

St. Cornelius Parish

SUNDAY BULLETIN

August 14, 2022



I HAVE COME TO SET
THE EARTH ON FIRE,
AND HOW I WISH
IT WERE ALREADY BLAZING!
LUKE 12:49

160 Ridge Rd
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
Phone: (610) 459-2502
Fax: (610) 459-3942

Web: www.saintcornelius.org

Email: stcorn1@comcast.net • Facebook: Like us on Facebook

Msgr. David Diamond, Pastor

Deacons: Harry Morris • John Todor • Richard Wirth (Ret.)

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Michael Brisgone

Anslem Cooray
Chris Fahey

Franca Felcher
Michael Gidlewski

Kevin Hicks
Jon Lippard

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Jennifer Swetland

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Pastoral & Administrative Assistant: Marie McGuigan

Office Manager: Douglas Kitson

Parish Religious Education Program: Julie Sullivan

Director of Music: Margie Melchiorre

St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

Abbie McCusker, Director

Phone: (610) 459-8663

Website: www.scornelius.org

St. Cornelius Parish Summer Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Friday's 8:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
closed for Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Saturday: Confessions 2:30 - 3:30 Vigil Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 4:00 pm

Weekday Mass: 7:30 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: will return after Labor Day

LiveStream www.livestream.com/saintcornelius

Thoughts From the Second Floor Front XX Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 14, 2022

Jeremiah escapes death, barely, when he is pulled from a dry cistern where he was left to die of starvation and thirst. The author of Hebrews instructs us to *rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus...* Sound advice for anyone who takes the spiritual life seriously. The gospel passage, as usual, is the most challenging part of the Liturgy of the Word. Jesus tells us He has come to set the earth on fire and bring about division. Those words sound very uncharacteristic of Jesus, known for His love and mercy.

However, the division He describes in Matthew's account was already happening in the community of Matthew's church. This division is a necessary and concomitant aspect of Christianity when our faith is lived as fully as we can live it. Because we know Jesus, we are necessarily going to be different from those who do not know Jesus. Possessing this knowledge and living the gospel, however, will come at a cost. Pope Francis agrees with his predecessor who said that he was convinced that the Church is living in an era similar to the one following the Enlightenment and the French Revolution. We are at a huge turning point - comparing the present era with that of Pope Pius VI who was kidnapped by the troops of the French Republic and died in captivity in 1799. The Church had then found itself struggling with a force that intended to extinguish it forever, had seen its assets confiscated and religious orders dissolved. A condition not very different, he explained, could await the Church today.

From this crisis Benedict was confident that there will emerge a Church that has lost much and will become small starting more or less from the beginning, not occupying the buildings built during its prosperity. We will lose much of our social privilege, which is already true of the priesthood. The revival will be a long process marked by great upheaval. Non-believers will discover they are living in a world of "indescribable solitude" and having lost sight of God, "they will feel the horror of their poverty." Then, and only then, Ratzinger concluded, will they see "that little flock of believers as something totally new: they will discover it as a hope for themselves, the answer they had always sought in secret".

He penned these thoughts in a book entitled Faith and the Future, in 1969.

Over half a century has passed and much of what then Cardinal Ratzinger wrote has come to pass. Our numbers are down. Our position as moral leaders has been shaken. Our ministries have been restricted. We are regularly made victims of hatred and violence by those whom Ratzinger described; those who adhere to moral relativism and discard objective morality. Despite all, that there is cause for rejoicing as St. Peter wrote. We may for a time have to suffer the distress of many trials (cf. I Peter 1:6-7). But we will emerge smaller but stronger.

The philosopher, theologian and anthropologist Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, S.J. wrote:

Someday, after mastering the winds, the waves, the tides and gravity, we shall harness for God the energies of love, and then, for a second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire. (Pierre Teilhard De Chardin, S.J.)

The flame of our faith may be buffeted by the winds and storms and darkness of our times, but these cannot snuff it out. *The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.* (John 1:5)

Faithfully,

Msgr. Diamond



Jay and Paula Kerestus
 Kevin and Abbie McCusker and family
 Roy and Erin Pomarico and family



RCIA

Please help us pray for and extend an invitation to all of those whom God is calling into the Catholic Church.

- Are you married to a Catholic?
- Are you a Catholic who has not received the Sacraments?
- Are you someone seeking a spiritual home?

We will be hosting a meeting for all of those who are interested in looking into the Catholic faith or Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and/or Confirmation. A date will be announced in the near future, so watch this space for more details and specifics.

You are welcome to call the office at (610) 459-2502 to express your interest and be added to the distribution list.



YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS
Working in Witness for Christ™

In a world that can be void of meaning and leave young adults restless and dissatisfied, Young Catholic Professionals Philadelphia brings together young professionals in their 20s and 30s into a community of belonging, support, and encouragement at all stages of your faith journey. Young Catholic Professionals empowers and equips you to live your Catholic faith through everyday work and to perform all work with excellence for the glory of God.

Our patron saint is Saint Joseph the Worker. Our mission calls upon the intercession of Saint Joseph the Worker, a simple carpenter who reminds us of the importance of stillness, reflection, and prayer.

Young Catholic Professionals mission is to challenge, train, and inspire young adults working in various professional careers to work in witness for Christ. For more information go to our local Philadelphia website at www.ycppphiladelphia.org/cpages/home



In our charity, let us pray for the repose of the soul of

Simeon Whitehill

Husband of Victoria Whitehill
 Father of Beth (Whitehill) Huntley
 Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord.
 May he rest in peace.



CATECHISTS NEEDED

Do you like working with children? Do you enjoy growing your faith through sharing it with others? Then we have an opportunity for you!!! We are in need of more catechists for our 2022-2023 school year. If you are interested in sharing the Good News of our Faith and helping to shape the children of our parish, please consider teaching a class on Sunday morning (10-11:00) or helping at our children's mass (Sunday's 9 am) . Our PREP office will gladly give you as much guidance and support as you need to fulfill this rewarding role.

Please contact Julie Sullivan at StCorn-prep@scornelius.org or 610-459-7723 if you are interested in becoming a catechist and teaching our faith to the children of the parish.

Let us pray for our Men and Women serving in the Armed Forces. Especially for:





A Good Neighbor to the Homeless

Saint Cornelius has four families who are serving as a support team for a local family experiencing homelessness. They have received training with Bridge of Hope and have been assigned a family to serve as good neighbors. Bridge of Hope provides case management for the vulnerable family and guidance for the volunteers, who meet with the family regularly.

This family needs an apartment, as they are doubling up with a relative at this time. If you are in contact with rental properties with rent no higher than \$1,400/month in the West Chester and Exton areas please contact us. This would be one way to help the ministry serving the homeless.

Email dochollisv@aol.com or call 610-717-2180 with information, or to learn more about becoming a member of a family support team.

SAVE THE DATE! September 19, 2022



Monday, September 19th. our Knights of Columbus will join with St. Thomas the Apostle Knights in sponsoring a bus trip to Harrisburg for the annual March for Life. Bus will depart from St. Thomas the Apostle Church around 8:30 am and return around 4:30 pm. At some point this summer a sign-up will be made available to join forces to make our voices heard for those who cannot speak. More information will be provided in the coming weeks.



Monsignor's Thursday Email

Msgr. Diamond's weekly Thursday Email is a popular weekly news letter for our parishioners. Currently there are **over 1010** people who receive his email each Thursday afternoon. If you would like to be on our distribution list, please call the office at (610) 459-2502 or send your request to be added to our distribution at

Stcorn1@comcast.net.

Many of our parishioners enjoy receiving these emails and staying up-to-date on the goings on of St. Cornelius Church.

Prayer Shawl Ministry... Come, Join US!



Did you know that each baby baptized at St Cornelius receives a hand-made blanket made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry? You are welcome to join us in this rewarding ministry. We also make shawls, blankets, scarves, hats, mittens etc. for elderly homes, the Giving Tree and anyone looking for a comforting gift.

**Every 4th Monday of each month
1:30pm to 3:00pm**

We find ourselves in need of white acrylic yarn or funding to help continue this wonderful ministry. Please prayerfully consider donating to our ministry or purchasing a "Pound of Love" or "Caron Pound" of white acrylic yarn. We have a basket set up in the Bethany Room, which is in the back of church, to offer our works and for your donations. Also, you are welcome to drop off any yarn donations to the Parish Life Center. Donations are greatly appreciated.

Shawls and blankets are available in the Bethany Room. If you have any questions, please contact

Mary Jo Shell, (610) 361-8198
or Joanne Fonash, (610) 299-9694



SAINT CORNELIUS Early Learning Center ENROLLMENT OPEN FOR THE 2022 - 2023 SCHOOL YEAR!

At Saint Cornelius Early Learning Center we are dedicated to educating each child to learn academic and social skills for success in their future. Our energetic teachers and staff create a nurturing, creative and exciting environment for children to learn, grow, and thrive!

Now enrolling PreK 3, PreK4 and
Kindergarten!

CONTACT US

For more information or to schedule a tour, please email Abigail McCusker at akohlbremer@scornelius.org or call (610) 459 - 8663.



The Sunday collection is very important for us to maintain our fiscal responsibilities. So, if you are away on a Sunday, *ENJOY*; but remember *YOUR* church.

August 7, 2022

WeShare eGiving	\$8,908.00
Envelope Offering	\$11,864.50
	\$20,772.50



“For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.”

Luke 12:34



SAVE THE DATE!!
American Red Cross
Blood Drive



Thursday – October 6, 2022
2PM to 7PM

Every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood. Just one blood donation can save up to **3 lives**. Blood cannot be manufactured – it can only come from generous donors like you!

Register at redcrossblood.org using *St. Cornelius* as the sponsor code or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) Call Marilyn at 484-732-8842 leaving your name and phone number with any questions.

Be that Good Samaritan!

Be a donor on October 6th !!!

Eligibility questions? Call the Red Cross Donor Center @ 1-866-236-3276



The Faith Community Nurse
Holistic Health Ministry

On request, Faith Community Nurses are making home visits to families who may be experiencing medical or social difficulties. The nurses confidentially address the needs holistically through bringing with them prayers from the parish, a knowledge of the medical field and process for providing support. If you know of anyone in the parish or beyond who would benefit from these services, please email: stefcn@gmail.com. Contact person is Joan Holliday, RN/FCN at (610) 717-2180.

CATHOLIC CULTURE CORNER

Ask St. Cornelius!



Some items of our liturgy are more evident than the altar cloths that I spoke of last week, so let's take a look at some of the more obvious elements of our liturgy, the sacred vessels.

Sacred vessels are the receptacles and utensils used in our liturgical celebrations to hold the consecrated Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. In the Latin Rite of the Roman Catholic Church, these are Chalices, Patens, Ciboria, Pyxes, and Monstrances. The Sacred Vessels of the Church are to be treated with special care and reverence.

The **chalice** is the cup used to hold the Blood of Christ in the liturgy of the Eucharist and the **Paten** and **Ciborium** hold the consecrated hosts – the Body of Christ. The ciborium is typically deeper than a paten (which is the shape of a plate) and has a lid. This is what your Eucharistic Ministers hold while distributing the Body of Christ during communion. The **pyx** (prn. Picks) is a small round case for safely and properly transporting the Eucharist to the sick and homebound. Part of the role and responsibility of the Eucharistic Minister is to do just that, bring the Body of Christ to those who are unable to receive communion at Mass. All of these items are to be made of gold or silver so as to be certain that all elements of the Body of Christ and the precious blood have been consumed. If these items were made of wood, their structure could break down more easily, crumbs could be caught in cracks, the precious blood could be absorbed into the wood. It must always be remembered that what we consume is the *real presence* of our Lord and savior. The bread and wine is consumed in remembrance of Jesus and what he did for salvation, our salvation! Our vessels need to reflect the importance of our actions. We don't receive the Risen Lord in individual, singular plastic, or paper cups passed down the pew as is the tradition in some Christian churches. Rather, we receive from *the one cup*, the same cup of salvation. We are in communion, from the latin *communio*, meaning a mutual participation, a shared participation not only with our fellow parishioners, but in communion with the entire universal church.

And so the Communion we share at today's Mass is to be celebrated with only the finest of materials. The use of fine linen altar cloths, chalices, ciboriums, patens and pyxes made of quality materials place us in a state of mind and heart that what we do is nothing ordinary, but rather extraordinary. Our time together, at Mass as a community of believers is precious time, not because our time is precious, but because we are encountering the Lord in the Eucharist. We are making an intentional act to be open and willing to experience what that encounter can do in our lives.



St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

The teachers at St. Cornelius Learning Center are so excited for the upcoming school year! They are busy planning and getting everything ready for their new little friends!

Mark your calendars with these important school dates

- Monday, August 22- Parent Orientation 5-6 PM
- Thursday, August 25- Meet and Greet 5:30-6:30
- Monday, August 29- First Day of School



Back to School Poem

See me skip,
See me run,
I am going to school like everyone!
See we walk,
See me grin,
When the bell rings I go in.
See me jump,
See me play,
I am so excited for school today!
Hip Hip Hooray!



Our Annual School Drive will benefit

Blessed Virgin Mary School (BVM)
1101 Main Street, Darby, PA

(They are expecting **186** students!)

Collections will be held **BEFORE** Masses on:
August 13, 14, 20 & 21, 2022

Please drop donations at the PLC (Parish Life Center)

St. Cornelius has always been very generous and our recipients have always been very grateful!

Suggested school supplies:

	Back packs	Crayons
	Black pens	Scissors (blunt End Only)
	Red pens	Kleenex boxes
	Pencils	Copy paper
	Erasers	Hand Sanitizer/Wipes
	Glue stick	Index cards

*Please feel free to donate a gift card to
Walmart ♦ Target ♦ Staples
and include the amount on the card.*

HELP NEEDED

If you can assist with collecting, sorting or delivering, please call: Jean Burke (610) 220-6646 or Nancy Todor (609) 234-1193 .

Thank you so much & may God bless you for your effort.



Helping Hands and Hearts

This ministry offers temporary help (meals, errands, etc.) to individuals and families in need! If you are aware of someone in need or would like to be a volunteer helper, please contact Marilyn Gustin at mgustin05@gmail.com (484) 732-8842.



Walking With Purpose

Discover something more

Walking with Purpose is a women's Catholic Bible study. Through Scripture and the teachings of the Catholic Church we help women develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Beginning October 4th through March, St. Cornelius is excited to offer both Tuesday morning and evening sessions in the Parish Life Center. Choose from the following:

1) **"Touching the Divine"** – Receive a fresh anointing of faith as you come to know Jesus more fully through the Gospel of John.

Tuesday mornings from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

or

Tuesday evenings from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

2) **"Opening Your Heart"** – For women that are new to Walking with Purpose, or those who missed this introductory study, we encourage you to begin here.

When your heart is open, change happens, and you receive graces God wants to lavish upon you.

Tuesday mornings from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

All women are welcome regardless of faith background, age, or marital status. For more information about Walking with Purpose, or to view videos for each of the above Bible studies, visit walkingwithpurpose.com

The cost of the accompanying study guide is \$40 plus shipping and tax.

Registration is now open!

Please contact one of our coordinators as follows:

Tuesday Mornings:

Agnes Arkus, agnesa324@verizon.net (302) 290-3486

or

Tuesday Evenings:

Beth Baldo, baldobetha@gmail.com (845) 558-7089

Scan the QR image with your smart phone camera to go directly to Walking With Purpose for more information.



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 14, 2022



*Jesus endured the cross,
despising its shame,
and has taken his seat
at the right of the throne of
God.*

— Hebrews 12:2

Updating Our Prayer List

We are attempting to update our prayer list as it has grown over the years. If you know of a loved one listed below whom you feel has been helped by our prayers and are now recovered, please email the office at stcorn1@comcast.net so we can remove their name.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

Richard Arthur, Kathleen Rafferty, Carleen Peters, Marian Short, Bob Alexander, Matthew Hess, Bryan Thompson, Cindy Ficca, Jack Bozzuffi, Rosemary Johnston, Carol McKnight, Paul Lucas, Carla Santoleri, Richard Meccarrielli, Edward Field, Judy Field, Bob Grant, Joyce Monaco, Matthew Hurst, Leonard Smith, Jr., Gary Hampton, Jim Waters, Kathie Buckley, Bernice & Arthur Hindle, John Bruno, Sean Mulvey, George Butler, Margaret Butler, Patricia Wells, Kathy Williams, Michael Gibbons, William Grant, Shirley Masse, Ellen Brisgone, Laura O'Brien-Black, Elizabeth Kephart, Tina Landis, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Joseph Spetzer, III, Anne Spetzer, Michelle Dillione, Chris Roe, Frank Kuders, Kylee Dougherty, Dave and Ronnie Pryce, Rosemary Brennan, Ellie May McGrath, Vicki Wojdak, Deacon Clem McGovern, Andrea Bateman, Brandon Heacock, Brittany Lott, Nancy Young, Peyton Lott, Billy Lott, Nanci Ehmer, Peggy Peters, Paul McEaney, Ken Rudert, Ed Shell, Virginia Piergiovanni, Ellie McCreight, Ellie Griem, Gregory Varacchi, Michael McKinnen, Connie Carney, Eugene Monaco, Luke Post, Jim Buckley, Jerome Lienhard, Mary Rose Salisbury, Margery Butler, Charlotte Kensicki, Jim Barr, Jerome Lichard, Lisa Winkleblech, Aaron Winkleblech, Patricia Butler



The Ministry of Consolation

A St. Cornelius community response to the needs of people grieving the death of a significant person/persons in their lives, the ministry honors the words and example of the Lord Jesus:

"Blessed are they who mourn; they shall be consoled"

(Matthew 5:4).

A team of three St. Cornelius church members have been trained to set up and facilitate a Support Group for the Consolation Ministry.

On **August 20, 2022**, the Consolation Group will meet at the **Parish Life Center, Fr. Simon Room** from **2:30pm to 3:30pm**.

Contact Joan Holliday for any questions
docholliv@aol.com or call (610) 717-2180.



ARGENTINA

The **Servants of the Lord and the Virgin of Matará** (www.servidoras.org or www.ssvmissions.org), a missionary Institute of religious sisters, are happy to be given the opportunity to speak at **Saint Cornelius church** Chadds Ford, PA for the mission appeal on **13-14 August**. From our beginnings in San Rafael, Argentina in 1988 we have grown to about 1600 sisters missioning in 45 different countries throughout the world. We strive to go where the presence of religious sisters is most needed. Although we are an international community, we have been blessed with over 100 vocations from the United States. This appeal allows us to inform the members of your parish about our mission work in Argentina. As you may imagine, our missions in places like Argentina are in great need of support. The sisters work in several schools, providing education for children and teenagers. They also have three homes for persons with special needs. Since most of the school students and residents in the houses of mercy come from poor families, the sisters also take care of the families by giving them some assistance. As you may know, Argentina is not economically stable at present. We are asking for help for the Novitiate house it is the house with the greatest need.




PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM
(PREP)
Saint Cornelius Parish

You can contact Mrs. Sullivan at stcornprep@scornelius.org or by calling the PREP office (610) 459-7723

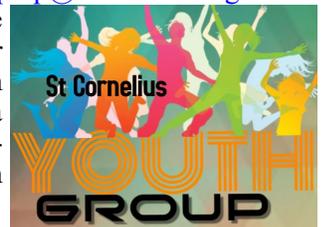
If your family has a child in grades 1-7 in the coming school year or is preparing for sacrament and you have not yet registered for one of our programs, please register or contact Julie Sullivan at stcornprep@scornelius.org.

Our Sunday traditional program runs from September - May on Sundays at 10 am. This program is open to students in grades 1-7

Our Virtual Family program is open to families in grades 1-7 and runs from September through May.

Youth Group:

Thank you for all you did during the first year of our program! I think we have made some wonderful contributions and good friends. If you have suggestions about service or social programs during the summer months, please contact Julie Sullivan at stcornprep@scornelius.org. We will be happy to give you the opportunity to come together before we officially resume in the fall. We hope you have a wonderful summer and will invite a friend to join you again next year!



Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church.



Adoration will return Friday, September 9, after Labor Day.

The church will remain open for quiet reflection during the summer months from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm



masstimes.org
MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL

It can be difficult to find a Catholic Church while traveling and vacationing in unfamiliar locations. WWW.MassTimes.org is a convenient way to locate a church so you can continue to receive Holy Eucharist and celebrate Mass.



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WWW.HeedTheCall.org

CRS NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Too many children in Sierra Leone still die of malaria. But a recent survey found a 50% decrease in malaria amongst children under 5 since 2013. What's the story behind these numbers? In 2019, CRS's \$154 million portfolio of 17 malaria projects reached 86 million people in 12 countries. Our programs focus on the people most vulnerable to malaria-related morbidity and mortality – children under 5 and pregnant women. We address the illness at household, community and facility levels. And we emphasize prevention, community and facility case management, procurement and supply chain management, along with advocacy at national, regional and international levels.



As a multi-sectoral organization, CRS can integrate malaria activities within other programs such as emergency response, food security and livelihoods, and immunization throughout malaria endemic countries. This allows CRS to quickly adapt and maintain its malaria outreach activities during disease outbreaks, such as Ebola and COVID-19. Visit www.crs.org to learn more about how Catholic Relief Services and our partners are working to end malaria in Sierra Leone. Thanks for your support!

The St. Cornelius Literary Society

The next selection for the bookish among us is [A Furnace Full of God](#) by Rebekah Scott.

Rebekah and Patrick, burned-out newspaper journalists from the USA and England, were captured by the generous spirit they found on the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage trail. They sold up their American lives and moved to Spain in 2006, to a town of twenty farmers in the middle of the 500-mile, thousand-year-old pilgrim road. They did their best to catch the ancient rhythms of seedtime, harvest, pig-stickings and saints' days. The year 2010 was a Holy Year, when more than 300,000 pilgrims walked to the shrine city of Santiago de Compostela. Some stayed at Peaceable Kingdom, the farmhouse where the couple offered a night's food and lodging in exchange for whatever the pilgrim wanted to give. They were nuns, bums, Oxford dons, mystics, fugitives, hippies, and lunatics, as well as greyhounds, barn cats, roosters, and donkeys. Most moved on after a day or two, but some came to stay. [A Furnace Full of God](#) is their story.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2022

catholiccharitiesappeal.org

Sunday Mass Intentions (Week of August 15 – August 19)

7:30 AM Michael Murphy
9:00 AM Eva Garzia
11:00 AM Lucretia Fitzpatrick
4:00 PM Mary Nowak

Weekly Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil / Sunday Mass

Intention: *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*
Reading: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Ps 40:2-4, 18; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

Monday 7:30 AM

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Not a Holy Day of Obligation)

Reading: : Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

Tuesday 7:30 AM

St. Stephen of Hungary

Intention: Jean Reagan-Krzywicki
Reading: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36ab; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday 7:30 AM

Intention: Margaret Mary Tamamian
Reading: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday 7:30 AM

Intention: Andrew Polk
Reading: Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Friday 7:30 AM

St. John Eudes

Intention: Inez Valentini
Reading: Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40



PILGRIM STATUE

8 - 14 - 2022 Phyllis Albany
8 - 21 - 2022 Open
8 28 2022 Debbie Brigone

The second half of the year
still has several openings.

Call Carla Santoleri at (610) 361-8447
for more information.



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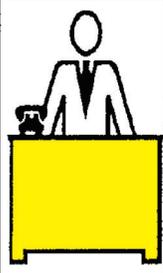
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The Solemnity Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15, 2022

What is the Assumption?

The first name of this solemnity was the Feast of Mary, Mother of God. Later, its name in the East carried over, the Dormition (or Falling Asleep) of Mary. In the West, it became known as the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This solemnity celebrates the fact that Mary's Assumption is "a pledge of the future participation of the members of the mystical Body of Christ in the paschal glory of the Risen Christ." It shows that the Lord "reserves a munificent reward for his humble Servant because of her faithful cooperation with the divine plan, which is a destiny of fullness, happiness, glorification of her immaculate soul, her virginal body, perfect configuration to her Risen Son" (Directory, no. 180). The Mass has a proper vigil, and the solemnity replaces the Mass of the day when it occurs on a Sunday in Ordinary Time.



What does this all mean?

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII declared the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which the Church celebrates every year on August 15. Simply put, the dogma of the Assumption states that at the end of her life, the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken, body and soul, into Heaven.

While this event isn't reflected in Sacred Scripture, it is clearly part of the Church's earliest observance. In the sixth century, St. John Damascene wrote in one of his sermons, "Your sacred and happy soul, as nature will have it, was separated in death from your most blessed and immaculate body, and although the body was duly interred, it did not remain in the state of death, neither was it dissolved by decay; your most pure and sinless body was not left on earth, but you were transferred to your heavenly throne." Theologically speaking, death is often understood to be a consequence of original sin. Since Mary was conceived without Original Sin, some theologians have wondered if Mary died or if perhaps she was taken into Heaven without experiencing death. The Catechism of the Catholic Church doesn't answer this question but simply states, "The most blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven" (no. 974)

The Solemnity of the Assumption reminds us of the unique role that Mary served in the process of our salvation. Although she was without sin, we have the possibility of receiving God's forgiveness for our sins through Christ. Her entry into Heaven prefigures our own hope of experiencing the same eternal life.

Ordinarily, the celebration of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a holy day of obligation for Catholics, but when it falls on a Saturday or a Monday, that obligation to attend Mass is lifted.



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What does this all mean? was written by Fr. Larry Rice, former vocations director for the Paulist Fathers. Copyright © 2018, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington DC. All rights reserved.