

AUGUST 15, 2021
ASSUMPTION OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Today, as we celebrate the Assumption of Mary into heaven, we reflect on how, in the end of her earthly life and assumption into heaven, we see the power of God. This same power that will one day lift us above a world of sin and into the fullness of union with him.

Mary shows us where we are going, what we are striving for. But we must remember that this was the end of a life completely devoted to love and service. Mary not only shows us the end goal, but she models for us how we should act in order to achieve that goal.

At the Annunciation, celebrated every year, Mary says in reply to the Angel Gabriel: I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your word. Mary models for us how to say “yes” to God’s plan for our lives. Even though she didn’t completely understand what God was asking or how he would accomplish it, she chose to say yes. She was willing to put her faith and trust in God.

At the Visitation, recounted for us today in the Gospel of Luke, Mary expresses her gratitude to God, saying: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. Mary models for us how to live in God’s grace by allowing his light and love to be magnified and proclaimed through our words and actions. Mary shows us that it is possible, even in the midst of trials and difficulties (traveling to see Elizabeth was no easy journey!) to rejoice in God. As Christians, we are called not to seek attention and glory for ourselves, but to use our gifts, talents and abilities in order to give praise and glory to God.

Finally, at her Assumption after Christ’s death and resurrection, Mary is the visible sign of our own destiny. God has made us for himself and ordained that we abide with him for all eternity. But just as he won’t force himself upon us in this life, so, too, he will never force eternity with him upon us. Like Mary, we must choose to say “yes.”

As we celebrate this feast of the Assumption, may we set our sights on heaven, and make it our goal to settle for nothing less than that great glory. We ask today that Mary would intercede for us, that we would say “yes” to God’s plan for us and allow him to shine in and through us. Then one day we will abide with him, and with Mary our Mother, forever.



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM
HOLY DAY MASSES	9:00 AM 7:00 PM
CONFESSIONS	4:00-4:30 PM, SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT

ST. PAUL’S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	August 14
5:00 PM	Mass: Benito & Evelyn LaVena (RIP)
Sunday	August 15
8:00 AM	Mass: Mike Placella (RIP)
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Kathleen M. Jubinville (RIP)
Monday	August 16
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: For the Good Health of Shannon Aloise
Wednesday	August 18
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Elizabeth Cafferty (RIP)
Friday	August 20
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory

NEXT WEEKEND’S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Open for your Intentions
8:00 AM	Mass: In Thanksgiving to St. Joseph
10:00 AM	Mass: Joseph Petrucci & Joseph Hawkins (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The Office of Marriage Preparation & Enrichment is hosting the annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration to honor couples of the Diocese of Providence who will be observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and OVER 50 years wedding anniversaries in 2021. The celebration will be held on Sunday, **September 26, 2021, 1:00PM** at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul in Providence. Please let the parish know if you will attend so we can make reservations for you.



In 2022, The Diocese of Providence will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1872.

St. Paul's campaign began in April of 2019 and will allow us to accomplish many of our own parish needs while helping raise monies to reach the Diocesan goal. As of today, our Parish has pledged a total of **\$88,745** of our **\$166,788** Parish Goal which puts us a 53% of our Goal.

There are pamphlets available in the narthex with additional information. Pledge envelopes are available in the entrance of the church. Please consider making your pledge today!

Support St. Paul's

Set up a reoccurring donation (or make a gift at anytime) using our secure, online giving tool by ParishSOFT.

Visit our website at stpaulsfoster.org, and click the "Donate Now" button.

Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish meet its financial obligations, we ask that you remain committed to the weekly offertory.

Please consider using the parish envelopes and mailing your weekly/monthly offertory contribution. Or consider the convenient option of setting up an automatic contribution online. Details above.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - Aug 7/8
\$ 2,634.00

Monthly 2nd Collection - Aug 7/8
\$ 2,315.00

Thank you for your support!

Parish Cookout

Saturday, August 28th at 6PM

Share food and fun with old and new friends. The Knights of Columbus are doing the cooking: hamburgers, hotdogs, homemade chowder, dessert, and drinks. All you need to bring is yourself and a lawn chair. Your guests are welcome too! This will also be an opportunity for families to get Family Catechism Resources. Invitations have been sent out. **Please RSVP by August 25.** You can sign up online or fill out and drop off the form in the entrance of the church.

Christmas Bazaar Raffle

As in years past, we are asking for parishioners who are willing to donate \$25 toward the \$1000 gift card tree. Thank you to the parishioners who have already donated \$25. **We have 8 so far, we only need 22 more!**

You can leave your donation in an envelope labeled Bazaar either in the office or in the collection box. Thank you for your support!

Living the Liturgy

Inspiration for the week

Good mothers have a way of bringing their children hope. When we fall and hurt ourselves, our mothers can help us walk the path of healing. There is hope that we will get better and the trust that we have in mom's comforting assurance allows us to move forward. Mothers know instinctively what we need and what we are capable of doing. They can be one of our biggest cheerleaders in life, and even when facing despair, can point the way to a brighter tomorrow. Our Blessed Mother does precisely that for us today. As one closest to our Lord, she cheers us on with the hope of what life will be for all of us. Although given the unique distinction of being raised in both body and soul, she nonetheless points to our true eternal destiny. Achieving this inheritance overrides any disappointment and her intercession and example inspires us to pick ourselves up when we fall. Always a mother filled with grace and hope, she calls us to reaffirm our faith in God and in the gifts we have each been given as we persevere even in the midst of life's challenges and failures.

ASSUMPTION of the blessed virgin Mary

Sunday, August 15, we celebrate The Solemnity of The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary, who already shares the promised gift of resurrection in Christ.

In our First Reading, The book of Revelation, we see a woman who gives birth to a son. The picture is applied to Mary, The Mother of Christ.

In The Second Reading, in his first letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul points out that Christ was the first to enjoy a risen life and that all who belong to him will share in its rewards. We can apply this reading most appropriately today to Mary.

In the Gospel Mary proclaims the greatness of her savior. Mary was, in many respects, like any and every one of us. She was basically an ordinary person. Her chief characteristic was her openness to God and to other people. Because she had this quality, she didn't take herself too seriously, she had no inordinately high opinion of herself, she thought of God and of others before she thought of herself.

The Immaculate and Ever Virgin Mother of God, preserved free from all stain of original sin, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, when her earthly life was over, and exalted by the Lord as queen over all things.' Mary was close to Christ on earth, she is with him now, body and soul, in heaven. In the light of the Assumption of Mary, it is easy to pray to her with new meaning. She found joy in God her savior. She was the lowly handmaid, who deeply worshipped God and was raised to the heights. From her position of strength, she helps the lowly and the poor find justice on earth, and challenges the rich and powerful to distrust wealth and power as a source of happiness.

Mary's Assumption is the anticipation of our own Assumption. Today, let us pray to Mary with hope and confidence to follow her great example of obedience and doing God's will in our daily lives so that we too can participate in her Glory.