

Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3614: The Love of the Virgin and Child

The Madonna

The Italian word for *Madonna*, "Our Lady," is used as a term of respect for Mary, the mother of Jesus. The term is also used interchangeably for Virgin, Holy Mother and Blessed Mother. As applied to stained glass works of art, the term "Madonna" frequently designates representation of the Virgin Mary and child.

In church windows and other forms of Marian art, the Madonna may be featured in numerous poses that include Mary standing alone, Mary standing with baby Jesus, Mary enthroned, Mary sitting with the infant in her lap, and half-length Madonna. Devotional images of Mary in *stained glass church windows* often assume unique contexts, backgrounds, and themes to reflect specific moments in her life as well as the life and ministry of Jesus.

Rigid, solemn, and regal representations of the *Madonna in Medieval* and Byzantine art evolve to a softer and more natural appearance while still maintaining the eternal bond of mother and child. As greater naturalism replaces rigorous lines of austere formality, devotional representations of the Madonna and child embrace a more inclusive union of human and divine nature.

THE STORY OF THE MADONNA

The history of the *Madonna* and child is one of the oldest and most popular themes in art and Christian iconography. The earliest known wall painting of **the Virgin and child** is found in the third century catacomb of Priscilla. These early catacomb images emphasize an intimate encounter between man and God.

With the Council of Ephesus in 431, the status of Theotokus (Mother of God) is conferred upon Mary. The representation of *Mary as the* Madonna is fully established from this time forward. The sculptural and pictorial origins of the *Madonna* take root in Byzantine art which later travels to Italy. The manner in which Byzantine iconography of the Virgin Mary is assimilated by Italian painters of the fifth and sixth centuries is clearly evidenced in overlapping subject matter and techniques employed amongst Italian and Byzantine art traditions.

Images of the *Madonna* only gradually emerge in importance outside of Rome from the sixth to twelfth centuries. Renaissance artists of fifteenth-century Italy are greatly indebted to the work of Early Modern



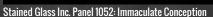
Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3617: Blessed Mother and Christ

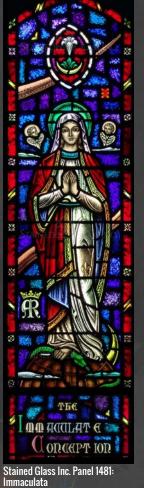
Italian muralists and painters. *Images of the Madonna* regain a dominant status in the works of Renaissance painters such as Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, and Titian.

An unprecedented expansion in the iconography of **the Virgin Mary** occurs during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, in which the *Madonna* is increasingly portrayed as a single figure. Subjects such as the **Annunciation** and the Pieta transform the **Madonna** as an object of contemplation and prayer, although she remains true to her ancient symbolism of maternal love and devotion to the present day.

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Stained Glass Inc. Panel 1160: Mary in Clouds





Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3316: Queen and her Son



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 1670: Saint Bernard



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 2137: Madonna of the Flowers



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 1008: Madonna



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 2593: Queen of Heaven Rose Window





Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3152: Madonna and Babe



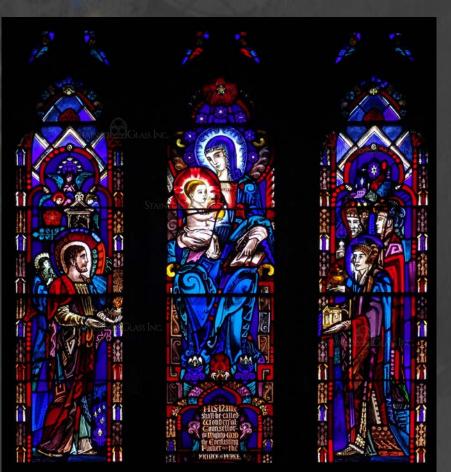
Stained Glass Inc. Panel 2057: Marian Apparition



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Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3153: Holy Mother and Child





Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3210: The Adoration of Magi

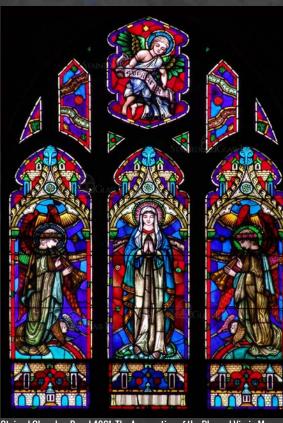




Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3268: Mary and Jesus



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4749: Mary and her Mother with Symbols



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4961: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3643: The Our Lady of Lourdes STAINED GLASS INC.



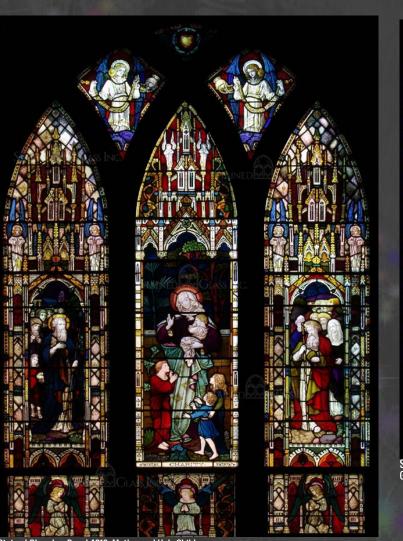
Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3313: Maria del Rosario



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 2651: The Madonna in a Round



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3385: Mary's Immaculate Heart







Stained Glass Inc. Panel 1094: Mary Pearlesque

Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4219: Mother and Holy Child



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Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3318: Pope and Saint Francis Adoring the Baby Jesus

Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3317: Saint Adoring Baby Jesus



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 2653: Christ and Mother

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Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4211: Crowned Mary holding Jesus

Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4270: The Immaculate One



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3952: Mary, Lily and Sacred Heart



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4304: Ecce Ancilla Domini







Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4738: Baby Jesus with His Mother





Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4705: Mary as Holy Queen

Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3221: Madonna and the Child



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4691: The Goodness of God



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4647: St. Francis and the Madonna





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Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4790: Mother Mary and the Messiah

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Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4792: The Madonna

Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4771: Virgin Mary and Baby Jesus





Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4778: A Prayer and Our Lady



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Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4909: Madonna with an Angel and a Saint



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4951: Madonna and the Child with Musical Angels

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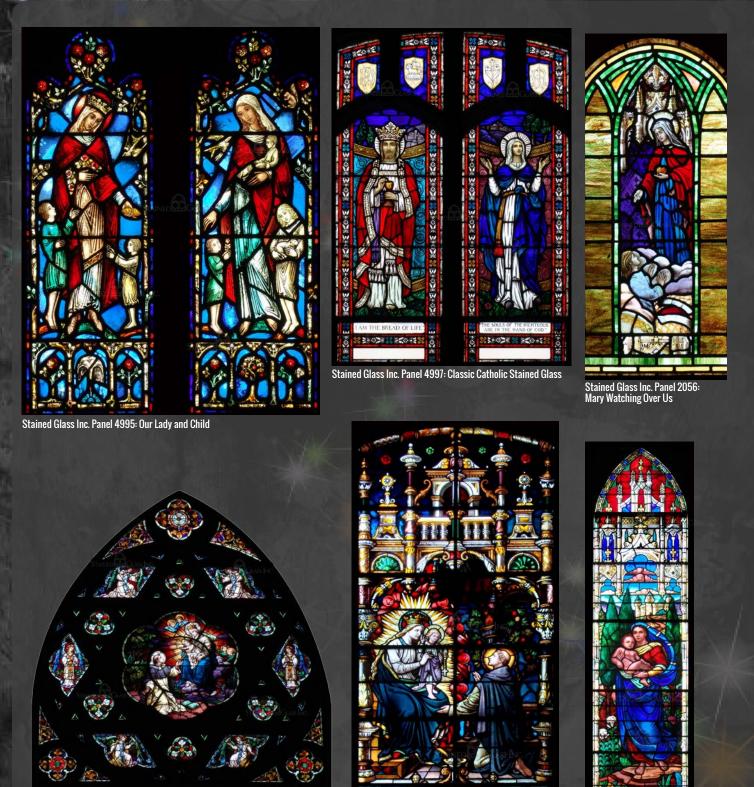




Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4776: Everlasting Faith



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Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5081: Blessed Art Thou

Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5072: Virgin and Child with St. Francis



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5130: Mary Holding Baby Jesus



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5135: The Arrival of Baby Jesus



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5147: The Glorious Birth of Christ



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5150: Madonna and Child with Lilies

Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5229: Heart of Mary





Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5290: Mother and Child





Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4796: The Gift of Jesus



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5379: Holy Mother





Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5378: Full of Grace



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5181: Handmaid of the Lord



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4648: The Lord and Madonna



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 5299: Tiffany Madonna and Child



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 2360: Beautiful Madonna



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4446: Monk and Madonna



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4257: The Madonna and St. Francis



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4347: Holy Madonna and Holy Child





Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4213: Crowned Madonna



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3655: Sancta et Immaculata



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 1804: Mary and Child



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 2169: Colossians 3:14



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 3400: Angels and Little Ones



Stained Glass Inc. Panel 4757: Mary and the Crown