Brazil, 1884.
Registered and traveled cover from Santa Maria to Germany, with postmark "SANTA MARIA".

Many cities around the world have demonstrated in their own names their devotion to the Blessed Virgin.



→
Parma, 1819.
Postal form for collecting goods, with the icon of the Virgin Mary and the devotional inscription "Under the protection of God and the Virgin Mary" written in Italian.



Italy, 1934.

Internally traveled postal card with meter stamp model Francotyp "B" with image of Sanctuary "La Madonna della Guardia", a Roman Catholic place of pilgrimage located on the top of Monte Figogna in the Municipality of Ceranesi, from the city of Genoa, in the northwest of Italy.

Sign. Francesco, Frate Battista Fratelli Bo
ALLA GUARDIA DI DIO E DELLA B. V. MARIA.



Parma li 12. Giugno 1819.

Vi teniamo garante del ritorno della Dogana di

Sig. colla condotta del *Luca Bettolani*
vi restano spedite le segnate mercanzie con marca, numero e peso come appiedi, che sarete a procurare dal medesimo in ogni buona condizione asciutte, ed in tempo debito, e così essendo gli pagherete per suo porto *solidi sedici vossari* il peso di *cinque 53 16.* con obbligo di rendere *esl'intero giorni sei diciano giorni 6.* in difetto lo farete stare a dovere a conto d'ogni danno e pregiudizio, e ne disporrete secondo l'avviso coll'accenarcene la ricevuta; e salutandovi B. L. M. *Fratelli Bo*

N. B. Non si garantiscono le rotture delle cose fragili, dispersione delle liquide, ne le avarie a Colli e Casse non munite di tela corata, e tela grassa.

MARCA	NUMERO	PESO	VALORI
F. 69	295	9.20.	2
I. 53	296	9.	5
136	297	9.4.	2
160	298	9.10.	2
Totale 37.9.17.			

Colli quattro Telas
Dezioni in sigilli
in Consumazione
a Genova
Recetti di sigilli
et

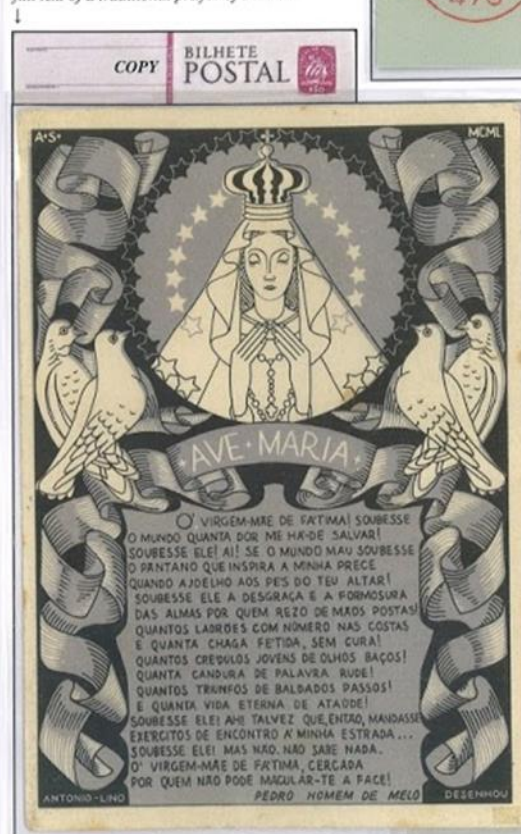
DEVOTION TO THE VIRGIN

Many peoples rely on faith and devotion to the Virgin Mary, as mediator and intercessor of graces. In many cultures, this devotion is spread by veneration through images and icons that represent the image of the virgin and, often, with the Holy Trinity.



Portugal, 1950.

Postal stationery with the icon of the Holy Virgin with the greeting "Ave-Maria" and the full text of a traditional prayer of Fátima.



Germany (FR), 1965.

Meter stamp type Francotyp "C".



Trial color proofs.

France, 1845.
Internal traveled letter franchised with the postmark "Notre-Dame de Belle-Vie" icon.

Belgium, 1957.

Telegram illustrated with the fragmented image of "The Ghent Altarpiece" (finished in 1432), a masterpiece of the Flemish painters and brothers Hubert and Jan van Eyck. The fragment shows the "Singers Women" who are in veneration to the Virgin Mary, that is placed in the fragment at the right side of the painting.



3.1. THE VENERATION THROUGH THE FAITH



Canada, 1960. Meter stamp model Pitney Bowes "R" – "Our Lady of the Sacred Heart" is one of the titles devotional to the Virgin Mary.

"Ave Maria" is a prayer that greets the Virgin Mary and has its origin, according to Christian tradition, in the episodes of the Annunciation and Visitation. When Archangel Gabriel greeted Mary, he said, "Hail Mary, full of grace." This greeting makes up the first part of one of the most cherished prayers of the Catholic people:

"Hail Mary full of Grace, The Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus."



Italy, 1952. Traveled cover with meter stamp model Sima - Marian logo and inscription of the Hospital and church of "Santa Maria dei Battuti".



Italy, 1967. The curious flaw in the printing on the lower seal, gives the imaginary of many, the appearance of the image of the Virgin Mary on the roof of the buildings of Piazza Campidoglio in Rome.



Greece, 1941. Traveled postal stationery (military post - World War II) with the image of the Virgin Mary blessing soldiers on the battlefield.

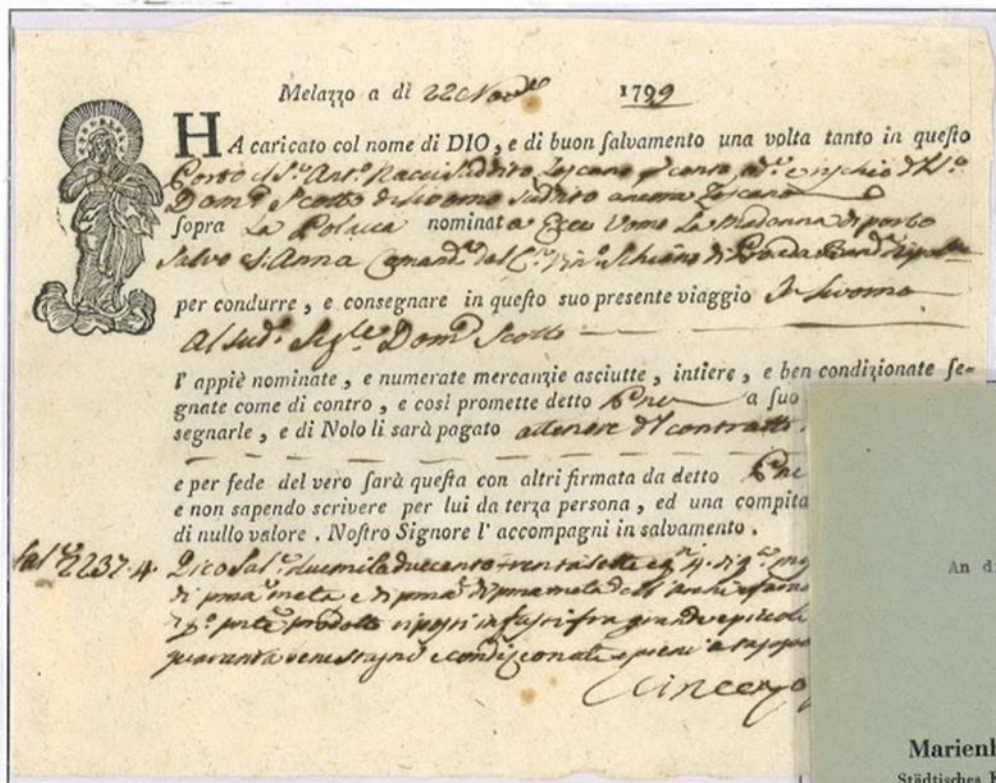


Inverted surcharge.



Double surcharge (overlapped).





↑ Melazzo (Kingdom of Sardinia), 1799. Postal boarding document with the image of the Immaculate Conception.



← German meter stamp model Francotyp with the image of the Immaculate Conception.



→ Brazil, 1954. 100th anniversary of the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

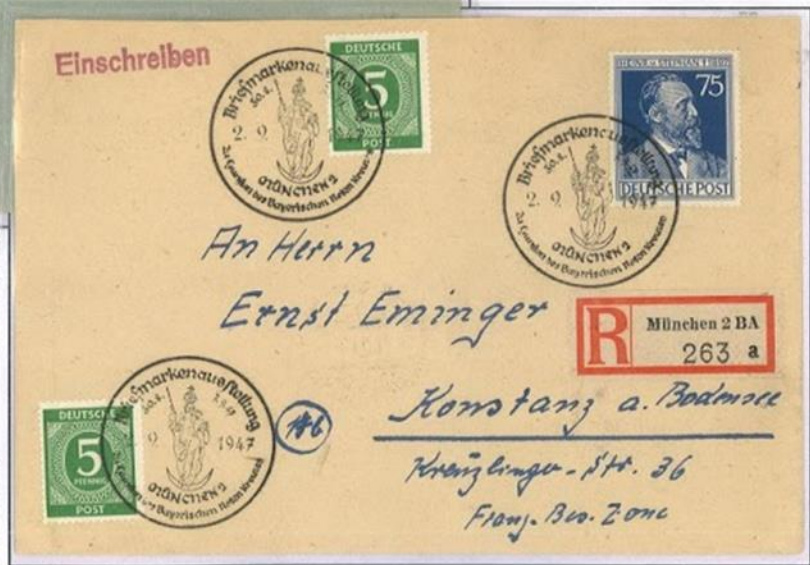


The title of Immaculate Conception is, according to Catholic dogma, the conception of the Virgin Mary without stain (in Latin, *macula*) of original sin. The dogma says that from the first moment of her existence, the Virgin Mary was full of divine grace. She lived a life completely free from the sin.



Marienhospital
Städtisches Krankenhaus
Arnberg (Westf.)

↑ Germany (FR), 1959. Traveled cover with meter stamp model Francotyp with the image of the Immaculate Conception (Marian Hospital).



→ The Immaculate Conception, with the moon underfoot, also chosen as the patron saint of Bavaria in Germany. (1947 Munich stamp).

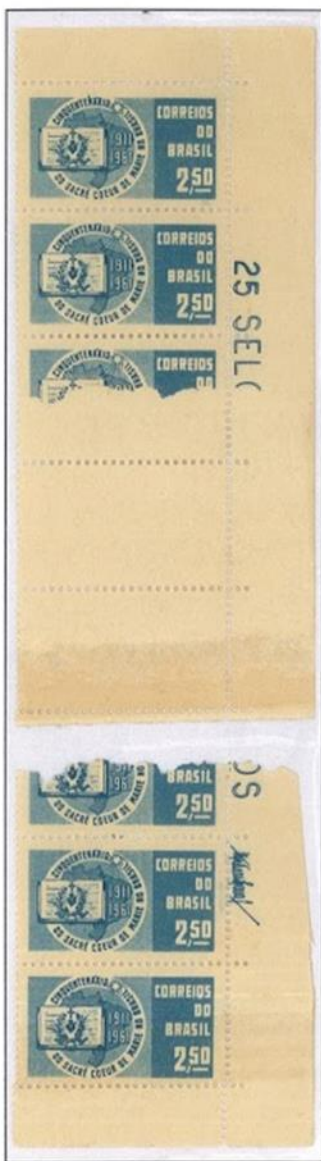


→ Virgin Islands, 1867. Many people consider this stamp to be the first one to reproduce the Virgin Mary image.

In fact, the image reproduced on this stamp is officially considered the image of Santa Ursula. It is speculated that the image provided to the engraver was the image of the Immaculate Conception, which had undergone some adaptations and was now taken as the image of Santa Ursula.

3.2. MARIOLOGY AND THE MARIAN MOVEMENTS

The Church has many teachings and doctrines regarding Mary's life, her meaning and her veneration. The set of these teachings and doctrines is called "**Mariology**". The Marian doctrine has developed over many centuries and has been studied and codified by the Councils, as well as by the main theologians of religious orders, by Marian Universities and by many centers and institutions of study.



← Commemorative surcharged stamp in honor of the "5th National and Marian Eucharistic Congress" of Peru, illustrated with a Marial monogram.

Mariology is divided into specific branches for studies: As examples of that, the **Historical Mariology**, which studies the historical, social and related data that make it possible to understand the historical figure of Mary; **Biblical Mariology**, which studies the biblical foundations about Mary; **Mariology of Devotion**, which studies popular devotions on the figure of Mary.

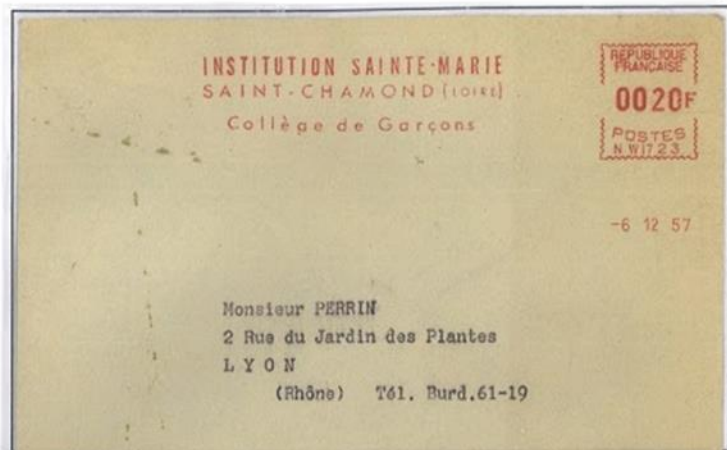


← Brazil, 1961. Stamps strip with roll splice.

← Commemorative stamp of fiftieth anniversary of the Sacred Heart of Mary in Brazil.



France, 1957. Internally traveled cover with meter stamp model Havas - "Saint Mary Institution".



← Dominican Republic, 1955. Air cover traveled to Switzerland, franchised with the aerial commemorative series of the "Marian Year".

← Vatican, 1954. FDC Registered and traveled by air to Puerto Rico, franchised with the commemorative series of the "Marian Year".

3.3. THE VIRGIN MARY IN THE ART



Shifted perforation.

Representing the Virgin Mary artistically has been a constant activity since the beginning of Christianity. Traditionally, the Italian name **Madonna** is attributed to these artistic representations of the Virgin Mary, whether in paintings, prints or sculptures. It is a traditional theme in Christian religious art.



The works almost always represent the Virgin Mary with her son Jesus in her arms, often surrounded by other characters, such as Saint Joseph, Saint Elizabeth, Saint Anne, or certain saints chosen for various reasons, such as the patron saint or the city saint that hosts it.

Great names in the art, created works reproducing the **Madonna and her son Jesus**. Among them, we can highlight **Raphael, Bellini, Michelangelo, Dali, Tiepolo** and many others of various nationalities and different artistic styles.

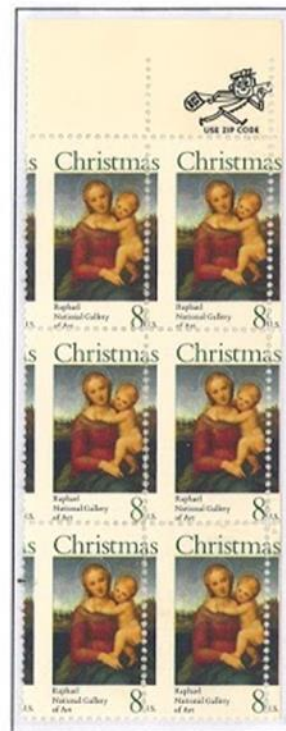
France, 1992.
Fragment with stamp and commemorative postmarks with the illustration of Madonna and Child Jesus by Sandro Botticelli.



Vatican, 1971.
Registered and traveled cover to Verona in Italy, franchised with the commemorative series of sacred arts by Ghissi, Giovanni, Crivelli, Maratta and Ceracchini, works that translate different artistic interpretations of the Madonna.



"Virgin" by Brea - Die proof in black signed by the engraver (Busiere).



Shifted perforation.
Madonna by Raphael
(National Gallery of Art - USA)

Color trial proof.



THE VIRGIN MARY IN THE ART



Imperforated stamp.



Romania, 1975.
Traveled postal stationery showing the originality of the work "Madonna", by Frederic Storck.



Literature, sculpture, music, painting and cinema; all of them bring the Virgin Mary, in the most diverse versions and adaptations. Appreciating the Marian art is also one of the forms of devotion and veneration. Admiring, contemplating, reflecting and praying in the presence of the image of the Virgin, is a common practice of almost all devotees.



Portuguese Stamp with an image of the sculpture of the Virgin with the Child - "Convento dos Cardeais" in Lisbon, Portugal.

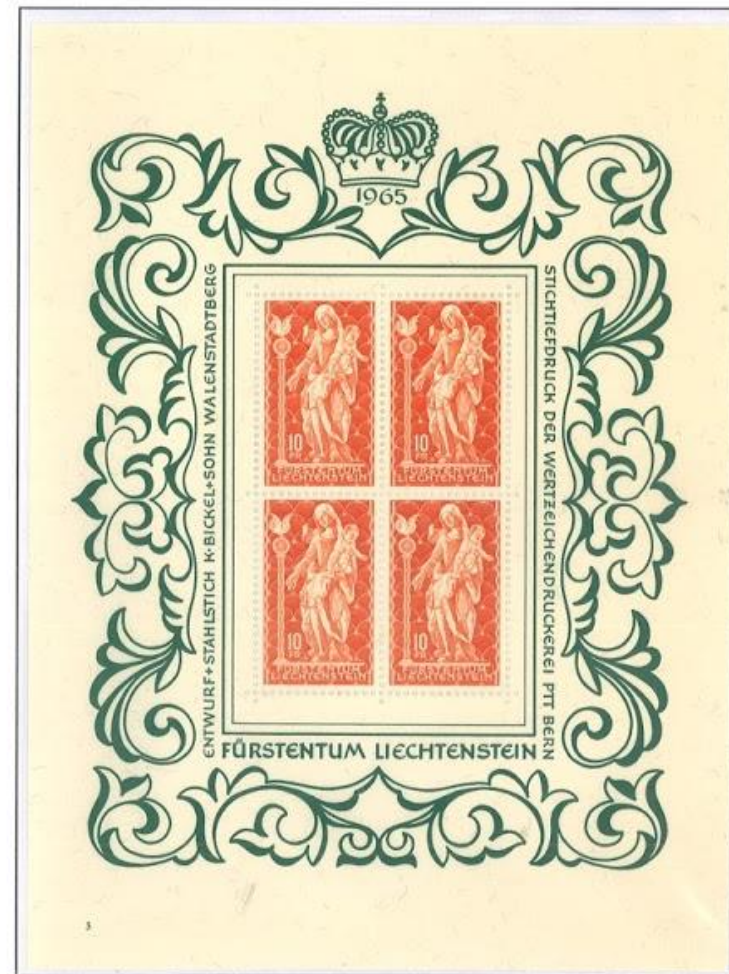


Belgium, 1939.
Traveled postal stationery to the Netherlands, with a reproduction of the Madonna, painting from 1487, by the German artist Hans Memling.

These works are spread over the world and are present in churches, theaters, museums, public places, shops, schools or even in armed conflict areas. The Madonna icon is seen and venerated in the most different forms of art.

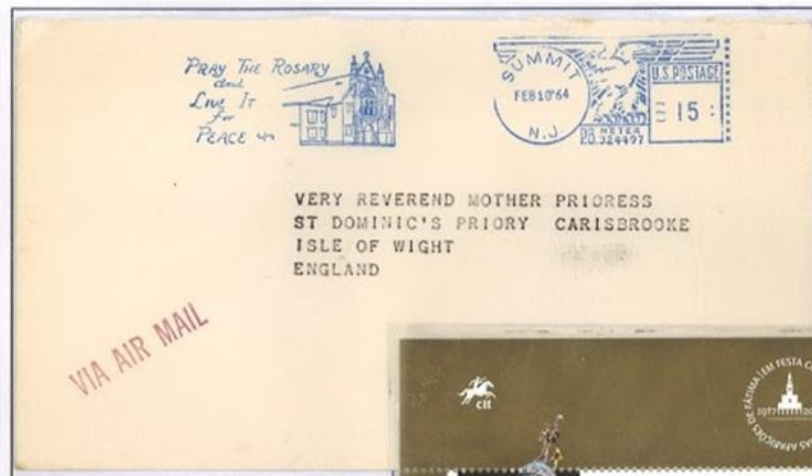


Color shift.



18th century wood carving - Madonna and child Jesus.

3.4. THE HOLY ROSARY



The Holy Rosary is a religious practice of Marian devotion that is widespread among Roman Catholics, who pray it both collectively and individually.

It consists of the serial recitation of the prayers using a chain with beads or knots, which receives the same name.

The rosary also includes the contemplation of certain passages in the life of Jesus and his mother Mary, which, according to the doctrine of the Catholic Church, are of special relevance to the history of salvation and which are called "mysteries".

USA, 1964.
Traveled cover to England with meter stamp model Pitney Bowes – The devotional slogan to promote the peace: "Pray the Rosary and live it for peace".



Some of the episodes in the life of Mary and Jesus Christ are depicted in the stations of the Holy Rosary illustrated on the 1962's spanish commemorative series.



Argentina, 1975.
Fragment with commemorative postmark "Mission of the Virgin of the Rosary" of Buenos Aires.



Portuguese commemorative minisheet to the centenary of the apparitions of the Virgin of the Rosary of Fátima.

Uruguay, 1902.
Traveled and registered cover to Germany with postmarks of "ROSARIO" - city located southwest of the country.



4. TITLES AND LOCATIONS



Germany (RFA), 1976.
Meter stamp model Francotyp - "Maria vom Guten Rat" is a church in Munich, Germany, built between 1956 and 1957.



France, 1896.
Traveled Telegram with postmarks "NOTRE-DAME DE LIESSE" - Built in 1134 in a Gothic style, the Basilica of Our Lady of Liesse contains the statue of the black Virgin Mary inside.



Portugal, 1898.
Traveled postal stationery with the illustration of Old Church of Our Lady of Concepcion, located in the center of city of Lisbon, classified as a national monument from 1910.

Mary's titles are honorary designations given to the Virgin. She is known for countless invocations and other poetic names. A variety of different titles are used by the Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Coptic and Anglican churches. The titles attributed to the Virgin Mary are countless. Many are widespread and well-known, others less so. The titles can refer to its virtues, or the places where it would have appeared.



Stamp of Our Lady of Valley, an invocation of the Virgin Mary originated in the State of Nueva Esparta, in Venezuela.



Spain, 1747.
Traveled folded letter from Cadiz to Antwerp (Belgium) with postmark "DL. PTO. STA. MARIA." (El Puerto de Santa Maria - Cadiz Province).



Spain, 1840.
Traveled folded letter from Cadiz to Jerez with postmark "CADIZ - P. de S.M." (El Puerto de Santa Maria - Cadiz Province).



Shifed perforation.



Italy, 1965.
Postcard franchised with meter stamp model Francopost with the title of "Sanctuary of Our Lady of Divine Love", an important Catholic pilgrimage center located in Rome, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, composed of two churches: an older one, built in 1745, and a new one, built in 1999.

TITLES AND LOCATIONS



France, 1810.
Traveled folded letter with postmark "PORT STE. MARIE".

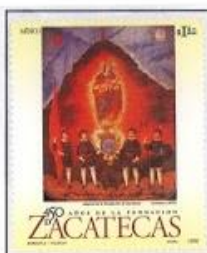


Germany (FR), 1955.
Meter Stamp model Postalia - Benedictine Abbey of Maria Laach, located in southwest Germany.

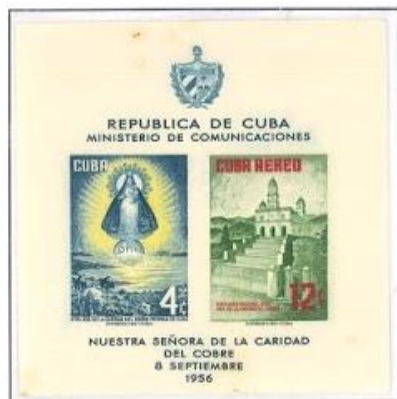


Brazil, 1876.
Empire stamps with postmark "N. S. DO DESTERRO DE QUISSAMAN" (Our Lady of Exile of Quissaman).

Postmark reproduction →



Hispanic countries have several titles dedicated to the Virgin. In Cuba, in the small "Vila do Cobre", there is a sanctuary of the country's patron: Our Lady of Charity. In 1916, Pope Benedict XV proclaimed her the patron of Cuba.



Cuba, 1956. Commemorative minisheet in honor of the Virgin of Charity and of Copper.



Reunion Island, 1947.
Registered and traveled air cover to France with postmark "SAINTE MARIE".

Hospitals, medical clinics, nursing and recovery homes, teaching and research institutions, day care centers, orphanages, theaters, museums, non-governmental organizations, public agencies and even private sector companies, are named in honor of the various titles of the Virgin Mary. Devotion is also present through this model of veneration to the Mother of Jesus.



Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines is a city surrounded by high mountains and concentrates its main activity in the exploration of minerals. The name was originated in the century XIV, in devotion to the Virgin Mary.

France, 1816.
Traveled folded letter with postmark "STE. MARIE AUX-MINES".

France, 1927.
Shipment form (colis postaux) from Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines to Lyon. ↓



TITLES AND LOCATIONS



France, 1933. Internally traveled cover franchised with a pair of *Le Puy en Velay* commemorative stamps (an important Marian pilgrimage sanctuary located in the Loire River region).



Germany (FR), 1987. Meter Stamp model Postalia - St. Marien Hospital.

Italy, 1884. Traveled cover with postmark "Santa Maria a Monte", a city in the Tuscany region. ↓



Canada, 1957. Meter Stamp Pitney Bowes "Model R" - Notre-Dame du Sacré-Coeur.



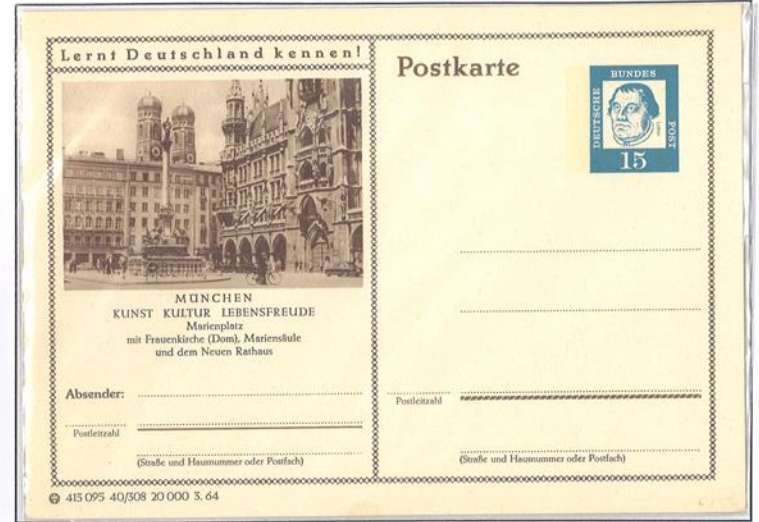
In addition to countless Christian temples, such as cathedrals, basilicas, churches, monasteries, abbeys and convents, several cities, provinces, villages, neighborhoods, streets, avenues, and many other places, are awarded with different Marian titles. Many of these places, by historical or even popular tradition, have become centers of pilgrimage and visitation, many of them, housing historical images of the Virgin.



← Saarland, 1954. Complete series with different artistic representations of the Madonna with the baby Jesus.



→ Lombardy-Venetian Kingdom, 1834. Folded letter with the postmark of the Virgin and her son Jesus in her arms, being contemplated in heaven by Saint Antonio of Padova.



↑ Germany (FR), 1964. Postal stationery with the image of Marienplatz (Mary's square) in the center of Munich, founded in 1158.



4.1. THE DIFFERENT DEVOTIONAL TITLES OF MARY



1942, Oflag II-C (Woldenberg)

"Madonna od Vilnius"

The largest and most strategic Nazi concentration camps had their own postal system and many of them issued their own postal forms and stamps for their correspondence. An example is **Oflag II-C**, a German prisoner of war camp, located about 1 km from the city of Woldenberg, (now Dobiegniew), in western Poland. In Oflag II-C, most postage stamps and documents were manufactured in an improvised manner, using the remains of cigarette paper, packaging and other types of discarded materials.



1942, Oflag II-C (Woldenberg)



1943, Oflag VII-A (Murnau).



1943, Oflag II-C (Woldenberg).



1942. Essay not adopted for postal stationery of Oflag II-C (Woldenberg) - "Madonna od Vilnius".

The 20th century was a period that was notable for the countless technological advances, conquests of civilization and movements in relation to the power. In particular, it was marked by the two greatest war conflicts, involving a large number of nations – "The First World War", from 1914 to 1918 and "The Second World War", from 1939 to 1945. These two dramatic moments of humanity, were marked by the colossal number of victims and drastic changes on people's life. In both world wars, the "Nazi concentration camps" were consolidated as a confinement center, installed in large delimited areas and surrounded by security systems and restricted access.



Oflag II-C (Woldenberg), 1942. Virgin and Child Jesus.

In this context, religion and faith, more than ever, have played a vital role in strengthening human power and resistance in the face of such a delicate period. Within the Christian faith, devotion to the Virgin Mary and her intercession with God, were striking to alleviate the suffering and inhuman conditions experienced by most of the faithful.



Pskov (Pleskau) is one of the oldest cities in Russia, with more than 1,100 years of history. It was a strategic point for military forces during the two great world wars. In the second great war, the city was occupied by Nazi troops and suffered substantial damage. Its population suffered a lot during this period and many people died. From that period, the faith of its population increased more and more, in prayers for the blessings and protection of the Mother of God, the Blessed Virgin of Pleskau.



Shifed perforation.

Color variety.

Pleskau, 1942. Traveled cover franchised with the stamp of the image of Virgin Mary and the Child Jesus, source of prayers for the protection of her suffering people.

THE DIFFERENT DEVOTIONAL TITLES OF MARY



"Our Lady of Pilar" is the oldest Marian title, and has its origin more than 1900 years ago. According to Christian tradition, one of the first apparitions of the Virgin Mary was given to the apostle James, when he was evangelizing in the region of Zaragoza in Spain. Mary, who lived in Ephesus, was brought by angels on a pillar to the Apostle, to motivate and bless him in his evangelization. Based on this tradition, devotion to "Nossa Senhora do Pilar" emerged, today the most popular in Spain and very widespread in Latin countries. The image venerated in Zaragoza is a 38 cm statue, placed on top of a pillar-shaped column.



Dual printing.



Inverted surcharge.



Dual surcharge.



Dual inverted surcharge.



Inverted surcharge on the back.



Imperforated stamp.



Imperforated stamp with color variation.

Twenty centuries have passed since the apparition of the Virgin of the Pillar to St. James, and, despite Muslim invasions, wars and bad weather conditions, the sacred pillar remains intact in the basilica of Zaragoza, under the protection of the Virgin Mary.

Spain, 1940.
Traveled cover from Las Palmas to Gotha in Germany, with stamps commemorating the 19th centenary of the apparition of the Virgin of Pilar.
(Correspondence inspected by the military censorship of Spain and the Nazi Armed Forces of the III German Reich).

Spain, 1940.
Internally traveled cover with a commemorative stamp of the 19th centenary of the apparition of the Virgin of Pilar.

After the apparition, the Virgin Mary still lived for another eleven years. Touched by the apparition, the apostle James soon built a small chapel in that place, with the help of eight disciples, and placed the pillar on top of the altar, so that it was facing the river Ebro. The chapel has undergone several renovations and expansions over the centuries. Today it is a grand basilica that welcomes thousands of the faithful.



THE DIFFERENT DEVOTIONAL TITLES OF MARY



The **Blieskastel Virgin**, also popularly known as the "Pietà of Blieskastel", is the Marian title given in veneration to a wood carving (which miracles are attributed according to tradition), with approximately 80 cm high, probably sculpted in the 14th century, currently held in the Chapel of the Holy Cross in Blieskastel, Germany.

In the sculpture, Mary holds the body of Jesus dead in her lap. It is colorful and has a crown made of golden silver. It contains five medieval iron arrowheads.



Essay not issued.



Block of 6 with printing error on the lower right stamp (4,5 cent.)



Minisheet with *Madonna von Dux*, from Liechtenstein.



Liechtenstein, a tiny principality located in the center of Europe, nestled in the Alps between Austria and Switzerland, with just over 34 thousand people, was one of the first nations in the world to issue stamps with the image of the Virgin Mary. The 1920 issue is made up of 3 stamps and bears the icon of that which would later be proclaimed the Principality's Patron.



The 1920 issue with dual perforation in the right row.

On March 25th, 1940, in an act performed in the Dux Chapel, Prince Monarch of Liechtenstein, Franz Josef II, solemnly placed his House, the people and the nation, under the protection of the Virgin Mary.



← Saarland, 1935. Registered and traveled cover franchised with a stamp with the image of *Pietà of Blieskastel*, overprinted "Volksabstimmung 1935" (Plebiscite 1935). "e"

The Principality of Liechtenstein was one of the few European nations that were freed from the bloody events of World War II.



Without upper perforation.



Plié (creased).



Plié (creased).

THE DIFFERENT DEVOTIONAL TITLES OF MARY

"Our Lady of Czestochowa" is a title of the Virgin Mary consecrated as Queen and Patron of Poland. In Brazil it is also known as "Nossa Senhora do Monte Claro". Its representation is done in dark colors, from where it receives the name "Black Virgin".



The image of Our Lady of Czestochowa is painted on wood, in Byzantine style. Maria appears in half body, dressed in a tunic embroidered in gold and with her head covered by a veil decorated with the same designs as the tunic. His right hand is on his chest and, sitting on his left arm, he has the Baby Jesus, dressed in a nightgown, which covers his legs. The boy holds a book in his left arm and strokes his mother with his right hand.



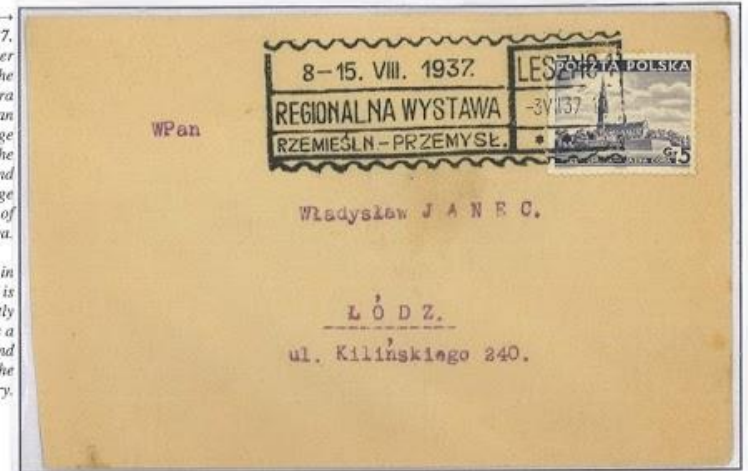
The Polish city of Częstochowa is known for the magnificent monastery of Jasna Góra (Monte Claro) with the miraculous painting of Our Lady of Czestochowa.

Considered the largest Catholic center in the country, thousands of pilgrims visit the city every year.

Poland, 1983.
Registered and internally traveled stationery, with the image in detail of the face of the Virgin of Czestochowa.

Poland, 1937.
Traveled cover franchised with the stamp o Jasna Góra Monastery, an important pilgrimage site for the appreciation and devotion of the image of the black Virgin of Czestochowa.

Poland, a country in Eastern Europe, is predominantly Catholic and has a traditional and strong devotion to the Virgin Mary.



Vatican, 1957. Registered official cover from the Vatican City Government, traveled to Parma in Italy, franchised with the commemorative series in honor of the Virgin of Czestochowa.

THE DIFFERENT DEVOTIONAL TITLES OF MARY

"Notre-Dame de Paris" is the title given to the Virgin Mary by the French, especially the Parisians. This Marian title has its maximum expression of devotion in the Cathedral dedicated to the Virgin, located in Place Paris, on the small Île de la Cité in Paris, France, surrounded by the waters of the River Seine.



Color trial proof.



Color trial proof.

→
The beautiful stained glass windows of the Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral.



The cathedral of **Our Lady of Luxembourg** was built between 1613 and 1621 by the Jesuits. Since 1794, it houses the statue of the **Consoling Virgin of the Afflicted**.



It was expanded from 1935 to 1938. It is richly decorated and its walls are carved with arabesques and stained glass from the 19th and 20th centuries, neo-Gothic style confessionals, modern bas-relief sculptures and bronze gates. The north gate is characteristic of the semi-renaissance and semi-baroque style of the period. The crypt is the resting place of the deceased members of the family of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

→
Statue of the Consoling Virgin of the afflicted.



Imperforated stamp.

With exuberant and beauty architectural, the cathedral holds valuable treasures inside. Statues, relics, devotional objects and the majestic stained glass windows that portray the image of Mary and Jesus.

→
France, 1937. Postal stationery traveled to Germany, with the image of the Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral on the banks of the River Seine, with all the beauty of the Gothic architecture dedicated to the Virgin Mary.



THE DIFFERENT DEVOTIONAL TITLES OF MARY

During the first world war, King Ludwig III and his wife Maria Theresa asked to the Pope Benedict XV to declare the **Virgin Mary as the official patron of Bavaria**. On April 26, 1916, the Pope elevated the Kingdom of Bavaria to "Kingdom of Mary" and gave a special feast in honor of the patron saint.



The "**Column of Mary**" in Munich is, next to the Marian Shrine of Altötting, one of the best known symbols of the Bavarian Mariana devotion.

The first postage stamp in the world issued with the image of the Blessed Virgin, was the Bavarian issue of 1920, composed of 5 values.

The stamps reproduce the image of the "Column of Mary" in Munich, Germany.



Color trial phase proof. "e"



Color trial proof.



"Deutsches Reich" overprinted stamp with printing error at the top right corner.



Germany, 1921. Registered and traveled cover, with the 1/4 mark stamp of the world's first Marian emission, with overprinting "Deutsches Reich".



Hungary, 1926. Printed registered cover traveled to Germany, as part of the franchise the stamp of the 1921 "Patroness of Hungary".



Plié (creased).



Hungary was the third country in the world to issue postage stamps with the image of the Blessed Virgin, in 1921.



Shifted perforation.

The **Lady of the Hungarians** (in Latin: "**Patrona Hungariae**") is the title given to the Virgin Mary expressing her special relationship with Hungary. On October 8, the Hungarian Catholic Church celebrates the feast of devotion to the Virgin Mary for the protection of Hungarians.

The close connection of the people of that country with Mary and the origin of the celebration, is related to King Saint Stephen who, according to tradition, on the day of his death (August 15, 1038), feast of the Assumption, offered the kingdom of Hungary to the Virgin Mary.

P 013.966		BUDAPEST 53		I rakétszáma: 8	
A felvétel postahivatal neve:				Hérmérettel díj: P f	
Rakjegyek felragasztására szánt hely:				Levegőhorgok felragasztására (részkiegészítőkkel alkalmazására) szánt hely:	
					
POSTAI SZÁLLÍTÓLEVÉL BELFÖLDI CSOMAGHOZ.					
Nyilvántartott érték:		P f, azaz		P f	
Csomagolás módja:		Tartalom:			
postacsomag		szerelesei anyag			
Cím:					
Magyarország Város Villamos-telene					
Rendeltetési hely: Magyarország					
A csomag súlya:		Utas, házszám:			
kg E					
Ára 11 fillér.					

Hungary, 1933. Postal form with additional franchise (Madonna of Hungary stamp).

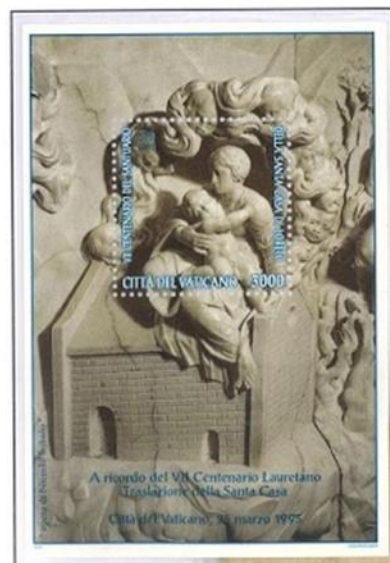
4.2. PLACES DEDICATED TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN



Loreto, the most famous Marian sanctuary in Italy, guards the house where the Holy Family lived. According to tradition, confirmed by many popes and saints, before Nazareth was taken by Muslims, the angels took Mary's house, on December 10, 1294, to a hill on the property of a devotee named Lorette - hence the current name of the city, Loreto.



Croatia, 1994.
Fragment with commemorative stamp and postmark to the Holy House and the Sanctuary of Loreto.



Spanish stamp.
"Our Lady of Loreto"
50th anniversary of
Spanish aviation.



Hungarian stamp.
"Our Lady of Loreto"
Patron of aviators and aviation.

A different tradition, says that the Holy Family house was taken from Nazareth to this region by the crusaders under the command of De Angelis.

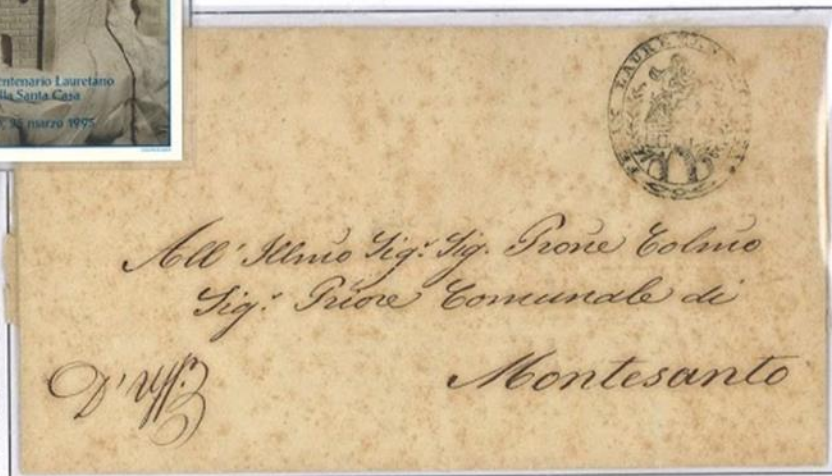


↑ Vatican, 2010. Aérogram with commemorative postmark of the 90th anniversary of the proclamation of Our Lady of Loreto as patron and saint of aviators.

Preserved inside the **Basilica of Loreto**, the "Holy House" is a single-storey building, made of stone, measuring 8.5m by 3.8m and 4.1m high. It has a door on the north side and a window on the west side, and a niche containing a small black image of the Virgin with Child, in Lebanese cedar, richly adorned with jewelry.



Vatican, 1938. Air cover traveled to Italy, franchised with the aerial series that figures on two stamps (blue and violet), the image of the Virgin Mary with Jesus and the Holy House of the Holy Family being carried by the angels.



→ Loreto, Papal State, 1857.
Folded letter traveled to Montesanto, with a postmark reproducing the image of the Holy House of Loreto, the Virgin Mary and the baby Jesus in her arms and the inscription "Felix Lauretana Civitas".

PLACES DEDICATED TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN



Loreto, Papal State, 1857.
Folded letter traveled to Morrovalle with Loreto postmark with the image of the Holy House.



An image of the Virgin Mary was in a small niche reserved for her in a prominent place in the House. This image was transported with the House. Was made entirely of cedar from Lebanon with a cloth mantle adorned with jewels. In 1921 a fire destroyed the original image. Another identical one was made, with the same material and blessed by Pope Pius XI in 1922.



Loreto, Papal State, 1841.
Folded letter traveled to Macerata, with Loreto postmark.



Italy, 1959.
Registered cover and traveled to Recanati - Meter stamp model
Lirma and Steiner with the coat of arms of the Sanctuary of Loreto.



PROVA NO. 600 143

Printing proof.

Vatican, 1938.
Traveled cover to France, franchised with the aerial series that figures on two stamps (brown and green), the image of the Holy House being carried by the angels.

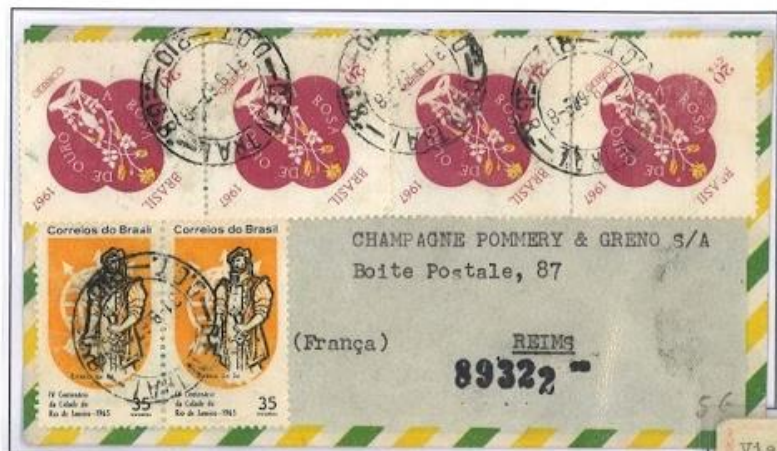
Thousands of pilgrims from five continents visit the Loreto Sanctuary each year. Among these, it is important to highlight many Saints who were there, such as St. Francis of Sales, St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. Therese of Lisieux. In 1979 Pope John Paul II defined the sanctuary as "the first temple over which the Mother of God radiated her own light with her Motherhood".



PLACES DEDICATED TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN



"Our Lady of Aparecida", is the way that the Virgin is affectionately called in Brazil, the country of which she is patron. She is venerated in a statue of Immaculated Conception, dressed in a blue mantle all decorated. This image is exposed in his Basilica, in the city of Aparecida, in the interior of the State of São Paulo. The party in his honor is celebrated on October 12th. This day has been a holiday for Brazilians since 1980, when the basilica was consecrated by Pope John Paul II on his first visit to Brazil. The Basilica of Aparecida is the second largest in the world, with the incredible capacity to receive 45,000 people inside.



↑ Brazil, 1916. Postal stationery with postmark of the city of Conceição da Aparecida, located in the southern region of the state of Minas Gerais, which had its original name in 1871, due to a promise made by one of the donors of the land to Nossa Senhora Aparecida.

← Brazil, 1967. Registered and traveled cover, partially franchised with 4 stamps commemorating the Golden Rose offered to the Basilica of Nossa Senhora Aparecida by Pope Paul VI in 1967.



Marbled paper.



→ Brazil, 1956. Registered and traveled cover to the United States, partially franchised with the stamp of Nossa Senhora Aparecida, Patron of Brazil.

← Brazil, 1979. Postal stationery commemorative to the 75th anniversary of the coronation of the image of Our Lady of Aparecida.



PLACES DEDICATED TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

Our Lady of Rosary of Fatima, is one of the Marian invocations attributed to the Virgin Mary and which began based on the reports of the apparitions reported by three children in Cova da Iria, in the parish of Fátima, Portugal. According to the testimonies of these children, the first apparition of the Virgin Mary occurred in May 1917 and was repeated for six months, until October 1917.



Essay not issued in blue color (pair).

← **Brazil, 1949.**
Commemorative minisheet of Sanctuary of Our Lady of Fatima and St. Francis of Paula, located in Ouro Fino, State of Minas Gerais, Brazil.



→ Imperforated vertical pair with double shifted printing.



← **Portugal, 1982.**
Official envelope of the Sanctuary of Fatima, registered and traveled to the city of Porto, franchised with meter stamp model Francotyp "Cc" in honor of the visit of Pope St. John Paul II to the Sanctuary.



The main church of the Sanctuary of Fatima in Portugal, built very close to the place where the apparitions took place.



Portugal, 1950.
Traveled cover to Germany, franchised with 3 stamps commemorating the "Holy Year" in Fátima.



Stamps with the image of the Virgin, as described by the children.



Portugal, 1967. Meter stamp model Francotyp "Cc" commemorating the 50th anniversary of the apparitions in Fátima.

PLACES DEDICATED TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

In 1858, four years after Pope Pius IX defined the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, the **Virgin Mary appeared in Lourdes**, France, to young Bernadette Soubirous, a 14-year-old girl, poor and sick. She was in the cave of Massabielle, on the bank of the river Gave, collecting firewood. When he heard a noise, he turned and saw a beautiful lady with a rosary in her hand. Together, they began to pray the rosary. After the prayer, the vision dissipated in silence. The apparitions continued for several days before they ceased. Water started pouring out of a fountain in the cave, which had not existed until then. Many miracles have been reported using this water.



↑ Italy, 1958. Registered and traveled cover, franchised with the stamps of the commemorative series to the 100 years of the apparitions in Lourdes.



Color trial proof.



→ Bernadette Soubirous was canonized as a saint in 1933.



→ Print error caused the lack of details of the reflection in the waters of the river.



→ Bernadette prays the Rosary together with the Virgin Mary in Massabielle's cave - Die proof in black signed by the engraver.

← Color trial proof.



PLACES DEDICATED TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN



↑ Argentina, 1962. Fragment with stamp and postmark.

At the feast of the **Virgin of Luján**, every year on May 8th, thousands of pilgrims march on foot towards the **National Basilica of Luján** in Buenos Aires. It starts from the Sanctuary of St. Caetano, in the neighborhood of Liniers. Luján's first pilgrimage took place in May 1975.

In 1630, the Argentine farmer Antônio Farias Sá asked a sculptor friend from Brazil to send him an image of Our Lady for the chapel he intended to build. Two images were sent: one of the Immaculate Conception, and one with the title of Mother Consolator. The images were put on a cart and went on a trip. When they reached the banks of the Luján River, near Buenos Aires, the animals stopped. After much insistence, they decided to remove the box containing the image of the Immaculate Conception and then, mysteriously, the animals moved the cart again. The drovers saw this as a sign from God to leave the image. And so it was done. In 1874 the **Sanctuary of Luján** was designed, in Gothic style.



↑ Not adopted color trial proofs. ↓



The Virgin of Luján, under the title "**Our Lady of Luján**" is the patron and protector of Argentina. For this reason, the **Basilica of Luján** is considered the National Shrine of the country.



Our Lady of Salette is a Marian title given to the Blessed Virgin Mary for her appearances on the mountain of La Salette, in the Isère region, in the French Alps.

The Virgin appeared in 1846 to two children, Maximin Giraud, 11 years old and Mélanie Calvat, 15 years old, asking for the conversion of the people, actions and prayers.

← France, 2002/1996. Meter stamps model Neopost/Havas & SMH/Alcatel (Havas) respectively, with the image of *Our Lady of Salette* and her Sanctuary.



↑ United States (Free postal service – undated).

Printed cover with meter stamp model Pitney Bowes – In honor of the Shrine of Our Lady of Salette - city of Attleboro, in the US state of Massachusetts.



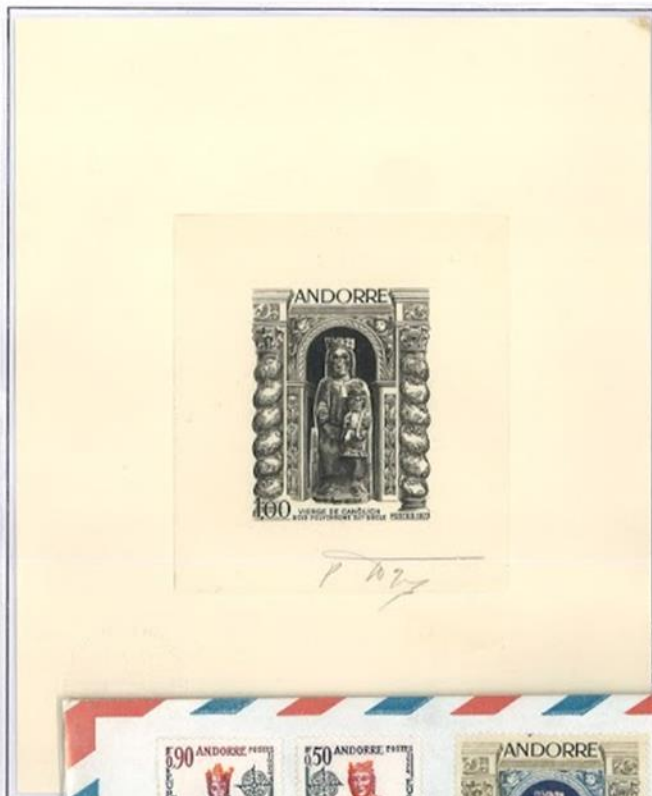
The **Basilica of Our Lady of La Salette** was started in 1852, completed in 1865, and designated as a basilica in 1879. It is a grand church, with a facade flanked by two towers, located at the site of the apparitions, high on the mountain.



→ Argentina, date illegible. Fragment of a traveled cover, franchised with 2 stamps from the "First Inter-American Marian Congress" with the image of the Virgin of Luján.



4.3. OTHER TITLES AND DENOMINATIONS



← The Virgin of Canolich - Die proof in black signed by the engraver (Pierre Forget).



Virgin of Jesse - Belgian Publibel stationery.

There are many titles and denominations in honor to the Virgin Mary or to ask for her intercession for certain causes. More than 1,100 known names are estimated. These are used by many Christian traditions around the world. Icons, statues, chapels, shrines, and basilicas are erected in the most diverse locations, in her honor and devotion.



Italy, 1950. Meter stamp model Postitalia - "Santa Maria dei Angeli".



← Andorra, 1974. Traveled air cover franchised with 3 stamps of different Marian titles.

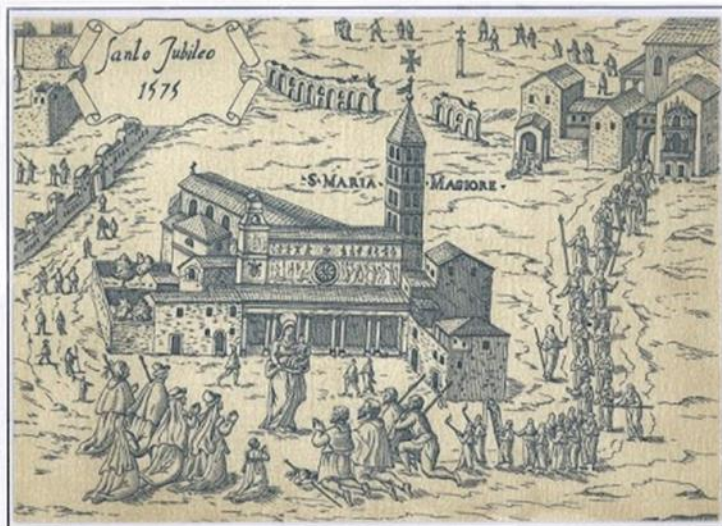


The Virgin of Coromoto is a title dedicated to Our Lady and was declared the patron saint of Venezuela. It is a Marian devotion, which began in 1652, where according to tradition, the Virgin would have appeared to a local indigenous.

← Madagascar, 1894. Postal stationery (card letter) - "Ste. Marie of Madagascar".



5. MOTHER AND QUEEN



For Catholic and Orthodox Christians around the world, **The Virgin Mary** is venerated and hailed as the main intercessor before God.

But before that, of even greater nature and greatness, she is the **Mother of Jesus Christ, the Mother of God and Queen of all humanity.**

←
Vatican, 1983.
Postal stationery – Papal Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome, Italy.



The Papal Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore, Rome.

Giving Mary the title of "**Lady**" and "**Queen**" does not mean, on the other hand, turning her into God. Mary's "nobility" is totally different from that of her Son. Jesus is "Lord" in the sense that He is God, absolutely above all creatures. Therefore, to call Jesus "Lord" is to recognize his divine nature; to call the Virgin Mary "Lady" is to recognize her as the **Queen Mother**.



Stamp from Territory of Gibraltar.

Among the countless representations of Mary in the Christian tradition, many shows the **Virgin with the child on her lap, the crown on her head and the scepter in her hands, translating all her majesty and royalty.**

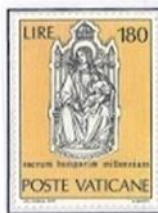


Shifted perforation.

→
Greece, 1941.
Postal stationery - Military service (World War II).
Image of Virgin Mary, the **Mother acclaimed by the people in difficult times, during conflicts and battles.**



Austria, 1981.
Meter stamp model Pitney Bowes - The **Mother who holds her child in her arms is also Queen, with her crown.**



←
Liechtenstein, 1962.
Postal stationery – **Mary and Jesus, with the crown and the scepter.**



5.1. THE CORONATION OF THE VIRGIN MARY



The Coronation of the Virgin Mary is a very significant theme in Christian faith and devotion. The scene is usually depicted in two different forms: the first and most current, shows Jesus, accompanied by God the Father and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove, placing a crown on Mary's head, proclaiming her Queen of Heaven; the second, older, shows the coronation in paradise, in the form of an earthly court, composed of saints and angels. Mary is also shown in Christian art, being crowned by one or two angels of God.

← On the Czechoslovakia stamp the scene of the Coronation of Mary is represented in a kind of earthly court, composed of angels and saints.



Poland's stamps show the Virgin Mary being crowned by angels of God.



The stamps of Spain and Brazil illustrate the Virgin Mary being crowned by the Holy Trinity: God the Father, Jesus Son and the Holy Spirit represented by the white dove.

The Coronation is the last episode in the life of the Virgin Mary, being the sequence of her Assumption. It is also the fifth glorious mystery of the Holy Rosary. In the Catholic Church, the coronation is celebrated during the month of May, dedicated entirely to the Virgin, on specific dates chosen by each community.



Spain, 1973.
Traveled air mail cover to the United States, franchised as part of the postage, a stamp showing one of the mysteries of the Holy Rosary, the Coronation of Mary Most Holy, in the artist work of El Greco.



← Poland, 2001.
Postal stationery – Mary is crowned by angels of God.

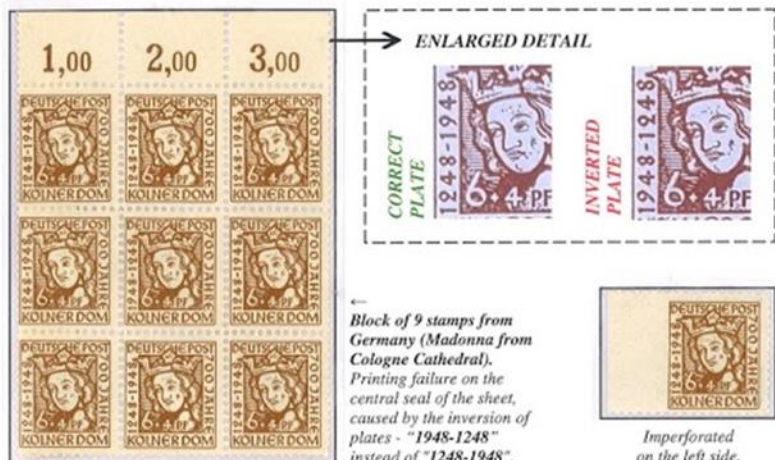


Malta (SMOM), 1999.
Traveled cover returned to sender franchised with minisheet "Coronation of Virgin Mary", work of artist Matteo di Pacino di Duccio.

5.2. THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN AND EARTH

The Virgin Mary is glorified by the Holy Trinity.
 "She shines as Queen of Angels and Saints, anticipation
 and culmination of the Church's eschatological condition".

Historical records aligned with biblical books, relate the vision of St. John on the island of Patmos, in Greece, where he reveals all the majesty and power of Virgin Mary to the Church and to all Christians.



Brazilian stamp brings the Crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth, the Blessed Virgin Mary, with Jesus, her son, on her throne.



St. John saw Mary iced over with the sun, glorious dressed - the moon served as a rich pedestal and the stars gathered around his head, forming a crown in number 12, a symbol of perfection and grace. Signs that all the stars of the universe glorify their Queen.

Germany, 1948.
 Traveled cover franchised with the stamps of the Madonna of Cologne Cathedral in Germany.



Holland, 1927.
 The first postage stamp with the image of Virgin Mary, crowned on her throne, as Queen.

Brazil, 1985.
 Pre-franchised aerogram with additional franchise traveled to Switzerland - "Divine Shepherdess with the child Jesus", 19th century work.

