## The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

## PATRONESS OF THE AMERICAS



## REV. JUDE WINKLER, OFM Conv.

Imprimi Potest: Mark Curesky, OFM Conv., Minister Provincial of St. Anthony of Padua Province (USA) Nihil Obstat: Francis J. McAree, S.T.D., Censor Librorum

Imprimatur: 🛧 Patrick J. Sheridan, D.D., Vicar General, Archdiocese of New York

The Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur are official declarations that a book or pamphlet is free of doctrinal or moral error. No implication is contained therein that those who have granted the Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur agree with the contents, opinions or statements expressed.

© 1995 by CATHOLIC BOOK PUBLISHING CORP., N.J.

## THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

THAT is why God chose to send His only Son into the world. Jesus was the only One Who could free us from our slavery to sin. Without His help, we would never have been able to respond to God's call with love.

God had prepared for the arrival of His Son by sending Prophets to call His people back to the ways of the Lord. They all spoke of that day when God's justice would change our world.

God also prepared for the birth of His Son in a very special way. He wanted the Mother of His Son to be completely filled with love. Yet, all of us were wounded by original sin, and we do not know how to love as we should. So God protected Mary, the daughter of Joachim and Ann, from original sin. She would become the Mother of His Son.

We call this miracle the Immaculate Conception. From the very first moment of her life, Mary was protected from the pain of sin and its effects. And Mary responded to this miracle of love. Unlike Adam and Eve who had rejected God's love through sin, Mary always responded to God's call with great generosity. She never sinned throughout her entire life.



