



## ORIGINS AND PRACTICES OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

by Renee Barouxis

Assumption Day is celebrated on or around August 15 in many countries, particularly in parts of Europe and South America.

Assumption Day commemorates the belief that when Mary, the mother of

Jesus Christ, died, her body was "assumed" into heaven to be reunited with her soul, instead of going through the natural process of physical decay upon death.

Assumption Day is a public holiday in countries such as Austria, Belgium, Chile, Croatia, France, parts of Germany, Guatemala, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, and Switzerland. It is also celebrated in Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, the United States, and others, despite not being considered a public holiday. It is celebrated colorful processions, performances, pageants, and fireworks, but each region puts its own spin on celebrations. Although the holiday goes by many different names -- Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God, and the Feast of the Assumption to name a few -- it has been celebrated since the fourth century C.E.

In 1950, Pope Pius XII declared the Assumption of Mary official dogma of the Roman Catholic Church. The Catholic Church teaches that the Virgin Mary "having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."

At Assumption Day celebrations, it is common to display artistic depictions of the Virgin Mary on display. This artwork, done by Rubens around 1626, portrays the Assumption of Mary. Other Western artists, such as Duccio, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael, Giovanni Bellini, and Caravaggio have also created art featuring the Virgin Mary.



### UPDATE ON THE ARRIVAL OF FR. ATHANASIUS KIKOBA, OUR NEW PAROCHIAL VICAR

I had a conversation with Fr. Athanasius on August 3. He has taken the required COVID test and purchased an airplane ticket for the USA. Fr. Athanasius is very excited to join us and has plans to travel to the U.S. as soon possible. We are on God's timetable. Both Fr. Matt, Fr. Lieu, our Deacons, and visiting weekend priests will continue to serve all of the pastoral needs of our parish.

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday 9:00—4:00 PM  
Staff Direct Line 408-223-1770 + extension

### STAFF

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Spiritual Direction and Retreats

*pagrsm@gmail.com*

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESIONS)

Saturdays from 11am - 12pm, in the confessional in the chapel.



Find us on  
Facebook



### Monday, August 16

Anthony Hung Tran (Birthday)

Maria Lan Nguyen+

Maria Don Nguyen+

### Tuesday, August 17

Clarita Aspiras+

Nolita Angeles Dizon+

Timoteo Quijano+

### Wednesday, August 18

Delia Jaminal+ and Florencia Jaminal+

Maria Luz S Torres+

Rosa & Gerardo Huerta (Health/ Healing)

### Thursday, August 19

Adela Gaspe Gagante+

Justin Flora (Birthday)

### Friday, August 20

Bernard E Dato (Birthday)

### Saturday, August 21

Maria Chieu An+

### Saturday/Sunday, August 21-22

#### 4:00PM Vigil Mass

Nghi Van Pham and Ty Pham+

John Noi Bui+

Enrica Agossa (Safe travels)

#### 5:30 Vietnamese Vigil

8AM

Stevens Family

Gorsuch Family

#### 8:15AM Villages

9AM

Betsy Arroyo+

10AM

Vincente John Bao Vu+

11AM

Armando Cadena+

12PM

Eliazer Visenio+

Monique Moundele Mberi+

2PM Spanish

4PM Vietnamese

6PM Youth and Young Adult



## LET US PRAY

### WE ALSO PRAY FOR...

- Kenneth Wayne Allen+
- Josephine Usita (Birthday)
- Raymund Aranda (bday)
- Sofia Marie De Guzman (Guidance)



### Collection from July 26-August 1

Masses	\$ 11,274.59
Mail/Drop	\$ 2,115.00
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	\$ 96.00
Online	\$ 6,656.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 20,141.59</b>

If you are interested in donating on-line, please visit our webpage at [www.sfoasj.com](http://www.sfoasj.com) and click on

**Online Giving** 

Or scan



to get started with this convenient giving option.



Now that summer is upon us, the time of vacations and weekends away, it can be quite challenging for our parish financially. As the attendance at our weekend liturgies dwindles, so can the weekly support of our parishioners: **a very good reason to consider using ONLINE GIVING.** The challenge lies in the fact that our financial responsibilities do not go away during the months of June, July, and August. Summer is a time for us to do some extra maintenance work around the parish. and our work.

Your Sunday Offertory donations, as well as gifts to our second collections will be transferred from either your checking, savings, or credit card. A one-time enrollment will allow you contribute regularly to St. Francis of Assisi without remembering the extra step of writing a check and finding your envelopes. Online Giving is safe, easy and convenient for you and it helps us! You can sign-up online by visiting [www.sfoasj.com](http://www.sfoasj.com) and click the Online Giving icon on the homepage. Questions, call Victor Espinoza at: 408-223-1770 x302



## FAITH FORMATION

A JOURNEY FOR LIFE

### JOY FAMILY FORMATION REGISTRATION

Our parish family formation registration began

July 1, 2021. You can register on our website at [www.sfoasj.com](http://www.sfoasj.com). Any child or adult wishing to prepare for the sacraments of First Eucharist or Confirmation must be in the JOY process for two years with the exception of Adult Confirmation. JOY sessions will be on Tuesday night once a month and alternate with online workshops.

### RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Have you thought about becoming a Catholic? Are you curious to know more about the Catholic faith and its teachings? Perhaps you were baptized and never received the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation. Let's talk. To set up a time to meet please email Lisa Nakamura at [lisa.nakamura@dsj.org](mailto:lisa.nakamura@dsj.org)

### CATECHIST NEEDED

We are opening back up but we need your help!!! The faith formation ministry is looking for people willing to share their faith. You don't have to be a theologian to share your Catholic faith with others. We provide education and training.

**Fingerprinting and Safe Environment Training is required!** We need Catechists ages 14 and above. Come and join us share the good news of Jesus.

Contact [lisa.nakamura@dsj.org](mailto:lisa.nakamura@dsj.org)

- We have openings for those who can teach every other Sunday for 20 minutes during Mass.
- We have openings working with adults on Sunday from 9:00-10:30am
- We have openings for Tuesday once a month from 6:30pm-8:00pm

St. Francis of Assisi Church

**\$15,000 CASH Sweepstakes**

- ENTER TO WIN -

Tickets can be purchased through midnight October 2, 2021  
<https://Go.Rallyup.com/sfoafundraiser>  
MUST BE 18 TO ENTER AND WIN

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**Q. Did Mary the mother of Jesus Christ, have other children after Jesus?**

**A.** The short answer to this question is "No." But let's explore further.



Scripture is quite clear that Mary conceived Jesus in a virginal way – by the Holy Spirit.

Additionally, it is the constant teaching of the Church that she always retained her virginity. She had no other children and never engaged in the marital act with Joseph. Sometimes this is confusing since there are references in the Scriptures to Jesus' brothers and sisters. But this language was commonly used in reference to cousins. So, this shouldn't confuse us if we understand the language of the time. In fact this is still a common practice in other cultures of our day.

For example, those from various African countries commonly refer to those within their own village as their brother or sister when they are with them outside of that village. It was God's plan that Mary only have one Son for various reasons. It was especially so because of the fact that we are all called to become brothers and sisters of Christ through spiritual adoption.

Therefore, if Jesus had blood brothers or sisters it would have undermined his spiritual brotherhood with them. It would have made their relationship with Jesus different. But God desires this deeper spiritual relationship with all people. Mary is the only blood relation to Jesus, thus, she shares a special bond with Him that no one else does. But it had to be that way if God was to become true man.

Interestingly, though, even Mary's deepest bond with Jesus does not come as a result of her physical blood relationship. It comes, first and foremost, by her spiritual motherhood. She is united with her Son primarily by her perfect faith and obedience. It is this bond that surpasses the natural one.



# ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

# JOIN OUR ANNUAL

# FUNDRAISER

# SWEEEPSTAKES!

HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN THE GRAND PRIZE  
OF \$15,000!

**SECOND PLACE PRIZE: \$1,000**  
**THIRD PLACE PRIZE: \$500**

**Ticket Entries and more details are now available  
online at <https://go.rallyup.com/sfoafundraiser>  
or our parish website [www.sfoasj.com](http://www.sfoasj.com)!**

### Entry Prices

25 Entries   \$25
75 Entries   \$50
200 Entries   \$100
400 Entries   \$150
600 Entries   \$200

Official rules: This sweepstakes is a fundraising event for St. Francis of Assisi Church. All entries are considered donations. All entries must be received by Saturday 10/02/2021 11:59 PM (GMT-08:00) Pacific Time. Winner Announced: Sunday 10/03/2021 11:45 AM (GMT-08:00) Pacific Time.

One free sweepstakes registration allowed per person during this event. Free registration entry can be found at: <https://go.rallyup.com/sfoafundraiser/mailentryrequest>. Conditional Winner(s) will be chosen through a random selection process by RallyUp or its representative. Odds of winning depend on the number of tickets held.

A verification process will take place during which conditional Winner(s) will be required to sign paperwork re-confirming their eligibility and ability to participate.

Additional information can be found at <https://codes.findlaw.com/ca/business-and-professions-code/bpc-sect-17539-15.html>.

**\*NO PURCHASE OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND IS NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN THE SWEEPSTAKES\***

To order Sweepstakes by mail, simply complete this form and return it with your check in the enclosed envelope. Make checks payable to "St. Francis of Assisi"

Cash Sweepstakes entry(s):  \$25 for 25 entries  \$50 for 75 entries  \$100 for 200 entries

\$150 for 400 entries  \$200 for 600 entries

Total amount Enclosed: \$

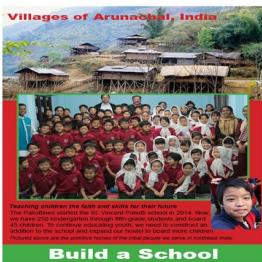
Name:  Address:  City:  State:

Zip:  Phone:  Email:

Mail orders must be received no later than Friday, October-01 to qualify for the drawing on Sunday October-3-2021. Winners will be notified by phone and e-mail. Winners do not need to be present.

For more information please contact the parish office at 408-223-1562. All prizes are subject to IRS regulations.  
 please enter my name in the drawing. I do not wish to make a donation at this time.

## MISSIONARY COOPERATIVE APPEAL -



### AUGUST 29

The Society of the Catholic Apostolate, commonly known as the Pallottine Fathers and Brothers, is an International Religious Community of



Priests and Brothers serving the missions in over 59 countries. This was founded in 1835 by St. Vincent Pallotti, a Roman diocesan Priest to revive faith and rekindle charity among all and he called everyone to be an apostle of God's love and mercy. "Love of Christ urges us all" was his motto.

The Pallottines work mostly in mission countries and the Pallottines in Milwaukee, WI, support the missions in India and Zambia, Africa. They bring the good news of God's love and salvation to the poor people in remote interior areas where there are no modern facilities by providing them the basic necessities of life as well as educating poor children in the villages as they share the Gospel of Christ. They run several parishes, boarding schools, orphanages, Clinics, technical institutes, self-employment programs for poor women in the villages as well as do various other socio- charitable works for the poor and needy. Their missions in India and Zambia are really growing and there is so much need in these missions and your generosity however small can make a difference to these people and bring them much hope and joy. You too can be an apostle!



### FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN & TEENS - REGISTER THIS MONTH

As your Pastor, I want to encourage all parents and guardians to also make plans for your children's ongoing faith formation, as our own

programs commence in just a couple of weeks. Your parish stands ready to help you in fulfilling this pledge. Over the summer, our Faith Formation Staff (Lisa and Kevin) have been hard at work preparing for this new year of learning and living our Catholic faith. We have programs for children in pre-school through high school. Our vision of faith formation is structured to engage children and youth in a process that is instructional, challenging, and fun. Please refer to the Sunday Bulletin or our parish website for more information.

### YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE -

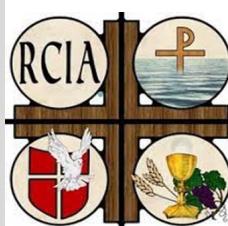
Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry at each other? Do you argue? Have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their



A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

marriages. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples having trouble in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the September Marriage Program beginning with a weekend on Sept 17 -19, call 408-605-4998, email: SanJose@RetroCA.com or visit our website at [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org)

### WHAT IS RCIA?



Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church? Then RCIA (Rite of Catholic Initiation for Adults) is for you! The RCIA process introduces you to the beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church. It helps you explore what it means to be a Christian.

It prepares you to enter fully into our community of faith through the sacraments of [Baptism](#), [Confirmation](#), and [Eucharist](#). Becoming Catholic is more than just learning scripture and rituals; it is discovering how to be a disciple of the Lord.

We welcome all those who are new to the faith, the unbaptized or baptized, those that have not yet been confirmed in the Church and those who are simply just searching for God.

**If you have more questions**, contact Lisa at 408-223-1770 x324 or [LNakamura@dsj.org](mailto:LNakamura@dsj.org).

### STEWARSHIP OF TREASURE REPORT - JULY 2021



Thank you to everyone for your support of the mission and ministries of our parish. During the month of July, our average weekly collection was \$17,925 (2.5% decrease vs. June 2021). You also generously donated

to various important causes in our July (second collections) at \$11,597 (\$2,899 a week.) This brings our July weekly average to \$20,824. We budgeted our Sunday Offertory income for the July, 2021 (4 weeks x \$16,000) at \$64,000 and received \$71,700. Additional income helps us to pay-down our \$1.8 million debt. As you know, we are dependent upon you, our parishioners, for living-out our parish mission.

### VISIT THE DIOCESE OF SAN JOSE YEAR OF



**ST. JOSEPH WEBPAGE:** We hope that through using these resources you will grow in love and devotion St. Joseph as the guardian and protector of God's people, the Church. May Saint Joseph and the Holy Family intercede for us in this work of rededicating ourselves to the mission of Jesus Christ. [www.dsj.org/yearofstjoseph](http://www.dsj.org/yearofstjoseph)



Join Fr. Matt Stanley on a Pilgrimage to MEXICO & Our Lady of Guadalupe

April 22 – 27, 2022

\$1,998 from San Francisco

Group Coordinator:  
Jacqueline Nguyen, Classique Travel

Telephone: 408-859-4411 |  
Email: classiquetravel@gmail.com

**August 22, 2021**

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Saturday (Anticipated)**

4:00pm – Fr. Weisbeck

5:30pm – Fr. Vu (Vietnamese)

**Sunday**

8:00am – Fr. Vu

8:15am – Msgr. Mitchell (Villages)

9:00am – Fr. Weisbeck

10:00am – Fr. Stanley

11:00am – Fr. Vu

12:00pm – Fr. Fr. Stanley

2:00pm – Fr. Ruiz (Spanish)

4:00pm - Fr. Vu (Vietnamese)

6:00pm – Fr. Stanley



**Our 2019 St. Francis of Assisi Red Zinfandel is ready with your donation to our Wine Club.**

*Our Red Zinfandel is made from a red wine grape, grown extensively in California since the mid-1800s, and is grown in few other places in the world. The grapes can produce wines with plenty of character. High in natural alcohol and tannin, grown carefully it can be rich and complex, with dark berry fruit and peppery spice. The most known example of Zinfandel outside of California is Italy's Primitivo, which can be similar in style, but is often a bit lighter and less alcoholic than West Coast examples.*

**\$12 Donation per bottle or  
\$125 donation per case**

**St. Francis of Assisi Garden Gift Shop**

**is now open Every Sunday**

**from 9AM-2PM**

**Please stop by for  
religious items  
and gifts!**

