Sacred Heart Parish
August 16, 2020 - 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Dear Parishioners,

Celebrated every year on August 15, the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary commemorates the death of Mary and her bodily assumption into Heaven, before her body could begin to decay—a foretaste of our own bodily resurrection at the end of time. Because it signifies the Blessed Virgin's passing into eternal life, it is the most important of all Marian feasts.

**History of the Assumption**

The Feast of the Assumption is one of the oldest holy days in the Church, with accounts of celebrations going back to the sixth century. Christians in the East, both Catholic and Orthodox refer to it as “The Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos,” or "the falling asleep of the Mother of God." The earliest printed reference to the belief that Mary's body was assumed into Heaven dates from the fourth century, in a document entitled "The Falling Asleep of the Holy Mother of God." The document is written in the voice of the Apostle John, to whom Christ on the Cross had entrusted the care of His mother, and it recounts the death, laying in the tomb, and assumption of the Blessed Virgin. Tradition variously places Mary's death at Jerusalem or at Ephesus, where John was living.

**An Official Belief**

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII, exercising papal infallibility, declared in an Apostolic constitution known as the *Munificentissimus Deus* that it is a dogma of the Church "that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory." As a dogma, the Assumption is a required belief of all Catholics. Anyone who publicly dissent from the dogma, Pope Pius declared, "has fallen away completely from the divine and Catholic Faith."

While members of the Eastern Orthodox Church believe in the Dormition, they object to the papal definition of the dogma, seeing it as unnecessary, since belief in Mary's bodily assumption, tradition holds, goes back to apostolic times.

**Did Mary Die Before the Assumption?**

This is a matter of debate. Some believe Mary did indeed die, like all humans do, and was then transported to heaven. Still others believe she simply "completed the course of her earthly life," which leaves open the possibility that she ascended to heaven before actually dying. Pope Pius XII, in the text explaining his definition of the dogma of the Assumption, refers repeatedly to the Blessed Virgin's death before her Assumption, and the consistent tradition in both the East and the West holds that Mary did die before she was assumed into Heaven. However, since the definition of the Assumption is silent on this question, Catholics are not bound by dogma to believe that Mary either did or did not die before her Assumption. They must only believe in the Assumption itself.

Mary Assumed into Heaven, Pray for us!

May God bless you! Fr. Tad
**10TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Please join us on Friday, October 2nd, at the Kimberton Golf Club for a day of golf and fun. We have raised over $70,000 to date, which has been given to over 20 local Catholic and community/charitable organizations. Your $110 donation (or $400 per foursome) includes lunch, golf, beer, snacks, and dinner. Competitions, prizes, and raffles also offered. We are also looking for sponsors. Please contact Brian Pickell at 484-686-4413 or bpickell@kpinterface.com. Thank you for your support!

**Lily’s Gift Ministry** is a network of concerned parents and professionals who have experienced, or worked closely with issues surrounding poor prenatal diagnoses. To expectant parents, we offer unique insight and sensitivity regarding such difficult issues as: 1.) Maintaining hope when a prognosis is poor, 2.) sorting through medical decision making, 3.) grieving the loss of the anticipated baby, and 4.) stillbirth and neonatal critical care. For more information, visit www.Lily’sGift.org or call Sr. Kathleen Schipani at 215-587-3530.

**Spiritual Adoption Update -- Please Keep Praying!**

On March 25, we began a Spiritual Adoption to pray for an unborn baby. The baby you are praying for would now be five months old. The baby weighs about 10 ounces and is a little more than 6 inches long. The baby can suck a thumb, yawn, stretch, and make faces.

Source: https://www.webmd.com/baby/ss/slideshow-fetal-development

Please continue to join us in praying for an unborn child using the following prayer each day until he would be born on Dec. 25:

*Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn child, whom I have spiritually adopted, who is in danger of abortion.*

~ Prayer of Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

**The Divine Mercy**

Start each day off right! Join tens of thousands of Catholics receiving brief, daily reflections from the Diary of St. Faustina every morning.

Share Divine Mercy Daily with your friends and family by sending them this link: TheDivineMercy.org/dmdsignup

**Metanoia Young Adults**

Metanoia is an active community of Catholic young adults in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. The group supports Catholics in their 20’s and 30’s who are looking to deepen their faith and meet fellow Catholics in the area. Check us out on our Facebook page at: https://www.facebook.com/metanoiayoungadults/

**Office for the New Evangelization**


**Follow Archbishop Nelson Perez on Facebook at:**
https://www.facebook.com/ArchbishopPerez

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**Abbeyfest** - A popular Catholic music festival, Abbeyfest moved online due to the pandemic, and past week’s performances are still available to enjoy at: https://the.abbeyfest.com
August’s prayer intentions are for Father Giuffre.

Kevin Schurr, Steven DiGuiseppe, Elizabeth, Caroline and Tommy Cummings, William Good, Garrett Rogers, Brian Szalabofka, Stephen Spitko, Brian Spitko, Dan Dordea, David Hritz, Aria Gessner, James Coccia, Alex Stadelmaier, Elizabeth Cassidy, Polly Tornetta, Kathy Caffarella, Ed and Johanna McLaughlin, Gerald Daskiewicz, Chris Chrisman, Lauri Ronan, Alice Pitcock, Louis DiMaria, Alyson Layser, Keith Garnett, Nathan Wilgeroth, Orville Otis, John Breslaski, Faye West, Madison D’Annunzio, Nancy McNamara, Patricia Berner, Charles Crowder, Elena Craft, Patricia McMinn, Walt Kalil, Tara Clarke, John Hoff, the Gonzalez Family, Steve Curr, Colleen Haines, Ed Reynolds, Joyce Corretini, Mary Jimick, Irene Stoffel, Annalies Frisco, Dorando Faggioli, Barbara Battista, Bryce Bennie, Kitty Heebner and all the sick and suffering of the parish.

We pray that God will bless you all with His healing hand. When your loved one recovers, please notify the Parish Office so we can offer a prayer of thanks!

Father Tad


SAINT OF THE DAY

Aug 19 - St. John Eudes, Priest, was a noted preacher and confessor. He founded several seminaries because he saw the need for clerical formation. He also founded a couple of religious communities to address the needs that he saw. Saint John had a great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Aug 20 - St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church - Wanting to be a simple monk in the quiet of a monastery, Saint Bernard of Clairvaux was called upon to be a very active member of the Church in his day. Preacher, reconciler, adviser, healer - just a few of the roles he was called to play. A man of many talents, he used his abilities for the service of the Church.

Aug 22 - The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary - The notion of a queen is somewhat foreign to American ears, but this feast of Mary recognizes her role in the Kingdom of her Son, Jesus. If Jesus is king, Mary is certainly queen. And the title - or its surrogate - goes back centuries in the Church, as Mary has been praised for her position in the Church and among the people of God.

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Congratulations to the Gvodas Family on the Baptism of their Granddaughter, Elizabeth March.

JOB OPENING

Pope John Paul II High School in Royersford is looking for an experienced facilities/maintenance person to join our team. Please send a cover letter and resume to Ron Williams at rwilliams@pjphs.org.
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