

# The Mother of God



## The Story of Mary

The story of St. Mary is the story of a person who loved God with all her heart and mind. She was a child whom God loved, and she was chosen to be the mother of God's son, Jesus.

Mary's parents were named Joachim and Anna. They loved God, and took Mary to the Temple School for girls in Jerusalem when Mary was a little girl. She studied there and learned about God, just as we learn about him in Sunday School.

When Mary grew up, she was engaged to Joseph, the carpenter,

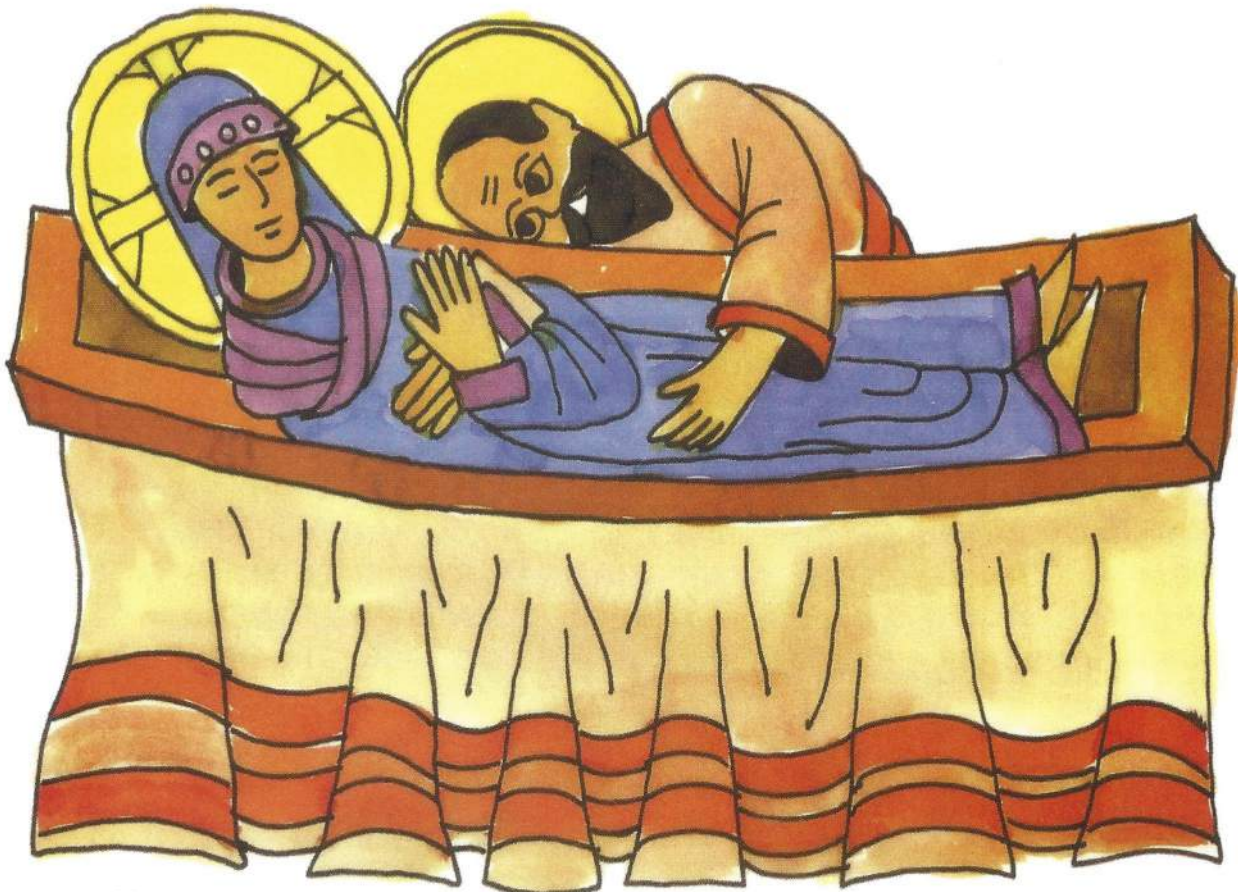
from Nazareth. She loved Joseph very much. One day, as she was praying, God's angel came to tell her that she would be the mother of his son. She was very surprised, because she was not married. The angel told her that she would have this special baby by the power of the Holy Spirit. The angel told her that the baby was to be named Jesus, because he would be the Savior. Mary agreed to be Jesus' mother. The angel also came to Joseph and told him the same thing.

Mary's baby was born in Bethlehem. They named him Jesus, just as the angel told them. Later they moved back to Nazareth, where Mary and Joseph made a home for him. Joseph taught Jesus how to be a carpenter. Mary helped him with his homework. She taught him to be loving and respectful of others. She answered his many questions. Like all children, he often must have run to her and whispered, "You are my best friend!"

When Jesus was grown up, Mary stayed with him. Wherever Jesus travelled and taught, his mother was part of the group that went with him. Once, when they went to a wedding together, at Cana, Mary told Jesus to help the bridegroom, because they had run out of wine. Jesus helped by making water turn into wine. This was his first miracle.



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Mary was with Jesus even when he died. She was very sad, and cried a lot, Jesus told his friend John to take care of his mother. Mary was the happiest when Jesus rose from the dead. She knew that Jesus was God's son. Mary stayed with the disciples after Jesus went to heaven. She helped them, and prayed with them.

About 15 years later, Mary died in Jerusalem. Jesus' friends laid her in a tomb, in a cemetery. Several days later, Bartholomew came back to Jerusalem, he had been away when Mary died. He cried, and asked to be taken to the tomb. When they got to the tomb, they opened it and found that St. Mary's body wasn't there. Then they realized that Jesus had taken his mother to be with him in God's kingdom of heaven.

Mary is the most important of all the saints because she became the mother of God's son, Asdvadzadzin. She obeyed his will, and loved him, even though it was very hard. We ask Mary to pray to her son Jesus for us whenever we need it.