

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15, 2021

My dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Grace and peace be with you in this time of tribulation and triumph! August 6 was the parish feast day. We did not have an official celebration for a myriad of reasons. On this 15th of August we celebrate Mary who enfleshed the Word and the reward she received because of her selfless “fiat!”

In the New Testament, the **Transfiguration of Jesus** is an event where Jesus is transfigured and becomes radiant in glory upon a mountain. The Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 17:1–8, Mark 9:2–8, Luke 9:28–36) describe it, and the Second Epistle of Peter also refers to it (2 Peter 1:16–18). It has also been hypothesized that the first chapter of the Gospel of John alludes to it (John 1:14). In these accounts, Jesus and three of his apostles, Peter, James, and John, go to a mountain (later referred to as the Mount of Transfiguration) to pray. On the mountaintop, Jesus begins to shine with bright rays of light. Then the Old Testament figures Moses and Elijah appear next to him and he speaks with them. Both figures had eschatological roles: they summarize the Law and the prophets, respectively.

Today, we honor the Blessed Mother under the gift of the Feast of the Assumption. Mary’s yes to God’s will and way is a model for us that leads to this great movement.

The **Assumption of Mary** (name in full **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**) is, according to the beliefs of the Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodox Churches, Oriental Orthodoxy, Church of the East, and some Lutheran and Anglo-Catholic Churches, among others, the bodily taking up of Mary, the mother of Jesus, into Heaven at the end of her earthly life. The analogous feast in the Eastern Churches is known as the Dormition of the Theotokos. In Lutheranism and Anglicanism, the feast is celebrated in honour of **St. Mary, Mother of our Lord**.

In the churches that observe it, the Assumption is a major feast day, commonly celebrated on 15 August. In many countries, the feast is also marked as a Holy Day of Obligation in the Catholic Church. The Assumption of the Virgin Mary in art has been a popular subject, especially since the 12th century.

The Catholic Church teaches as dogma that the Virgin Mary "having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory". This doctrine was dogmatically defined by Pope Pius XII on 1 November 1950, in the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus* by exercising papal infallibility. While the Catholic Church and Eastern Orthodox Church believe in the Dormition of the Mother of God (Dormition of the Theotokos or "the Falling Asleep of the Mother of God"), whether Mary as the New Eve had a physical death has not been dogmatically defined. In *Munificentissimus Deus* (item 39) Pope Pius XII pointed to the Book of Genesis (3:15) as scriptural support for the dogma in terms of Mary's victory over sin and death through her intimate association with "the new Adam" (Christ) as also reflected in 1 Corinthians 15:54: "then shall come to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory".

The New Testament contains no explicit narrative about the death or dormition, nor of the Assumption of Mary, but several scriptural passages have been theologially interpreted to describe the ultimate fate in this and the afterworld of the Mother of Jesus. Various apocryphal documents do contain narrations of the event. [Wikipedia]

Here at the Church of the Transfiguration, we honor Mary, because of her perfect yes, that bore our Salvation. We also give praise to her powerful intercession manifested by her Assumption to glory. There are different days of celebration in the past for the feast of the Transfiguration (Lent, Epiphany season, etc.), we will celebrate it “properly” at the appropriate time. Our Faith-family will continue to meet on the “mountain top” on the spiritual corner of “Hope and Transformation” looking for that gift of Transfiguration, so that we will be transfixed and at the end of time be “assumed” into glory!

Shalom, Fr. Bozeman

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Brian Argusta, Vivian Burgess, Brownie Cain, Alberto Casanova, Kathleen Charles, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Rita Cook, Edward Cousin, Cynthia Cyrus, Juanita Davis, Carolyn Didney, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Cynthia Fortier, Michael Frierson, Sherie Frierson-Chenier, Brenda Garibaldi, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jennifer Hallman, Barbara J. Jones, Marjorie Jones, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Mercedes LeBlanc, Jo Ann Levi, Vyldred Manor, Cheryl Santa Marina, Dorothy Okoye, Tyrone Pitts, Sally Price, Wiley Pugh, Andrea Raggette, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Mike Simon, Joan Spencer, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, William Warrior, Alice Williams, Peggy Wilson and Mechele Yerima.

Weekly Offering for August 8, 2021

\$7,914.00 Tithe and Offering

Stewardship

"And Mary said, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior." Luke 1: 46

After Jesus, we look to Mary as our model of stewardship. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's will. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we too are called to reflect Christ to the world. We do this by living grateful and generous lives. We do this by putting other's needs before our wants.

Mission Co-Op

Today, August 15 there will be a second offering for The Foundation for Children in Need. (FCN) is a Catholic lay organization based in Arlington Heights, Illinois. Their mission work is in the interior villages in the Southern part of India. FCN sponsors 2,500 children and 50 elderly persons. They have been responsible for building several schools, boarding homes, a community health center and a home for the elderly. They provide free medical check-ups and medicine to thousands of needy adults and children. 800 children born with Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate have been helped with free corrective surgeries in the past 5 years. We encourage you to support FCN's mission work generously. To know more about FCN's mission work, you are invited to visit their website: www.fcn-usa.org

Mark Your Calendar!

Another great Transfiguration, Council 220 event!

Join us for a Fish and Chips Fish Fry on Saturday, September 18, 2021 from 12PM to 5PM at Transfiguration under the hall patio. **ALL** Proceeds will go towards the Maurice S. Simon Scholarship Fund.

Fish, Fries, Soda \$10.00

Fish, Shrimp, Fries, Soda \$12.00

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	Rv 11:19a, 12:1-10, Ps 45:10-16, Lk 1:39-56
Monday	Jgs 2:11-19, Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday	Jgs 6:11-24a, Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday	Jgs 9:6-15, Mt 20:1-16
Thursday	Jgs 11:29-39a, Mt 22: 1-14
Friday	Ru 1:1-22, Mt 22:34-40
Saturday	Ru 2:1-11, 4:13-17, Mt 23:1-12
Sunday	Jos 24:1-18b, Ps, 34:2-21, Jn 6:60-69

Did you know?

Prep your children with scripts to stay safe

Role-playing with your children is a critical step in keeping them safe from abuse, peer pressure, and other dangerous situations. Prep your children with the language they need to say "stop," or "no thanks," or to express any discomfort. Talk through different scenarios with them and have them practice how they would respond in their own words. Arming children with strong, confident responses to uncomfortable situations will help them draw on those words when they need them. For more information, request a copy of the VIRTUS article "Ten prevention practices you may not have considered," at <https://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/>.

Religious Education

For students from Kindergarten to High School will begin September 12, 2021. It will include: First Communion, Confirmation, the study of scripture, the study and celebration of Liturgy and the Liturgical seasons. Registration will take place every Sunday in August after the 8AM and 10AM Masses outside in the patio. More information will be given at registration.

Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by *Malba Havard* in loving memory of **MR. AND MRS. HARRISON HAVARD**. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory.