

Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

September 8 (Gregorian Calendar)



There is no Gospel root for this feast day.

The only sources are from the Apocryphal writings.

Apocryphal writings are ancient manuscripts that have not been accepted by the Church as part of the Canon of Books that make up the Catholic Bible.

Church Tradition, however, accepts two basic truths from the Apocryphal writings: Mary was a descendent of King David and her birth was miraculous.

Tradition gives us the story of an aged couple called Joachim and Anna. Their inability to have children caused them intense grief and considerable embarrassment.

In Jewish tradition, barrenness was viewed as a curse because it meant the woman was unable to produce a possible Messiah for the people.

This is why the birth of Mary to this aged couple is celebrated with such joy.

The birth of Mary signals the beginning of our salvation.

From Mary will be born Jesus, the Son of God, and through Him our salvation and reconciliation with God will be complete.

The fact that this feast day is so early in the new Church year reminds us of the beginning of our salvation.

We know that God has chosen Mary for a special task even from the moment of her conception.