

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary



On December 8, 1854, in the Apostolic Constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*, Pope Pius IX, infallibly defined, ex cathedra:

... the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful."

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/teachings/pius-ixs-ineffabilis-deus-defining-the-immaculate-conception-153>

Since December 8, 2019, is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to Monday, December 9, 2019.

The National Association of Catholic Nurses USA invites nurses everywhere to **join in a Novena to the Immaculate Conception**, beginning December 1 and ending December 9. The nine days of prayer can be found at this link <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/immaculate-conception-novena-322>.

Suggested Intention: That all nurses, as true children of Mary, walk in her footsteps and serve every patient in the spirit in which she served Our Blessed Lord.

PRAYER TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
did prepare a worthy dwelling place for Your Son,
we beseech You that, as by the foreseen death of this, Your Son, You did preserve Her from all stain,
so too You would permit us, purified through Her Intercession, to come unto You.

Through the same Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end.

Amen.