



Around the main paintings are depicted in symbol the life of Jesus from the Annunciation to His Ascension.

The group about the Madonna tell of the events preceding Jesus' birth through His infancy, as follows:

1. The Annunciation - Annunciation Lily - This flower of luxuriant bloom has been used as a symbol of annunciation to the virgin.
 2. The Incarnation - God from heaven in man on earth - Jacob's Ladder.
"and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it". Gen 28:12
 3. The Annunciation - A Shepherd.
"and there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field--and the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy---for unto you is born--a Saviour which is Christ the Lord". Luke 2:8
 4. The Epiphany - The Wisemen.
"Now when Jesus was born---there came wise men from the east---Saying, Where is He that is born King of the Jews; for we---are come to worship Him--- and when--they saw the young child with Mary His mother, (they) fell down and worshipped Him". Mat 2: 1-2; 11
 5. The Presentation in the Temple - Samuel lent to the Lord by his mother.
"She took him up with her---and brought him unto the house of the Lord."
1 Sam 1:24
 6. The Flight into Egypt - An Ass on which Joseph put Mary and Jesus.
"He took the young child and His mother by night, and departed into Egypt."
Mat 2:14
 7. Holy Innocents - The Sword of Death and the Palm of Heaven Attained.
"Then Herod--sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in the coasts thereof, from two years old and under." Mat 2:16
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- Those around the Boy and His mother are the events in Jesus life up to Palm Sunday.
8. St. John the Baptist - The camels' hair tunic and girdle worn by the messenger.
"and the same John had his raiment of camels' hair and a leathern girdle about his loins." Mat 3:4
 9. Baptism of Jesus - The Escallop Shell used in baptism.
"Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in Jordan".
Mark 1:9
 10. Preparation for the Ministry - The serpent of Temptation during the forty days preparation in the wilderness immediately preceding His active ministry.
"that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan". Rev 20:2

11. Choosing of the Apostles - The Fisherman - Christ called His Apostles "Fishers of Men".

"Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men". Mark 1:17

12. Christ's Teachings - Summarized in the sermon on the Mount as Moses received upon Mt. Sinai Jehovah's laws, The Ten Commandments.

"And He went up unto a mountain;--and He opened his mouth, and taught them". Mat 5:12

13. Christ's Miracles - The greatest one - the raising of Lazarus from the dead, signified by the Olive and Balsom which were used when embalming.

"And Jesus, lifted up His eyes, and said, 'Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me', and He cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus come forth! And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes". John 11: 41-43-44

14. Christ's Transfiguration - Christ, Moses and Elijah - in Glory before Peter, James and John.

"And, behold, there talked with Him two men, which were Moses and Elijah; who appeared in glory". Luke 9:30-31

Around the central painting are placed symbols telling the story of Christ's life from Palm Sunday through His Ascension.

15. Palm Sunday - As David bore the head of Goliath in triumph to Jerusalem, so Christ rode in triumph to Jerusalem.

"And David took the head of the Philistine, and brought it to Jerusalem". 1 Sam 17:5

16. The Last Supper - Melchizedek, King of Salem and Priest of God, feeding Abraham and his followers bread and wine and blessing them in the name of God after their successful expedition against Chedorlaomer.

"And Melchizedek king of Salem brought bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him". Gen 14: 18-19

17. The Betrayal - The bag of thirty pieces of silver paid Judas

"And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver". Mat. 26:15

18. The Trial Before the Judges - A pillar to which Christ was bound and a scourge with which He was beaten.

"Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged Him". John 19:1

19. Road to Calvary - Isaac bearing the wood for his sacrifice as Christ bore the cross for His crucifixion.

"And Abraham took the wood,--and laid it upon Isaac his son;--And they came to the place". Gen 22:6,9

20. The Descent from the Cross - A ladder down which Christ was lifted from the cross and the winding sheet with which he was covered.

"Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen". John 19:40

21. The Entombment - As Jonah was temporarily carried in a fish so was Christ temporarily buried.

"And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights." Jonah 1:17

22. The Descent Into Hell - The otter was known to cover himself with mud which would bake on him. He would then rush down the throat of a crocodile and attack his foe from within.

"For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption." Psalm 16:10

23. Christ's Resurrection - The butterfly emerges from the cocoon in more glorious beauty.

"So also is the resurrection of the dead.--- It is raised in glory" 1 Cor.15:42,43

24. Christ's Revelation to His Disciples - In earlier times Joseph revealed himself to Benjamin using a cup hidden in the sack of meal to accomplish his purpose.

"And put my cup---in the sack's mouth of the youngest,--and the cup was found in Benjamin's sack". Gen. 44:2, 12

"Joseph made himself known unto his brethren". Gen. 45:1

25. The Ascension of Christ - Elijah's Chariot which carried him into heaven represents Christ's ascension.

"behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire,---and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven". II Kings 2:11

On the doors of the tryptich are the words of a Christian's hymn surrounded by shields representing the Christian Church Year.

26. Advent - The scroll of prophecy

27. Christmas - The Glastoabury Thorn which blooms on Christmas Day.

28. Epiphany - The Star which guided the Wisemen

29. Lent - The scourge of self examination and fasting

30. Palm Sunday - Palm branches which which were strewn in the way

31. Maunday Thursday - The Chalice

32. Good Friday - The Cross and Crown of Thorns

33. Easter - The Phoenix which never dies but changes from one life to another

34. Ascension - The Eagle because it reaches nearer heaven

35. Whitsunday - The Dove of the Holy Ghost

36. Trinity - Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Ghost, - Triune God

37. All Saints - The souls of the Rightious in the Hand of God

Through the cresting runs the River of Life and many symbols used to depict the qualities of our Lord's Mother

38 Lillium Candidum for Purity

A The Myrtle for Virginity

39 The Rose for Love

40 The Bee for Fecundity

41 The Cloak for Clarity

B The Almond for Divine Approval

And on the back of the doors are Bayleaves used to signify sorrow and the broken arch of untimely death.