

Vocabulary for Unit 4

Annunciation: The biblical event in which the Angel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary and announces that she is to be the Mother of the Savior.

Assumption: When God brought Mary's whole being—body and soul—into Heaven. Eastern Catholics and Orthodox Christians instead call it Mary's Dormition (or "falling asleep"). Both groups celebrate this special end to Mary's earthly life on August 15.

dormition: Comes from the Latin word meaning "to sleep." As relating to the Virgin Mary, it refers to the notion that Mary fell asleep when assumed into Heaven as opposed to having entered death. The Church teaching refers to her being taken up to Heaven in body and soul but does not touch on whether she passed or slept in the Lord.

Emmanuel: "God with us."

holy days of obligation: Feast days in the liturgical year on which, in addition to Sundays, Catholics are obliged to participate in the Eucharist.

Immaculate Conception: The Immaculate Conception celebrates the day on which *Mary* was conceived in the womb of her mother, Saint Ann, without Original Sin.

litanies: Prayers consisting of a series of invocations and responses.

Marian: Used to describe devotions or teachings related to the Virgin Mary.

novenas: From the Latin word for "nine," they are public or private devotions that extend for a period of nine days.

Original Sin: The sin by which the first humans disobeyed God and thereby lost their original holiness and became subject to death. Original Sin is transmitted to every person born into the world, except Mary and Jesus.

personal sin: Any deliberate offense, in thought, word, or deed, against the will of God.

