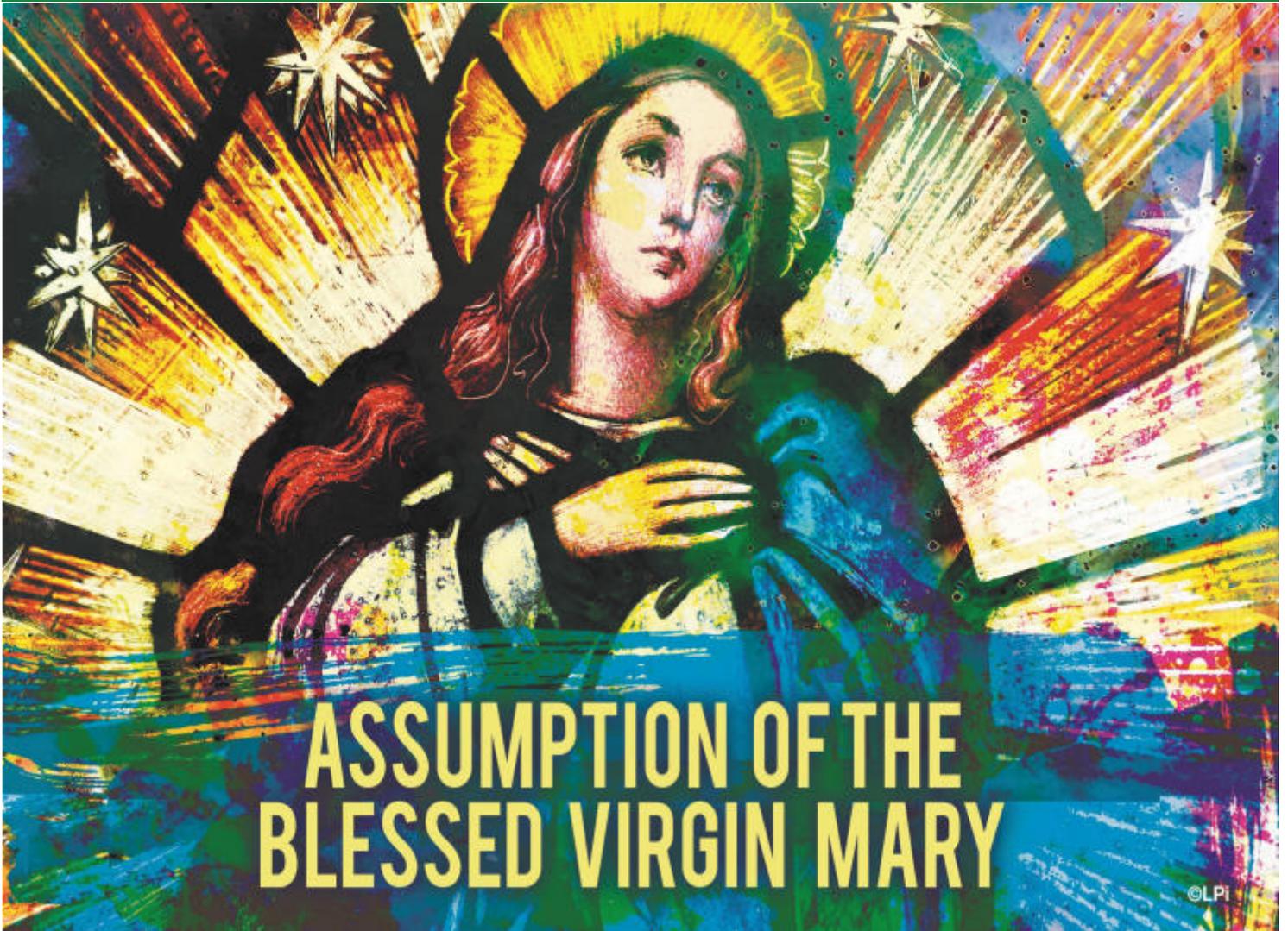




Saint Denis Parish

157 Washington Street, Westwood, MA 02090



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

August 15, 2021

Robert Blaney & Paul Soper

Co-Pasters

William L. Sebet

Coordinator of Liturgical Ministries

Matthew J. Brady

Director of Faith Formation, 781-326-2335

John DeAngelis

Executive Producer of Video Production

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Evening - 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
(10:30am Mass live streamed)

Daily Mass:

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday - 9:00 AM

Baptisms: 1:00 PM Sunday as needed

Parish Office: 781-326-5858

Faith Formation: 781-326-2335

Fax: 781-326-1232

www.stdeniswestwood.com



Saturday 14
4:30 PM MASS

Sunday 15
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8:00 AM MASS —
Pro Populo
10:30 AM MASS

Monday 16
9:00 AM MASS

Tuesday 17
9:00 AM MASS

Wednesday 18
9:00 AM MASS —
Ken Ford

Thursday 19

Friday 20

Saturday 21
4:30 PM MASS —
Teresa & George Byrnes
(Memorial Mass)

Sunday 22
21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
8:00 AM MASS —
Pro Populo
10:30 AM MASS



From the Desk of Father Bob

THE ASSUMPTION

Today is the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. It is one of the most important days in the liturgical calendar of the Church and important mysteries of the Catholic faith. The solemnity commemorates the ancient Tradition that Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ, at the end of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into Heaven. This is celebrated each year on August 15. As such it only falls on a Sunday every so many years.

The Assumption of Mary is not found in Sacred Scripture, but rather is part of the Sacred Tradition of the Church. Our Catholic theology professes that God reveals Himself to humanity through Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. Sacred Scripture is the Word of God that is written by human authors guided by the Holy Spirit. Sacred Tradition is the Word of God that is orally transmitted through the generations and also is guided by the Holy Spirit. The mystery of the Assumption was held by the early Christians and passed down through the generations. If you think of it, the Gospels themselves began in oral form. They were not written until some thirty to fifty years after the Ascension of our Lord. What was happening in those intervening years? The stories of Jesus were told over and over until the Evangelists were inspired to write them down.

Although not recorded in Sacred Scripture, the Assumption of Mary is rooted in Sacred Scripture. Mary had a unique vocation to bear the Incarnate Word of God. The First Book of Kings tells the story of King Solomon bringing the Ark of the Covenant into the Temple. The Ark contained the tablets on which was written the 10 Commandments, and considered to bear the presence of God. Likewise, Mary is the New Ark of the Covenant bearing the presence of God by carrying the yet unborn Christ. The Mystery of the Assumption professes that Mary, as the New Ark was brought to Heaven to dwell where Christ is.

Though held as a truth of the faith from the earliest years, the dogma of the Assumption of Mary was not declared until 1950. In his apostolic letter **Munificentissimus Deus** Pope Pius XII stated:

Now God has willed that the Blessed Virgin Mary should be exempted from this general rule [death]. She, by an entirely unique privilege, completely overcame sin by her Immaculate Conception, and as a result she was not subject to the law of remaining in the corruption of the grave, and she did not have to wait until the end of time for the redemption of her body.

The **Catechism of the Catholic Church** states:

Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, so that she might be more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a singular participation in her Son's Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians: In giving birth you kept your virginity; in your Dormition you did not leave the world, O Mother of God, but were joined to the source of Life. You conceived the living God and, by your prayers, will deliver our souls from death.

COLLECTIONS

August 7/8 - \$2,633

Online August 7/8 - \$1,130

LECTOR SCHEDULEAugust 14/15, 2021

Saturday, August 7 | 4:30 PM James O'Sullivan

Sunday, August 8 | 8:00 AM Rob Scafati

Sunday, August 8 | 10:30 AM Patrick Gallagher

Adoration

As usual, there will be Adoration on Wednesday, August 18 from 3-8 PM with the opportunity for Reconciliation from 7-8 PM at Saint Margaret Mary. There is also an extraordinary opportunity for Adoration and Reconciliation at Saint Denis next Thursday, August 19 from 7-8 PM. All are welcome.

**Registration for Faith Formation 2021-2022**

Registration for the 2021-2022 year is now open. We are happy to announce that we are returning to in-person classes in the parish hall. Classes will meet biweekly on Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays. The session options are listed on the form and are subject to change based on teacher availability.

The Registration form can be found on the Faith Formation page of the parish website. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Brady at stdenisfaithformation@gmail.com.

LINK FOR LIVE STREAM MASS

You may go to the following link to watch the Sunday, 10:30 AM Mass:

GOSPEL MEDITATION**ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

They are courageous, wise women who ground us, focus us, and inspire us. They are the good mothers who walk with us and light our way. They teach us life lessons and help us heal and navigate through challenges and difficulties. We need people to point the way. Sometimes, these wise ladies are not our biological mothers but women in our lives, who through their strong and faithful presence, anchor us and remind us that we are loved. We need these women. Human beings do their best when they have cheerleaders in their lives. They show us that even when facing despair there is always a brighter tomorrow.

Jesus needed his mother. She had to be that faithful anchor, that guiding presence, in his life. Jesus needed to be affirmed and encouraged just like any other human being and Mary had to be there, right by his side, doing precisely that. Even when her heart was pierced as he was nailed to a tree, she did not give up hope. Most certainly, she continued to wait, watch, hope, and love until he took his final breath. That's what mothers do. Even when their heart breaks, they persevere.

Today, our Blessed Mother is our cheerleader once again. Taken up to heaven in body and soul, she points to and directs us toward our final destiny. Life eternal waits! Any disappointment, fear, or anxiety can be set aside as she gently reassures us of God's love and promise. Always a mother filled with grace and hope, she calls us to reaffirm our faith in God and in the gifts we have each been given. We can persevere and do what we need to do to live life well, with faith, hope, and love as our guiding lights. Knowing who we are and who we will one day become helps us to better chart the course and direction of our earthly lives. Looking to the example of our Blessed Mother, we receive the assurance we need.



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