



PHOTO: Shootplanet-Marc Turcan Photograph



CHURCH GUIDE
MOTHER CHURCH OF OUR LADY
OF THE **CONCEPTION**



HISTORY IN 10 TIPS

- 1.** The origins of this church dates back to the end of 15th century or the beginning of the 16th century, after the Conquest of the Canaries. A hermitage dedicated to Saint Mary was built on the same site.
- 2.** Around 1515, the hermitage was recognised as a parish church under the protection of Our Lady of The Conception.
- 3.** It is the parish church of the municipality as it is the first Christian church in La Orotava.
- 4.** Over time, the hermitage was transformed into a larger building with three naves and attached chapels and wooden roofs.
- 5.** In 1705, earthquakes seriously damaged the structure of the building and a new church had to be built.
- 6.** Work on the new church lasted twenty years (1768 - 1788).
- 7.** The present church was one of the first vaulted and domed churches on the island.
- 8.** It was commissioned by the crown during the reign of Carlos III, and the architect Ventura Rodríguez was involved. The sending of ships loaded with Canary Island wine to Cuba and the alms of the emigrants from the island contributed to the reconstruction.
- 9.** In 1942 it was recognised as a National Historic and Artistic Monument.
- 10.** It houses El Tesoro de la Concepción, one of the most important art collections in the Canary Islands.



ARCHITECTURE: Francisco Gozar, Miguel García de Chávez and Patricio García (1768-1788).

MURAL PAINTINGS: Cristóbal Afonso (Tenerife, 18th century).

STAINED GLASS: "La Veneciana" factory (Zaragoza) and "Mayer" factory (Munich) (1904 - 1914).

ALTARPIECE OF SAINT PETER (END OF 18TH CENTURY)

- **Saint Peter.** Fernando Estévez (Tenerife, ca. 1820). Carved, gilded and polychrome wood.
- **Saint Blas.** Fernando Estévez (Tenerife, ca. 1820). Carved, gilded and polychrome wood.
- **Saint Francis of Assisi.** Anonymous (Seville?, first third of the 17th century). Carved, gilded and polychrome wood.
- **Saint Cajetan.** Anonymous (Tenerife, late 17th century). Carved wood and glued, gilded and polychrome canvases.
- **The Crucified Christ.** Anonymous (Canary Islands, 18th century) Oil on canvas.

OTHERS:

- **The Wedding Bows.** Cristóbal Hernández de Quintana (Tenerife, 18th century). Oil on canvas.
- **Saint Michael the Archangel.**

Anonymous (Canary Islands, 17th - 18th century). Oil on canvas.

ALTARPIECE OF SOULS (1820-1826)

- **Souls in Purgatory.** Juan de Miranda (Tenerife, ca. 1781). Oil on canvas.
- **Saint Joseph with the Child Jesus.** Anonymous (Seville, around 1600 - 1610). Carved, gilded and polychrome wood.
- **Saint Ignatius of Loyola.** Attributed to Benito de Hita y Castillo (Seville, 1763). Carved, gilded and polychrome wood.
- **Saint Francis Xavier.** Attributed Benito de Hita y Castillo (Seville, 1764). Carved, gilded and polychrome wood.

ALTARPIECE OF THE CAPTIVE CHRIST (17TH - 19TH CENTURY).

- **Captive Christ.** Francisco Alonso de la Raya (Tenerife, before 1665). Carved wood, polychrome and textiles.
- **Saint Clare of Assisi.** (Tenerife, ca. 1820). Carved wood and glued, gilded and polychrome canvases.
- **Saint Helen.** Fernando Estévez (Tenerife, before 1820). Carved wood and glued, gilded and polychrome canvases.

- **Saint Joseph.** Anonymous (Tenerife, 18th century). Oil on canvas.

- **Saint Jerome.** Anonymous (17th century). Carved and polychrome wood.

- **Saint Stephen.** Anonymous (Tenerife, 18th century). Oil on canvas.

- **The Sacrifice of Isaac.** Anonymous (Tenerife, 18th century). Oil on canvas.

OTHERS:

- **The Denial of Peter.** Anonymous (Canary Islands, 18th century). Oil on canvas.

PRESBYTERY

- **Tabernacle.** Giuseppe Gaggini (Genoa, 1822). Marble and jasper.

- **Blessed Sacrament Shrine.** Fernando Estévez (Tenerife, 1827). Carved, gilded, silvered and polychromed wood.

OTHERS:

- **Pulpit.** Giuseppe Gaggini (Genoa, 1822). Marble and jasper.

ALTARPIECE OF THE CONCEPTION (BETWEEN 1689 Y 1691)

- **Immaculate Conception.** Angelo Olivari (Genoa, 1824). Carved, gilded and polychromed wood.

GENERAL MAP

1 Main façade

2 General view

3 Altarpiece of Saint Peter

4 Altarpiece of Souls

5 Altarpiece of the Captive Christ

6 Access to "The Treasure".

6.1. North wing of the museum.

6.2. South wing of the museum.

7 Presbytery

7.1. Tabernacle

7.2. Choir

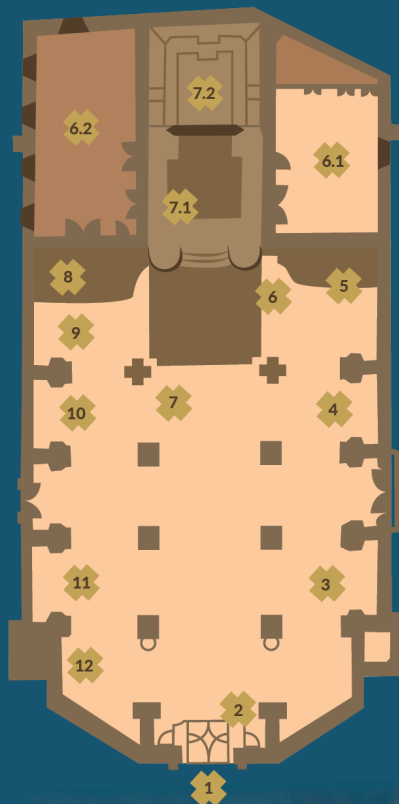
8 Altarpiece of the Conception

9 Sepulchre of the Marquis of El Sauzal.

10 Altarpiece of Candlemas

11 Altarpiece of the Mercy

12 Baptistry



OTHERS:

- **Sepulchre of the Marquis of Sauzal.** Anonymous (Genoa, ca. 1788). Marble.

ALTARPIECE OF CANDLEMAS (LATE 18TH CENTURY)

- **Our Lady of Candlemas.** Fernando Estévez (Tenerife, ca. 1820). Carved and polychromed wood and textiles.

- **Saint John of Nepomuk.** Attributed to Blas Molner (Seville, 18th century). Carved, gilded and polychrome wood.

- **Saint Francis of Borgia.** Attributed to Blas Molner (Seville, 18th century). Carved, gilded and polychrome wood.

- **Virgin of Lourdes.** Vicente Tena (Valencia, after 1911). Carved, gilded and polychrome wood.

- **Conversion of the Magdalene.** Anonymous (Tenerife, 18th century). Oil on canvas.

ALTARPIECE OF THE MERCY (LATE 18TH CENTURY)

- **Christ of Mercy.** Rui Diaz (Tenerife, 1585). Carved and polychrome wood.

- **Our Lady of Sorrows.** Luján Pérez (Tenerife, ca. 1806). Carved wood, polychrome and fabrics..

- **Saint John the Evangelist.** Luján Pérez (Tenerife, ca. 1806). Carved

wood and glued, gilded and polychrome canvases.

- **Saint Thomas of Villanueva.** Fernando Estévez (Tenerife, 1816). Carved wood and glued, gilded and polychrome canvases.

- **Saint Lucia.** Fernando Estévez (Tenerife, ca.1820). Carved wood and glued, gilded and polychrome canvases.

- **Infant Jesus of Prague.** Anonymous (Tenerife?, 18th century). Carved and polychrome wood.

- **Jesus and the Samaritan woman.** Anonymous (Tenerife?, 18th century). Oil on canvas.

BAPTISTERY

- **Holy Family.** Anonymous (Spain?, 19th century.). Oil on canvas.

- **Baptismal font.** Anonymous (Lisbon, 17th century). Marble.

OTHERS:

- **Saint Anthony of Padua.** Attributed to Gaspar de Quevedo (Tenerife, 17th century). Oil on canvas.

- **Immaculate Conception with saint Francis Xavier and Saint Ignatius of Loyola.** Attributed to Gaspar de Quevedo (Tenerife, 17th century). Oil on canvas.



OPENING HOURS

Tuesday to Friday
from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



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