

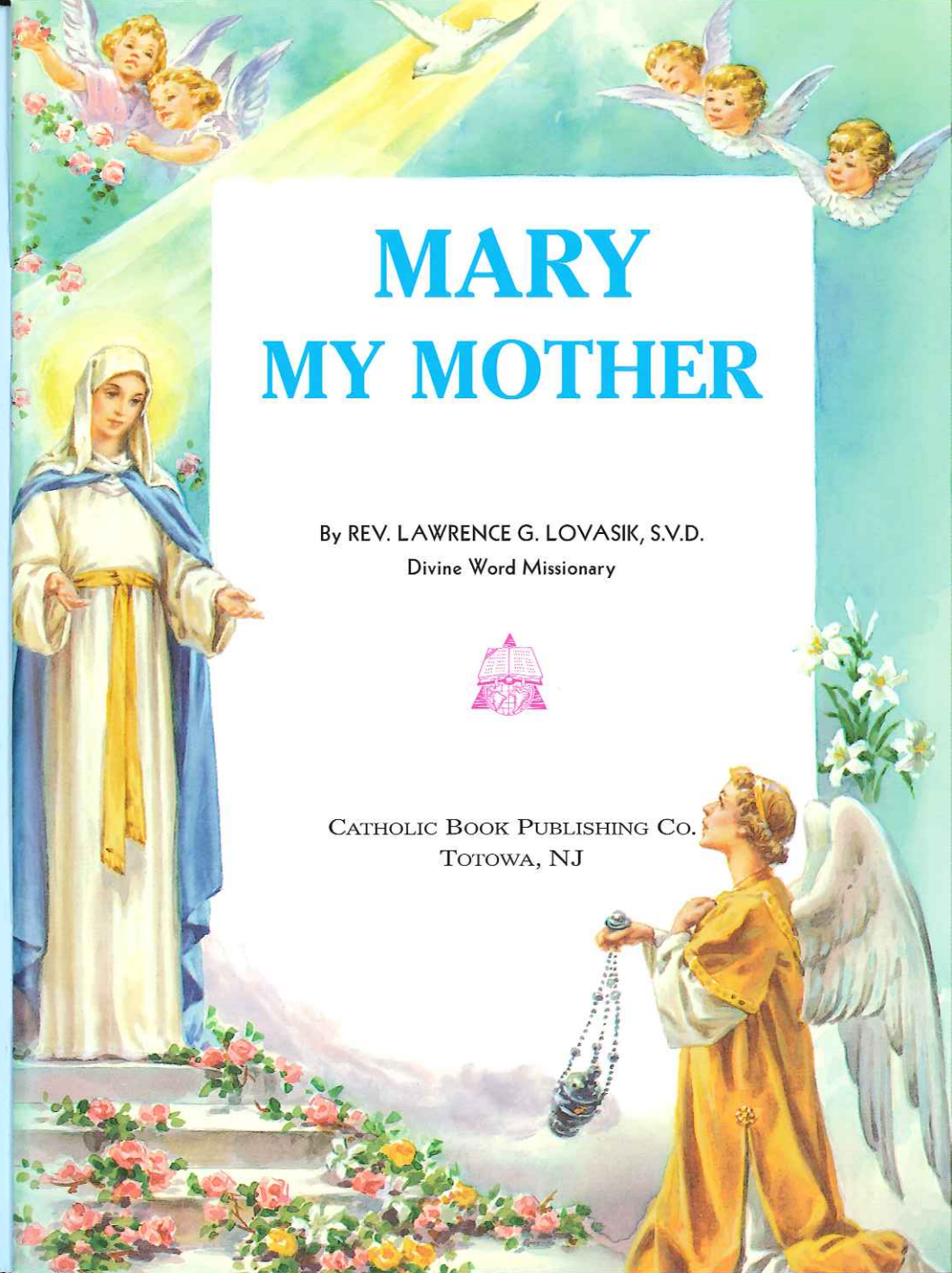
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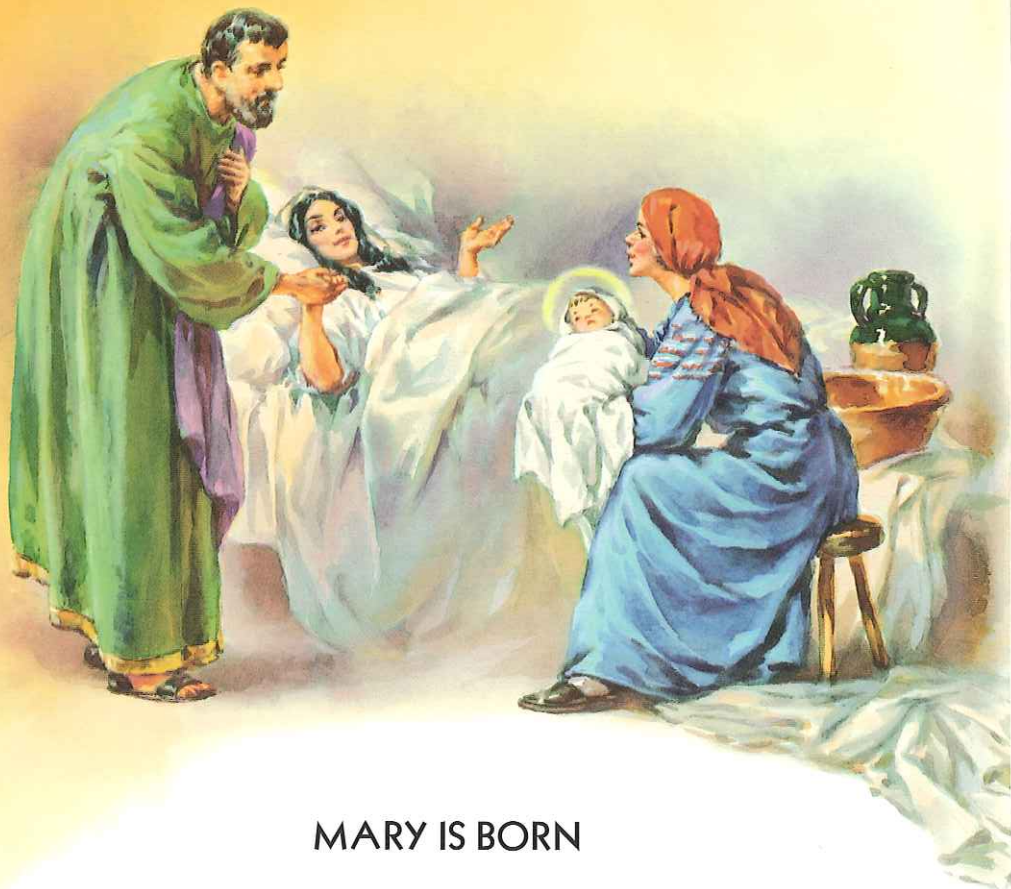
MARY MY MOTHER

By REV. LAWRENCE G. LOVASIK, S.V.D.
Divine Word Missionary



CATHOLIC BOOK PUBLISHING CO.
TOTOWA, NJ





MARY IS BORN

THE parents of the Blessed Virgin were Saint Joachim and Saint Anne. For a long time they were without children.

NIHIL OBSTAT: Daniel V. Flynn, J.C.D., *Censor Librorum*

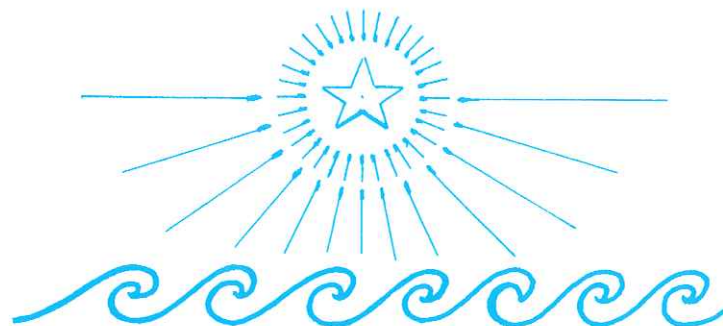
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AT LAST God answered their prayers and granted them a daughter. They gave her the name Mary, which means Lady, or Star of the Sea.

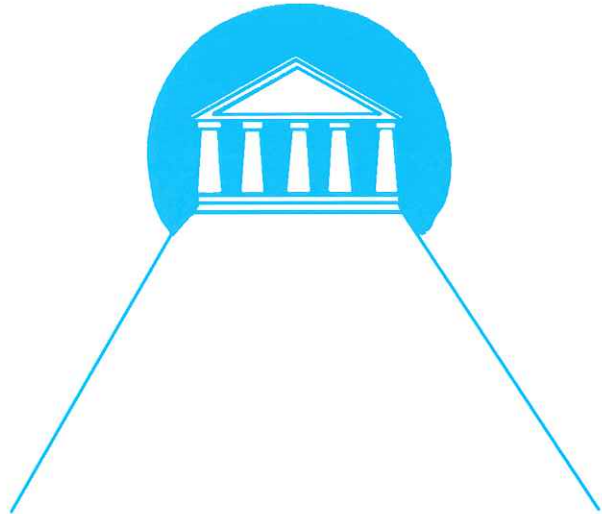
Mary's soul was always in the grace and friendship of God. She is the Immaculate Conception because she never had original sin, the first sin committed by Adam and Eve, which all of us have when we come into this world.

Mary was chosen by God from all eternity to give us a Savior. The birthday brings to our minds the holiness of the Mother God has prepared from Himself.



MARY IS OFFERED IN THE TEMPLE

WHEN Mary was three years old, her parents took her to the Temple in Jerusalem to offer her to God. They had made a promise before her birth to do so. Some say that Mary lived in the Temple from the age of three to the age of twelve, working as a servant girl.



MARY gave her whole life to God. The Heavenly Father looked upon her as His beloved daughter. The Son of God loved her as the one chosen to become His Mother. The Holy Spirit made her beautiful with His grace as His holy Bride.

