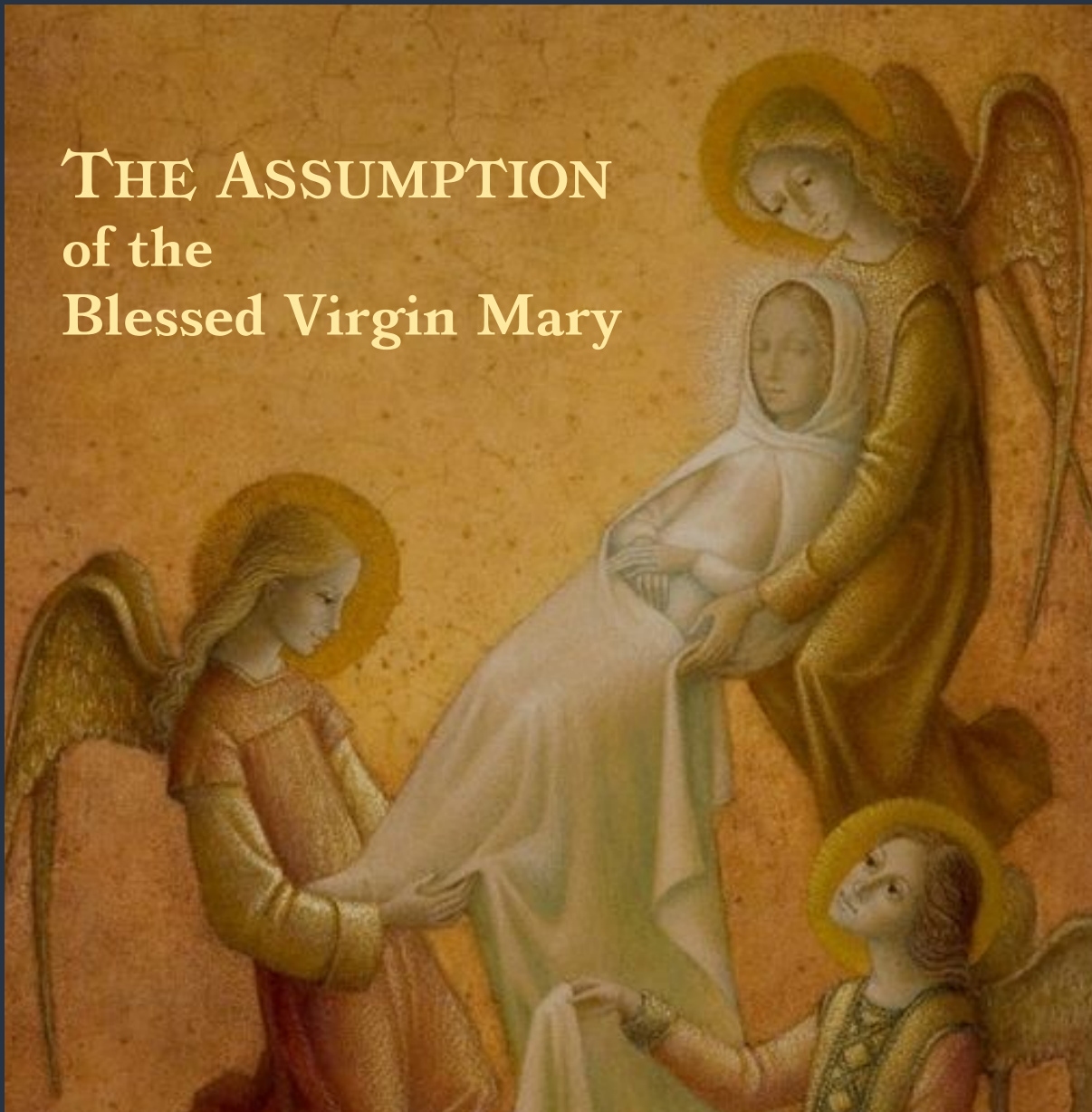


THE ASSUMPTION
of the
Blessed Virgin Mary



MASSES

Saturday [anticipated] **4:30 pm**

Sunday **8 am, 9:30 am, 11 am**

Mass in the chapel Monday-Friday at 9 am

Saturday at 10 am

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday **7-7:30 pm**

Saturday **9-9:45 am & 3-4 pm**

in the chapel

& ST IGNATIUS
ST LUKE'S

15 August 2021

NEWMAN ON THE ASSUMPTION

The great convert to the faith understood how it could be that Mary is so powerful ... and so beloved.

Even as a Protestant, Blessed [now Saint] John Henry Newman had a high view of the Lord's Mother. He knew the Scriptures inside out, and the Church Fathers as well. That made the Assumption a "Well, duh" matter for him when he became a Catholic, even though it wasn't yet a defined dogma. The great thing about him in this case is that he shows how the dogma fits everything else. It's not a devotional add-on to the Faith, but part of God's great story....

The biblical story points to the Assumption

As Newman says often in his writings, God's revelation is a whole, a complete thing, with all the parts related to all the others. The Scriptures don't mention the Assumption, but lots of things in the biblical story point to it.

He saw something of this as a Protestant minister. "Who can estimate the holiness and perfection of her, who was chosen to be the Mother of Christ?" he said in a sermon delivered in 1835. The implied answer is that none of us can estimate it, because it's so great. We're not holy enough to have any idea how holy was the woman God prepared to be the Mother of His Son. But we know from the Gospel story that she will be supremely holy.

... Even as an Anglican, he saw that because "the Creator Spirit condescended to overshadow [Mary] with His miraculous presence," she would have a "transcendent purity." Then he asked: "What must have been her gifts, who was chosen to be the only near earthly relative of the Son of God, the only one whom He was bound by nature to revere and look up to; the one appointed to train and educate Him, to instruct Him day by day, as He grew in wisdom and stature?" He doesn't answer the question, because he thinks the answer's obvious: Her gifts were huge, great, vast.

The matter goes even deeper, he adds. What, he asks, "was the sanctified state of that human nature, of which God formed His sinless Son"? He quotes God speaking in Job, saying "nothing can bring a clean thing out of an unclean." In other words, to bear the perfect sinless Son of God, Mary must be sinless herself — as Catholics would say, immaculately conceived.

The Assumption

You can see why when Newman became a Catholic, the Assumption made perfect sense to him. He saw that Mary, being the Mother of God, would get everything Her Son had to give. In particular, that she'd get everything he'd given others.

You can find much of his writing on Mary in his wonderful book *Meditations and Devotions*. You can find more of his reflections in a modern collection called *The Mystical Rose*.

This is one of the ways God gave Mary what he gave others. Matthew's Gospel tells us that at the Resurrection many of the saints rose from the dead and walked into Jerusalem. "The holy Prophets, Priests, and Kings of former times rose again in anticipation of the last day," Newman writes. Then he says: "Can we suppose that Abraham, or David, or Isaias, or Ezechias, should have been thus favoured, and not God's own Mother?" Obviously no.

Had she not a claim on the love of her Son to have what any others had? Was she not nearer to Him than the greatest of the Saints before her? And is it conceivable that the law of the grave should admit of relaxation in their case, and not in hers? Therefore we confidently say that our Lord, having preserved her from sin and the consequences of sin by His Passion, lost no time in pouring out the full merits of that Passion upon her body as well as her soul.

He saw other reasons to believe in the Assumption from Scripture alone. For one, God had created Adam and Eve without sin. They would not have "crumbled into dust" if they hadn't sinned. Having never sinned, Mary "retained the gift which Eve by sinning lost." To put it simply: If Mary is the New Eve, she would be assumed into Heaven.

In other words, if you believe what all Christians believe, even if you're not Catholic, you should believe that as Pope Pius XII declared in 1950: "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."

What the Assumption meant to him

But what did the Assumption mean to Newman? What was the point? He didn't write anything directly devotional or personal about it, but we get hints from his other writings.

Here's one in which he talks about the power of prayer to change this world. "This is why the Blessed Virgin is called Powerful — nay, sometimes, All-powerful, because she has, more than anyone else, more than all Angels and Saints, this great, prevailing gift of prayer," he says.

No one has access to the Almighty as His Mother has; none has merit such as hers. Her Son will deny her nothing that she asks; and herein lies her power. While she defends the Church, neither height nor depth, neither men nor evil spirits, neither great monarchs, nor craft of man, nor popular violence, can avail to harm us; for human life is short, but Mary reigns above, a Queen for ever.

Excerpted from Why the Assumption made perfect sense to Newman, and what it meant for him by David Mills in aleteia.org 15 August 2018

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All who are suffering or sick and all caregivers who minister to the sick: Marian Luther, Emily Guinivan, Harold Joyce, Levi Harris, Gary Schenk, Joanne Newsom, Jackie Chancio, Anne Marie Whittaker, Greg and Felicia Yohe, Joe Coleman, John Hogan, Deirdre McQuade, Danny Hart, Amy Howard, Mary Morehead and family, Curtis Bailey, Leondre Massey, Sister Constance Ward, George Cochran, Mark Anthony Turner, Rachel Fisher, Patricia Ransom, Beverly A. Woods, Kerianna Prather, Domingo G., Adrian and Barbara.; D.K.C., M.M., R.M., K.M., C.M., C.A., E.D., E.G., W.B., J.M., H.G., and J.G.

Please call or email the office to add a name to the prayer list.

Before calling, please be sure you have spoken to the person [or a member of his family] about adding the name—we do not want to inadvertently disregard someone's desire for privacy.

Names of those who are sick or suffering will be kept on the list for one month; to keep a name on the list for longer, you must email the parish office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY

Have you signed up yet for your photo to be taken for our parish directory? Photos will be taken September 9-11. Every family photographed will receive a complimentary directory and a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait. Families will have the option of purchasing additional portraits.

So sign up today!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES for children begin on Sunday, September 12th.

As we gear up for the new year of learning with our children, we are asking all parents of children 5 years old and older to fill out a registration form for our religious education program, whether their child(ren) attend Sunday School or not.

It is important in a small and intentional community like St. Luke's and St. Ignatius for the pastor have a working knowledge of the formation of the parish's children. So whether you are a homeschooling parent who will be carrying out your child's religious education at home, or whether you would like your child to be taught in a CCD classroom setting, your pastor asks that you register your child(ren) using our registration forms which are on the information table in the school lobby.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 14 August

Anticipated Mass for the Assumption

4:30 pm Lina Privitera + [Frank and Mary Privitera]

Sunday, 15 August

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am Patrick Donovan [Jane Slattery]

11 am Helen Macko Michalco +

Monday, 16 August

Stephen of Hungary

9 am Anne and Russell White

Tuesday, 17 August

Feria

9 am godchildren of Rafael A. Madan

Wednesday, 18 August

Feria

9 am Anne B. Smith + [Edwin Smith]

Thursday, 19 August

John Eudes, Priest

9 am Belina Jackson +

Friday, 20 August

Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

9 am the needs and concerns of visitors to our parish

Saturday, 21 August

Pius X, Pope

10 am Rev. Arthur Woolley + [Jane and Steve Lawrence]

Anticipated Mass for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

4:30 pm Joe Balthrop +

Sunday, 22 August

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

8 am Pro populo

9:30 am Clara Smith +

11 am Clay Saunders +

St. Ignatius Finance Council

Florian Hocke - *Co-Chair*

Jackie Chancio

Deacon Clark Glenn

Joseph Somerville

Clifford Woods

office@saint-ig.org • SAINT-IG.ORG

301-567-4740

historic
ST IGNATIUS
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. John Vidal, *pastor*
Rev. Jason Catania, *parochial vicar*

Joint Pastoral Council

Michael Taylor

Joseph Chancio ♦ Rosemary Coller

Fran Doyle ♦ James Guinivan

Ada Okafor ♦ Elizabeth Shivone

Connie Somerville

Patrick Delaney - *ex officio*

Susan White - *ex officio*

St. Luke's Finance Council

Patrick Delaney - *Co-chair*

Nicole Crawford ♦ Dave Hoppe

David Lewis ♦ Franco Madan

Susan White - *ex officio*

Karen King - *ex officio*

stlukesdordinariate@gmail.com

STLUKESORDINARIATE.COM

202-999-9934

Saint Luke's at
IGNATIUS CHURCH