

# SAINT MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ponca City, Oklahoma

August 11, 2019

Dear parishioners,  
As we approach the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15<sup>th</sup>, which, by the way, is a Holy Day of Obligation, it's always nice to take a little bit of time and reflect on the role that Our Lady plays in our faith life. Mary is our highest intercessor, so directing our prayers through her to her Son is an incredibly important part of our prayer life. Praying the Rosary, making a Marian Consecration and wearing the scapular are all important and fruitful ways to bring Mary more to the forefront of our faith life. We all know what an important role mother's play in our lives, so let's not leave Our Mother out of our faith life. She prays for us and encourages us to be faithful to her Son. Here is an excerpt the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus* by St. Pius XII, in which he declared that the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a dogma to be held by all the faithful.

"In their homilies and sermons on this feast the holy fathers and the great doctors spoke of the assumption of the Mother of God as something already familiar and accepted by the faithful. They gave it greater clarity in their preaching and used more profound arguments in setting out its nature and meaning. Above all, they brought out more clearly the fact that what is commemorated in this feast is not simply the total absence of corruption from the dead body of the Blessed Virgin Mary but also her triumph over death and her glorification in heaven, after the pattern set by her only Son, Jesus Christ.

Thus Saint John Damascene, preeminent as the great preacher of this truth of tradition, speaks with powerful eloquence when he relates the bodily assumption of the loving Mother of God to her other gifts and privileges: "It was necessary that she who preserved her virginity inviolate in childbirth should also have her body kept free from corruption after death. It was necessary that she who carried the Creator as a child on her breast should dwell in the tabernacles of God. It was necessary that the bride espoused by the Father should make her home in the bridal chambers of heaven. It was necessary that she, who had gazed on her crucified Son and been pierced in the heart by the sword of sorrow which she had escaped in giving him birth, should contemplate him seated with the Father. It was necessary that the Mother of God should share the possessions of her Son, and be venerated by every creature as the Mother and handmaid of God."

Saint Germanus of Constantinople considered that it was in keeping not only with her divine motherhood but also the with unique sanctity of her virginal birth that it was incorrupt and carried up to heaven: "In the words of Scripture, you appear *in beauty*. Your virginal body is entirely holy, entirely chaste, entirely the house of God, so that for this reason also it is henceforth a stranger to decay: a body changed, because a human body, to a preeminent life of incorruptibility, but still a living body, a body inviolate and sharing in the perfection of life."

Another early author declares: "Therefore, as the most glorious Mother of Christ, our God and Savior, the giver of life and immortality, she is enlivened by him to share an eternal incorruptibility of body with him who raised her from the tomb and took her to himself in a way he alone can tell."

All these reasonings and consideration of the holy Fathers rest on Scripture as their ultimate foundation. Scripture portrays the loving Mother of God, almost before our very eyes, as most intimately united with her divine Son and always sharing in his destiny.

Above all, it must be noted that from the second century the holy Fathers present the Virgin Mary as the new Eve, most closely

associated with the new Adam, though subject to him in the struggle against the enemy from the nether world. This struggle, as the first promise of a redeemer implies, was to end in perfect victory over sin and death, always linked together in the writings of the Apostle of the Gentiles. Therefore just as the glorious resurrection of Christ was an essential part of this victory and its final trophy, so the struggle shared by the Blessed Virgin and her Son was to end in the glorification of her virginal body. As the same Apostle says: *When this mortal body has clothed itself in immortality, then will be fulfilled the word of Scripture: Death is swallowed up in victory.*

Hence, the august Mother of God, mysteriously united from all eternity with Jesus Christ in one and the same decree of predestination, immaculate in her conception, a virgin inviolate in her divine motherhood, the wholehearted companion of the divine Redeemer who won complete victory over sin and its consequences, gained, at last the supreme crown of her privileges—to be preserved immune from the corruption of the tomb, and, like her Son, when death had been conquered, to be carried up body and soul to the exalted glory of heaven, there to sit in splendor at the right hand of her Son, the immortal King of the ages.

In Christ.

*Fr. Carson*

## Masses for the week...

### MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2019

12:10pm †Marcus Roggenbuck/Oklahoma State Knights of Columbus

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2019

12:10pm †Bob Lowe/Pat Lowe

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2019

12:10pm †Mary Kassen/Ladd & Sue Oldfield

7:00pm VIGIL MASS (Spanish)

(St. Mary's Church)

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2019 – THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

7:00am People of the Parish

8:20am †Jim Schieber/Maggie Schieber

12:10pm †Mary Haney/Michel Gray

7:00pm †Diane Hermes/The Will

6:30pm People of the Parish

(St. Francis, Newkirk, OK)

### FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 2019

7:00am People of the Parish

12:10pm †Jeanne Specht/Steve & Janice Connelly

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2019

9:00am People of the Parish

5:00pm †Hans Dahl/Jarrett & Kathleen Auschwitz

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2019

8:00am †Zulema Rendon/David Rendon

9:30am MASS (St. Francis Church, Newkirk)

11:00am †Joan O'Neill/Her Family

1:00pm People of the Parish (Spanish Mass)

7:00pm †Ruth Metzger/The Will

Did you miss a weekly offering while on Summer vacation? eGiving through Faith Direct is the easiest and most convenient way for St. Mary's to receive your weekly offering and other Church support. eGiving through Faith Direct will also save you time. You can go online to [faith.direct/OK801](http://faith.direct/OK801).

## NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### LOOKING ahead... August 12-18, 2019

Monday	FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL- 8:00am
Tuesday	6:00pm BACK TO SCHOOL ORIENTATION, Parish Hall
Wednesday	7:00pm VIGIL MASS, Church
Thursday	ASSUMPTION OF MARY - Offices Closed Mass times: 7AM, 8:20AM, 12:10PM & 7:00PM 6:30pm Mass in Newkirk
Friday	10:30am CONFESSION, Chapel 11:30am COLLOGAN BAPTISM, Church
Saturday	3:30pm CONFESSION, Church
Sunday	6:30pm CONFESSION, Church

*Rest in Peace:* Please pray for the souls of Mary Haney, Gerald Luis, and for Lelah Tracy, mother of Joanne Horinek. May God grant them eternal peace.

### Weekly Income Report

August 4, 2019

Weekly Collection \$20,393.72



### Best Shrines of France Pilgrimage

Join Fr. Carson Krittenbrink as he leads an All-Inclusive Pilgrimage with one of the nation's leading Pilgrimage companies, 206 Tours. Explore France's beautiful Catholic Shrines on this cross-country Pilgrimage. From small villages in the South of France to Paris, one of the greatest cities in the world. On this Pilgrimage, you will see magnificent Shrines and Churches and learn of the lives of: St. Bernadette, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Veronica and Zaccheus, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Therese of Lisieux, and St. Catherine Labourne. This pilgrimage is scheduled to depart October 5 – 16, 2020, \$5,024 per person from Oklahoma City. You may also contact Bill Schutte at 580-763-7705. Or you may call 206 Tours at 1-800-206-TOUR (8687).

**Please Pray For those who need prayers:** Jeanette Vassar, Charlotte Meyer, Charlene Vap, Dora Behar, Cindy Wardlow, Fran Baur, Don Schiltz, Jeanne Glaser, Patsy Hastings, Bennie Westerman, Eileen Spellman, Linda Courtney, George F. Brown, Martha Begwin, Gary Kirchmeyer, Donna Schlitz, Jim Sheets, Asher Dailey, Tyson Rutter, Betty Pino, Kaye Cunningham, Vivian Rose Graeff, Sue Odom, Barbara Spore, Alicia Aguilar, Dakota Miller, Brian McCallen, Janet Wilson, James Hess, Gabriel Dietz, Ed O'Neill, Don Raulston, Angi Jones, Marlene Taylor, Thomas Taylor, Brent Roberson, Jillian Beekman, Joe Badley, Sandy Hudack, Pamela Cline, Sherry Burgell, Ben Delapaz, Tom Courtney, Mary Knori, Nick Patterson, Jr., Helen Bloxsom, Jill Kestler, Dean Tate, Bertha Smith, Bill Bridges, Beverly Phillips, Wendel Hacker, David Courtney, Joyce Johnson, Karla Carter, Joyce Reutter, Dennis Guinn



Join us for our Annual Welcome Mass and Cookout with Archbishop Coakley on Sunday, August 25 for new and returning students, faculty, and staff at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Mass will begin at 5:30 pm with the cookout following. Location: St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 900 S. Littler, Edmond. To RSVP or for more information, please contact Erin Snow at (405) 420-3971 or [esnow@stjohn-catholic.org](mailto:esnow@stjohn-catholic.org).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**JH/SH Faith Formation begins next Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>!** All 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth are invited to join us from 6:30-8PM for a fun night of food and fellowship. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share!

The annual Lock-In is scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup> at 8PM. All 9-12 grade teens are invited, and should RSVP by August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Elementary Faith Formation



FAITH FORMATION

### Kindergarten-6th Grade

Faith Formation begins Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>! Join us at 6:30 pm in the school. All our classes have new books and materials. Come and "Discover!" God's Love.

**Save time! Find your registration forms online or in the office.**

### Historical Church Tour

Join Fr. Carson for a tour of the church Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm. All are welcome. Bring a friend and learn about the beautiful artwork, windows, and sacred objects in the church.

### Women's Bible Study

Fall study begins Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 10 am in the McGurk room. We will be using *"Ephesians: Discover Your Inheritance"* by Jeff Cavins. Register online at <https://study.ascensionpress.com/location/ponca-city-ok-st-mary-church> or call Bridgit @382-6010 Register with Bridgit by August 23<sup>rd</sup> for early bird book pricing. Scholarships are available.