

Pop icon turns 50



■ **1958:** *Madonna Louise Veronica Ciccone* born August 16 in Bay City, Michigan

■ **1977:** Moves to New York to pursue dance career

■ **1983:** Releases debut album, *Madonna*

■ **1985:** Appears in movie *Desperately Seeking Susan*, marries *Sean Penn*

■ **1989:** Video for *Like a Prayer* condemned by Vatican. Divorces Penn

■ **1992:** Controversial book *Sex* sells over 500,000 copies

■ **1996:** Wins Golden Globe for movie *Evita*. Daughter *Lourdes* born

■ **1998:** Album *Ray of Light* revives flagging music career

■ **2000:** Marries director *Guy Ritchie*, son *Rocco* born

■ **2006:** Adopts baby from Malawi

■ **2008, Aug:** Turns 50, and begins eighth world tour, *Sticky & Sweet*