

Marian Stamps from around the world

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FIRST MARIAN POSTAGE STAMPS

Principality of Liechtenstein MARY PATRONESS OF LIECHTENSTEIN

After Bavaria which issued the first postage stamps in the world, depicting an image of the Virgin Mary on 14 February 1920, the Principality of Liechtenstein issued its first Marian set of 3 stamps with Our Lady as the subject. This set was issued on 5 October 1920. The 3 stamps have a common design but in different colours and value.

This set was issued as part of a series of stamps to commemorate the 80th birthday of the ruling prince Johann II.

The stamps design shows the Virgin Mary with her God Child, protecting the Capital City of Vaduz. Our Lady is acclaimed as the Special Patroness of Liechtenstein and the feast of Mary's Assumption into heaven is celebrated in Liechtenstein on 15 August with great solemnity. The stamps were designed by Toma and Luigi Kasimar and were engraved in Vienna by *Paulussen and Co.*



Argentina THE BLESSED VERGIN MARY STAR OF THE SEA, PATRONESS OF SAILORS

The first Marian stamp of Argentina was issued on 31 January 1944. At that time Argentina was commemorating its annual SEA WEEK. During this annual week the Bishop distributes to all who bring their boats and sea crafts, a medal depicting Our Lady as Patroness of all water transportation.

The stamp was designed on a painting of an unknown artist. To commemorate this event the Argentinean Postal Administration issued a stamp depicting sea vessels and on top a medal showing Mary as Star of the Sea. Mary has been regarded as patroness of seaman for many years. In the 9th centenary Mary was already venerated under the title of STELLA MARIS. In fact in hymns of that time Mary is hailed as "Star of the Ocean".

