

Sunday, August 15, 2021 – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Goal: As a community may we seek to be of one heart and one mind, to know, love and serve our Lord by Letting His love and light shine through each of us.

### ***From the Cluttered Desk and Mind of Deacon Bob***

Blessings to everyone here at St. John the Evangelist Church in Centerville-Saugerties. And welcome to what would have been the Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time. But the Solmnity of the Assumption supersedes the Ordinary Sunday, so we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We have been in the midst of the Bread of Life discourse from St. John's Gospel. But, again, the Feast of Mary's Assumption into heaven overrules the usual readings for this Sunday. But that doesn't mean we won't hear about Jesus' spiritual nature.

In the first reading from Revelation, the last book of the Bible, we hear about the tremendous battle between the devil and God, between the physical world and the spiritual world. One of my teachers in the diaconate classes said that, while this book may seem shocking or extreme to us, at the time it was written, it was a very popular form of writing, and there could have been another 400 similar books around at the same time. It was a time of persecution of the Church, and John was trying to encourage and embolden the faithful to remain steadfast, knowing that the end was coming, whether the end of the world or the end of their life. It is presented here as the devil losing the battle for people's souls through Mary, the Ark of the Covenant. She gave birth to a son, Jesus, "destined to rule all the nations with an iron rod." Salvation has come through Mary and her Son.

Paul, in his Letter to the Corinthians, explains that whatever happened or will happen to Jesus, His birth, His death, His resurrection, and His coming again, will all happen to us as well. We are born and we die, but we will rise again and come into the presence of Jesus Christ at the Last Judgment. And then we will never die again, but will live forever in Jesus' presence, if we remain true to Him.

In Luke's Gospel, this comes right after Gabriel has appeared to Mary and announced that she will become pregnant by the Holy Spirit and bear the Son of God. Gabriel also told her that Elizabeth, her aged cousin, had become pregnant also through the power of God. So Mary goes to be with her and help her, to serve. And Elizabeth, without being told, realizes that God is present in Mary, in her womb, the Ark of the new Covenant. Unlike Zechariah, who doubted God, Mary praises God for what He has done, and will do. She is completely immersed in God.

Mary could do this because she was born without original sin, the Immaculate Conception. She was certainly capable of sin, but she chose not to sin because she knew God so well even before Gabriel came to her. We have had years of hearing God's word in the Gospel and other readings at Mass, of hearing about how to do God's will, to surrender to God, to listen for God speaking to us and obey His words. We also have the noise and commotion of the world around us, trying to drown out God's words. Make a commitment this week to spend a little time at least every day to ask God to speak to you, and then to listen for His words.

God bless you.

#### **RESERVED MASSES:**

**Sat 8/14**      5:30p.m.      Helen Krzywonos  
*Req. by Thomas Liston*

**Sat 8/21**      5:30 p.m.      Anniversary remembrance of  
Fr. Francis Gunn, OFM  
*Req. by Bob Howe*

#### **COMMUNION SERVICES:**

St. John's has a Communion Service every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 8:30 AM. All are welcome. Morning Prayer is prayed immediately before the service at 8:15 AM. Please come.

**Please call 845-217-3333 to reach Alison at the Parish Office or for Religious Education. To reach Fr. Chris in an EMERGENCY, please call 845-246-4913.**

### **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

Assisting Fr. Chris this week will be Deacon Bob. Next week, it will be Maureen Webster.

### **LECTORS**

The lector this week is Bill Payne. Next week, it will be Mike Zollo.

### **ATTENDANCE**

Last week, we had 46 people at 5:30 mass.

### **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

This sacrament is one of the seven sacraments. As St. James says in his Letter, "If someone is sick, let him call the priest to pray over him and to anoint him with oil." If you or anyone you know would like to receive the Anointing of the Sick, please let Deacon Bob know, and he will arrange a priest to come and anoint them and pray over them. Call him at 845-706-1035.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Applications for the 2021-2022 school year are available in the church. Our program begins in First Grade. Please share this information with families who may be interested in the program.

If you are interested in volunteering in our program, please contact Alison at [smssjreligious@gmail.com](mailto:smssjreligious@gmail.com).

### **ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE**

The members of the organization Desfile Mariano de New York, Inc. and affiliated associations, Dominican Sunday, Marian Ministry, and Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta Award continue to fail to comply with the policies and procedures of the Archdiocese of New York and are distributing information inaccurately suggesting that they are affiliated with the Archdiocese of New York. They are not. Members of these organizations have been actively present at the parishes and/or Catholic institutions. The Archdiocese of New York, its parishes, clergy, religious, institutions and hierarchy cannot support or have any affiliation with Desfile Mariano de Nueva York, Inc., or its allied associations. Accordingly, the organization is not permitted to use the name, trademark, parishes, clergy, religious, and hierarchy of the archdiocese to advertise or announce any activity or ministry. Effective immediately, any and all parish activities purportedly associated with Desfile Mariano de Nueva York, Inc. and/or its associations are hereby suspended.

### **SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sun – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Mon – Saint Stephen of Hungary  
Thu – Saint John Eudes, Priest  
Fri – Saint Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church  
Sat – Saint Pius X, Pope

### **VACATION**

I, Deacon Bob, will be away for the next two weeks. I will be going on a week-long retreat on the 15<sup>th</sup>, and then taking a week's vacation on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup>. I will talk with you again on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be no Communion service while I am away.

### **COMMUNION CALLS**

If you or someone you know would like to receive Communion at home, either because of illness or infirmity, or because they don't feel safe in church, please call me, Deacon Bob, and I will arrange for someone to come and bring Communion to them or to you. Call me at 845-706-1035. I have been contacted by a couple of people who would like to receive Communion. I do not have the time to do this. If anyone is willing to bring Communion regularly to people or couples at their homes, please contact me, Deacon Bob, at 845-706-1035, and I will give you the details. If you are considering becoming an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, please contact me. There is some instruction that is needed which I will be glad to provide. I had the joy of instructing two people a few weeks as ministers of Holy Communion at home. It is a most rewarding experience.

### **FOOD PANTRY ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST**

*The Food Pantry is open on the First Saturday of every month between 10am – noon.*

If anyone has any time to help with setup, distribution, or planning, please contact Gabby Baker at [g.baker1@ppcsd.org](mailto:g.baker1@ppcsd.org).

### **CLYNK**

We are still doing Clynk with Hannaford. We are collecting deposit bottles in the shed out back, and then putting them in the specially marked bags so that St. John's gets credit for the deposit value. You can also take a bag home with you and fill your own bag at home with all your deposit containers and bring it to Hannaford's yourself. Or leave it in the shed. Thank you for your continued support. This does help in our outreach.

There are bags by the side door, as well as some in the shed, if you need a bag when the church is not open.



### **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:**

Vincent Saturn, Gene Woodruff, Jane Fiore, Peter Kandora, John Lynch, Nancy Dwyer, Claire Miller, "Smokey" Woods, Zac Swart, Ann Deacon, Debbie Lieberman, MaryLou Dengler, Anne Monfrini, Dan Kelly, Richard Teitter, Ann Nelson, Vinnie & Hilda McDermott, Loretta Beisel, Joanne Sussman, Brittney Ruskie, Thomas Houlihan Sr., Frankie Cullen, Walter Johnson, Charles Bowls, Joe Font, Debbie Volkle, Mike Leung, Pam Murphy, Debra Trees, Fred Belfance, John Bechtold, Paul Donlon, Olivia Trees, Carol Loesch, Bruce Meservey, Mark Moore, Richard Evans, Joe Defino, Sr., Angela Mastracchio, Bobbi Matthews

To place or remove name from sick list, please call  
845-217-3333