

For Roman Catholics, December 8th is celebrated as the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary!
[It is a Holyday of Obligation requiring participation in the Eucharistic Liturgy!]
As always, Mary brings us together to give glory to her Son!

What sources do Catholics use to draw upon for their reverence, their beliefs, and their devotions to Mary, the Mother of God?

~~~~~  
Mark your calendars and plan to join us on...

**Thursday evening, December 8**

when the

**OLMC Monthly Speakers Series 2011**

presents

**“What Does the Bible Really Say about Mary?”**

with guest speaker

**Father Felix Just, S.J., Ph.D.**

**Director of Biblical Education, Loyola Institute for Spirituality**

This presentation will take place from

**7:30 – 9:00 PM**

in

**O'Donnell Hall**

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church**

**1441 West Balboa Boulevard, Newport Beach 92661**

(Corner of 15th Street and Balboa Boulevard, on the Balboa Peninsula)

**There is no Admission Charge!**

**The Public is Invited!**

**Doors open at 7:15 PM!**

**A freewill offering will be taken at the door  
to help defray the costs of this monthly series**

~~~~~  
If possible, please bring a copy of the Bible with you!
~~~~~

## Why Attend This Presentation?

Many Catholics assume that the Bible gives us a clear and unambiguous picture of the Mother of Jesus. On this celebration day of the Immaculate Conception, when we honor the role that Mary of Nazareth played in the history of salvation from the [very beginning of her life](#), we will explore what the Sacred Scriptures actually say (and do not say) about the Blessed Virgin.

As a careful examination of the Bible shows us, Mary is portrayed in surprisingly different ways in the various biblical writings. St. Paul never mentions her, while the Gospels according to Mark and Matthew hardly ever do, and what they say is not all that positive! Only Luke and John contain the familiar stories involving Mary that were so influential in the development of Marian theology and piety.

Moreover, although some of the Church's Marian doctrines are obviously and directly based on the New Testament, other dogmas developed only gradually in the early Church, and continued to develop throughout the past two millennia.

Gaining a better understanding of the biblical texts related to Mary of Nazareth will help us not only to understand the Catholic doctrines and dogmas better, but also to understand how and why other Christians (both Eastern Orthodox and Western Protestants) understand her life and her role very differently.

Please bring your Bible, your questions, your friends, and your eagerness to explore our sacred scriptures and our Marian doctrines more deeply.

---

### Our guest speaker...

#### **Father Felix Just, SJ, Ph.D.,**

a member of the California Province of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits),  
is Director of Biblical Education at the Loyola Institute for Spirituality in Orange.

After receiving his Ph.D. in New Testament Studies from Yale University,  
he taught at Loyola Marymount University, the University of San Francisco, and Santa Clara University,  
and was also director of the Center for Religion and Spirituality at LMU for several years.

He now regularly teaches courses for LMU Extension,  
the "Ecclesia" program of Mount St. Mary's College (Los Angeles),  
the Lay Ecclesial Ministry and Deacon Formation programs of the Diocese of Las Vegas,  
and the Catholic Bible Institutes of several dioceses in California.

He gives many public lectures on a wide variety of biblical and liturgical topics,  
and often leads biblically-based days of prayer, parish missions, and weekend or week-long retreats.

He is webmaster for the Catholic Biblical Association of America.

Father Just also maintains his own large internationally recognized website of "**Catholic Resources**" at  
<http://catholic-resources.org>

---

### The **OLMC Monthly Speakers Series**

is presented as a program of  
*Continuing Education and Adult Faith Formation*  
through the **Adult Education Ministry** at  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Newport Beach, CA

---

For questions or additional information, contact:

**Greg Kelley,**  
**Director, OLMC Adult Education and Faith Formation**  
*Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish*  
at [nbolmc@aol.com](mailto:nbolmc@aol.com)

---