

8.12.69

9.12.71

9.12.74

Dear dear Mother (Freidvollket)

Alma

TAPE (Czech Carol)

ANGELUS

Zamiliza, a Nigerian Carol

Salvador  
Yesterday, was

(Today's is) one of the principal feast-days of Our Lady in the year, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. <sup>usually kept on 8th Dec.</sup> It's not a very old or traditional feast, though, like the other important Mary-days in the calendar. Its present importance only dates from just over a 100 yrs. ago, a short time after the solemn proclamation of the doctrine of Mary's having been conceived without the taint of original sin as a defined article of the faith. But there was celebration of Mary's immaculate conception in 12th century England, though it was a few hundred years later before the feast was finally adopted in Rome: it was later still before it became part of the universal calendar. It was also, for a short time, observed in a few places in the Eastern Church, over a 1000 years ago. So much for the history...

But Mary has also a large part in this season of Advent we're now celebrating — she is one of the most important figures leading up to Christ's coming, and the prayers of the Church at this time recall her role constantly. We <sup>shouldn't</sup> omit her either from our own personal thoughts & prayers as we prepare for Christmas, because she is ....

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MP. II p2

Come love Carolly

Among the oldest liturgical chants in honor of Our Lady is this one which is used in the Advent and Christmas period of the year: Alma Redemptoris Mater

— dear Mother of Our Redeemer. [It's sung here by the Choir of the Abbey of Mt. Angel in Oregon]

Both words & the original plain-song have been attributed to an 11th C. monk,

Herman the Cripple: here's the paraphrase of Guillaume Dufay MUSIC

Choir of Church  
25 (1555)