

**AUGUST 15, 2021**

# **Saint John *the* Baptist** **CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**502 NORTH MONROE  
CLINTON, ILLINOIS 61727**

### **Pastor**

**Rev. James P. Henning, O.F.M. Conv.**

### **Deacons**

**Patrick Comfort  
Scott Whitehouse**

### **Parish Office**

Phone ..... 217-935-3727  
Emergency Cell ..... 309-838-3661  
E-Mail ..... stjohsncinton@yahoo.com  
Bulletin ..... stjohsbulletin@yahoo.com  
(Bulletin Items Due By Monday 9:00am)  
Website..... clintonstjohns.org

### **Parish Staff**

Religious Education ....Sue Neuschwanger  
Parish Secretary.....Debbie Askins  
Bulletin Secretary ..... Kathie Summers  
Parish Trustees .....Francis Jackson  
Becky Wisher  
PPC President .....Bill Spencer

### **Parish Office Hours**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

### **Outreach Ministry Hours**

Monday and Wednesday  
9:30 am to 2:30 pm

### **Confessions**

Saturday 3:30 pm or by appointment.

### **Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday 4:00 pm  
Sunday 8:30 am

### **Weekday Mass Schedule**

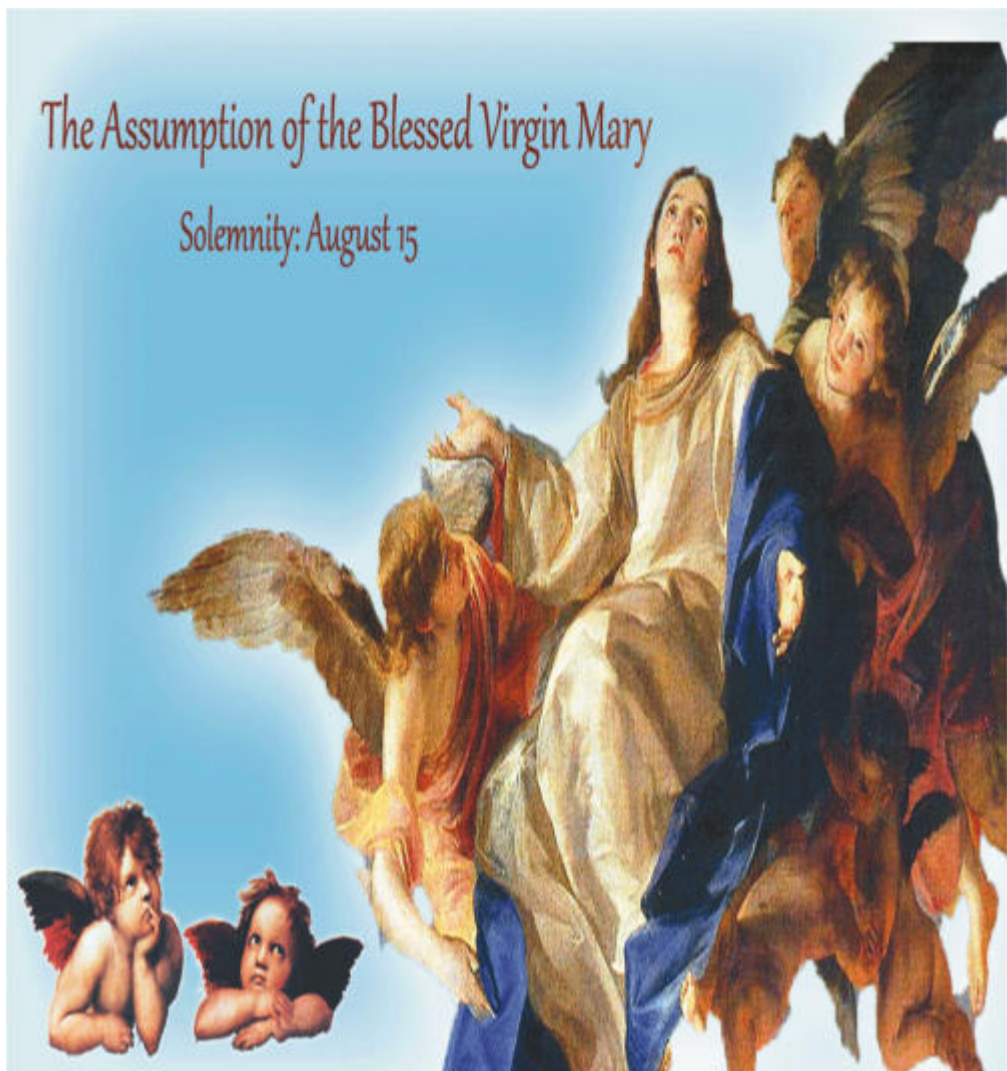
Monday 8:00 am  
Wednesday 8:00 am

### **Baptism**

Parents must be registered members and attend a class prior to scheduling the Baptism. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

### **Marriage**

Couples planning a marriage need to have a personal interview with the Pastor at least six months prior to the date of the wedding.



*A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.*

# PLP MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, August 16th**

**8:00 am The People of St. John the Baptist and Sacred Heart Parishes and Their Benefactors**

*Tuesday, August 17th*

*8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC*

**Wednesday, August 18th**

**8:00 am + Allen Cooper**

*Thursday, August 19th*

*8:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC*

**Saturday, August 21st, 21st Sunday in Ord. Time**

**4:00 pm + Rosie Osorio**

**Sunday, August 22nd, 21st Sunday in Ord. Time**

**8:30 am + Melissa Nagy**

*10:30 am Mass at Sacred Heart FC*

**Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes**

Sue Thompson

**Prayers for the Sick**

Kay Bailey, Connie Brown, Evan Calvert, Susan Cooper, Phyllis Fehr, Roy Harrold, Bev Hartsock, Howard Hartsock, Mary Hirsch, Linda Kilgarrieff, Patty Lecomte, Steve Lighthall, Mike Mannix, Tina Mannix, Jon Menter, Joni Mollet, Fran Runyen, Bill Sargent, Angie Walden, Cale Wayne, Rita Williams, Brett Willits, Florence Workman, Charles M. Yeagle.

Collection Counters this week are

**Mike Rakers and Pat Sartie.**

Thank you for serving in this way.



**Saturday, August 7th 4:00pm  
and  
Sunday, August 8th 8:30am**

Sunday Envelopes.....\$2,297.00  
Loose .....\$214.00  
Total Collection.....\$2,511.00

Building Maintenance Collection \$851.23

**Reminder...The Annual Picnic/Mass** is scheduled for Sunday, August 29th at Weldon Springs. This is a combined event with St. John's Clinton and Sacred Heart Farmer City. We will gather at Weldon Springs near the sledding hill for Mass at 11:00am followed by the picnic. Sign Up sheets are now available on the table in back of Church. Please sign up so we know how many plan to attend.



Eric Millburg has volunteered to transport the items needed for the Mass and picnic but he needs help. If you are able to help with loading and unloading, please contact Eric or Deacon Patrick and let them know.

Remember ... We need YOU to make this event a success!



**Mary Ellen Junkert  
July 5, 1936 - August 2, 2021**

We pray for the repose of the soul of parishioner, **Mary Junkert**, buried from our parish this past week. Her husband, Owen, died in 2015. Both Mary and Owen were active members of St. John's parish for many, many years.

Please keep the Junkert family in your prayers during this difficult time.

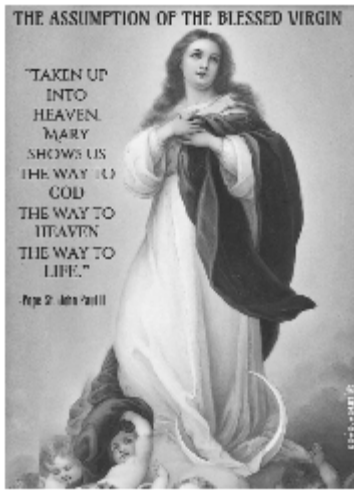
*May she rest in God's loving peace.*

**CATHOLIC OLYMPIANS**

**Molly Seidel**, Olympic medalist runner, had a little help from St. Jude when she stunned the world to win bronze at the Tokyo Olympics in just the third marathon of her career. Molly says she had a little help from above to get her through the race. She told TODAY that one of her mom's favorite prayers gave her the boost she needed to persevere. Seidel's mom had texted her the prayer from St. Jude, who just so happens to be the saint of the impossible, and the athlete found it comforting to recite during the homestretch of the race. "My mom went to the sister school of Notre Dame, where I went to university, and she found it in the grotto at ND when she was in school," Seidel told Savannah Guthrie and Craig Melvin on TODAY Tuesday. "She prays it all of the time, really in times of difficulty or in times of need."

**Katie Ledecy**, won Olympic gold in swimming. Katie said in an interview "I do say a prayer -- or two -- before any race. The Hail Mary is a beautiful prayer and I find that it calms me." Ledecy discussed how her faith is a source of strength and how the communities at home have supported her along the road to her second Olympics. She attended Little Flower School through eighth grade and Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart for high school. "I received an excellent, faith-filled education at both schools. Having the opportunity to attend ... these schools was important to my swimming -- my Catholic schools challenged me, they broadened my perspective and they allowed me to use my mind in ways that take me beyond just thinking about swim practices, swim meets and sports."





The Assumption is the doctrine that says that at the end of her life on earth Mary was assumed, body and soul, into heaven, just as Enoch, Elijah, and perhaps others had been before her. Some people think Catholics believe Mary “ascended” into heaven. That’s not correct. Christ, by his own power, ascended into heaven. Mary was assumed or taken up into heaven by God. She didn’t do it under her own power.

There is also what might be called the negative historical proof for Mary’s Assumption. It is easy to document that, from the first, Christians gave homage to saints, including many about whom we now know little or nothing. Cities vied for the title of the last resting place of the most famous saints. Rome, for example, houses the tombs of Peter and Paul, Peter’s tomb being under the high altar of St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome. In the early Christian centuries relics of saints were zealously guarded and highly prized. The bones of those martyred in the Coliseum, for instance, were quickly gathered up and preserved.

It is agreed upon that Mary ended her life in Jerusalem, or perhaps in Ephesus. However, neither of those cities nor any other claimed her remains, though there are claims about possessing her (temporary) tomb. And why did no city claim the bones of Mary? Apparently because there weren’t any bones to claim, and people knew it. Here was Mary, certainly the most privileged of all the saints, but we have no record of her bodily remains being venerated anywhere.

The dogma is especially fitting when one examines the honor that was given to the ark of the covenant. It contained the manna (bread from heaven), stone tablets of the ten commandments (the word of God), and the staff of Aaron (a symbol of Israel’s high priesthood). Because of its contents, it was made of incorruptible wood, and Psalm 132:8 said, “Arise, O Lord, and go to thy resting place, thou and the ark of thy might.” If this vessel was given such honor, how much more should Mary be kept from corruption, since she is the new ark—who carried the real bread from heaven, the Word of God, and the high priest of the New Covenant, Jesus Christ.

Since the Immaculate Conception and Assumption are not explicit in Scripture, Protestant critics conclude that the doctrines are false. Here, of course, we get into an entirely separate matter, the question of *sola scriptura*, or the Protestant “Bible only” theory. There is no room in this tract to consider that idea. Let it just be said that there is no problem with the Church defining a doctrine that is not explicitly in Scripture, so long as it does not contradict Scripture. The Catholic Church was commissioned by Christ to teach all nations infallibly until the end of the world (John 14:26, 16:13). The mere fact that the Church teaches that something is definitely true is a guarantee that it is true.

## Did MARY EXPERIENCE PHYSICAL DEATH?

The title and the idea of “the sleep of Mary” is more formally known as “the Dormition of Mary.” (Dormition comes from the Latin *dormire*, meaning “to sleep.”) The title “Dormition” can be misleading because it seems to focus more on the death and burial of Mary. The belief surrounding the dormition is intrinsically linked with the assumption of our Blessed Mother, body and soul, into Heaven.

**The event of the Assumption is not recorded in Sacred Scripture.** For this reason, many fundamentalists who literally interpret the Bible have a difficulty with this belief. Nevertheless, a reflection on the role of our Blessed Mother in the mystery of salvation provides the foundation for the belief in the Assumption. We firmly believe that from the first moment of her conception, Mary was free of all sin including original sin by a special favor of Almighty God. The Archangel Gabriel recognized her as “full of grace.” Mary had been chosen to be the mother of our Savior. By the power of the Holy Spirit, she conceived our Lord, Jesus.

We believe that the promises our Lord has given to each of us of sharing eternal life, including a resurrection of the body, **were fulfilled in Mary.** Since Mary was free of original sin and its effects (one of which is corruption of the body at death), since she shared intimately in the life of the Lord and in His passion, death and resurrection, and since she was present at Pentecost, this model disciple appropriately shared in the bodily resurrection and glorification of the Lord at the end of her life. We believe that the promises our Lord has given to each of us of sharing eternal life, including a resurrection of the body, were fulfilled in Mary.

Pope Pius XII solemnly defined in “*Munificentissimus Deus*” on Nov. 1, 1950, that “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.” Note that the solemn definition does not specify whether Mary physically died before being assumed or just was assumed; it simply states, “Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life....”

So did Mary die first before being assumed? Did she fall “asleep”? Was she buried? The Church does not bind us to a particular answer because the tradition is not clear. We must remember that the Patristic Fathers defended the Assumption on two counts: Since Mary was sinless and a perpetual virgin, she could not suffer bodily deterioration, the result of original sin, after her death. Also, if Mary bore Christ and played an intimate role as His mother in the redemption of man, then she must likewise share body and soul in His resurrection and glorification.



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