

St. John the Apostle Catholic Church

ASSUMPTION

OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

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August 15, 2021 ~ Solemnity of the
Assumption of Mary

THE MOST BOUNTIFUL GOD

Munificentissimus Deus

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

Happy Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast of our Blessed Mother's Assumption teaches us that heaven is no longer a very remote sphere that is unknown to us. We have a Mother in Heaven who intercedes before our Heavenly Father for all her sons and daughters to reach the realm where she dwells.

I share with you this reflection from the Office of the Readings taken from the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus* (the most bountiful God) on the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary by Pope Pius XII. (AAS 42 [1950], 760-762, 767-769)

"In their homilies and sermons on this feast, the holy fathers and the great doctors spoke of the assumption of the Mother of God as something already familiar and accepted by the faithful. They gave it greater clarity in their preaching and used more profound arguments in setting out its nature and meaning. Above all, they brought out more clearly the fact that what is

commemorated in this feast is not simply the total absence of corruption from the dead body of the Blessed Virgin Mary, but also her triumph over death and her glorification in heaven, after the pattern set by her only Son, Jesus Christ.



Thus, Saint John Damascene, preeminent as the great preacher of this truth of tradition, speaks with powerful eloquence when he relates the bodily assumption of the loving Mother of God to her other gifts and privileges: "It was necessary that she who preserved her virginity inviolate in childbirth should also have her body kept free from corruption after death. It was necessary that she who carried the Creator as a child on her breast should dwell in the tabernacles of God. It was necessary that the bride espoused by the Father should make her home in the bridal chambers of heaven. It was necessary that she, who had gazed

on her crucified Son and been pierced in the heart by the sword of sorrow which she had escaped in giving him birth, should contemplate him seated with the Father. It was necessary that the Mother of God should share the possessions of her Son, and be venerated by every creature as the Mother and handmaid of God." *(continued on page 2)*

If you have any questions about our parish or would like to join, please contact our parish office

417 Washington St. Oregon City, OR † 503-742-8200 † www.sja-catholicchurch.com

Confessions: Sat. 3:30pm | **Daily Mass Time:** Tuesday - Friday 8:00am

Sunday Mass Times: Sat. 5:00pm | Sun. 8:30am, 10:30am, 1:30pm (Spanish)

For Prayer Requests: email sjachurch.prayerchain@gmail.com

Pastor's Weekly Reflection – continued

Saint Germanus of Constantinople considered that it was in keeping not only with her divine motherhood but also with the unique sanctity of her virginal birth that it was incorrupt and carried up to heaven: “In the words of Scripture, you appear in beauty.

Your virginal body is entirely holy, entirely chaste, entirely the house of God, so that for this reason also it is henceforth a stranger to decay: a body changed, because a human body, to a preeminent life of incorruptibility, but still a living body, a body inviolate and sharing in the perfection of life.”

Another early author declares: “Therefore, as the most glorious Mother of Christ, our God and Savior, the giver of life and immortality, she is enlivened by him to share an eternal incorruptibility of body with him who raised her from the tomb and took her to himself in a way he alone can tell.”

All these reasonings and considerations of the holy Fathers rest on Scripture as their ultimate foundation. Scripture portrays the loving Mother of God, almost before our very eyes as most intimately united with her divine Son and always sharing in his destiny. Above all, it must be noted that from the second century the holy Fathers present the Virgin Mary as the new Eve, most closely associated with the new Adam, though subject to him in the struggle against the enemy from the nether world. This struggle, as the first promise of a redeemer implies, was to end in perfect victory over sin and death, always linked together in the writings of the Apostle of the Gentiles.

Therefore, just as the glorious resurrection of Christ was an essential part of this victory and its final trophy, so the

struggle shared by the Blessed Virgin and her Son was to end in the glorification of her virginal body. As the same Apostle says: “When this mortal body has clothed itself in immortality, then will be fulfilled the word of Scripture:

Death is swallowed up in victory.” Hence the august Mother of God, mysteriously united from all eternity with Jesus Christ in one and the same decree of predestination, immaculate in her conception, a virgin inviolate in her divine motherhood, the wholehearted companion of the divine Redeemer who won complete victory over sin and its consequences, gained, at last the supreme crown of her



privileges – to be preserved immune from the corruption of the tomb, and, like her Son, when death had been conquered, to be carried up body and soul to the exalted glory of heaven, there to sit in splendor at the right hand of her Son, the immortal King of the ages.”

Friends, 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 the more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death.” The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a singular participation in her Son’s Resurrection and an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians...(CCC 966).

Many blessings,

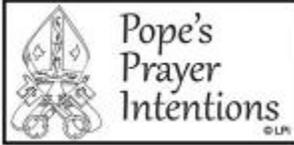
Rev. Maxy D’Costa, Pastor

Foundational Certificate in Theology and Pastoral Ministry

Are you one of the many lay men and women working and volunteering in parish ministry? Are you discerning a call to lay ecclesial ministry? Consider joining the Foundational Certificate in Theology and Pastoral Ministry offered through the Archdiocesan Institute for Catholic Life and Leadership. Classes in English and Spanish begin at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Salem this fall and registration is

now open. Deadline is August 28th. Study the fundamentals of the faith, immerse yourself in the beauty of the Catholic tradition, grow in friendship with the saints - and much more! Visit evangelization.archdpx.org or call 503-233-8315 to learn more. And as Pope St. John Paul II said: “Discovering Christ, always again and always more fully, is the most wonderful adventure of our life.” So come and join the adventure by exploring the Foundational Certificate in Theology and Pastoral Ministry!

PRAY



AUGUST Intention for evangelization - The Church

Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Parish-wide Bible Challenge

This week, Mark 8:31-38. Do you need a Bible? Contact the Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

All are invited to the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays at 8:30am to 4:00pm, and Second Mondays 8:30am to 8:00pm. Please come spend some time in prayer and reflection with your family before the Blessed Sacrament.



Church Open During The Week For Prayer

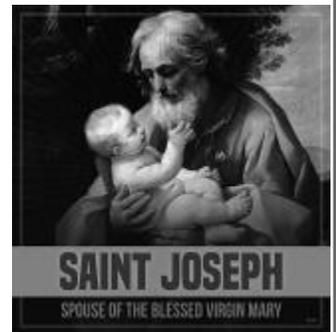
The church will be open Monday - Friday after 8:00am Mass to 4:00pm (Saturday - 8:00am - 3:00pm) for personal prayer and reflection. Bring your family and come spend some time with Jesus. Please enter through the side door of the church.

Prayer to St. Joseph:

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power.



Are you looking for a way to grow in your faith and get back into the life of SJA, meeting other Catholics? This is it! How do we live our faith in today's society? How do we handle our call to discipleship or the existence of suffering in our lives? Journey with others as we grow in our understanding of Mark's Gospel and God's call in our lives. Grow in your sense of family here at St. John's!

Our next Bible study: "Mark: Faith Not Fear" begins Wednesday, Sept. 8, Thursday, Sept. 9, or Sunday, Sept. 12.

In-person and Zoom groups are available! Registration will be after all Masses, Aug. 14/15 and 21/22.

Cost is \$10 with scholarships available. For more info, contact Kathy – 503-349-4181.

Parish & School Staff

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School Principal: Mary Haluska

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School Secretary:

503-742-8232 |

SJA Cemetery: Gary Avery

503-655-7148

Calendar and Mass Intentions

Sat, Aug 14

3:30-4:30pm Confessions

5:00pm Mass - Bob Wey †

Sun, Aug 15 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30am Mass - All Parishioners

10:30am Mass - Urbana Ross †

1:30pm Mass (Spanish) - Ed Reyes INT

3:00pm Welcome Cafe Sack Lunch, SVDP

Mon, Aug 16

Tues, Aug 17

8:00am Mass - Brothers & Sisters of Chuck Fuller INT

Wed, Aug 18

8:00am Mass - Sue Ann Jones †

12:00pm Choir Rehearsal for 8:30am Mass

7:00pm Middle School Ministry, Rm 202

7:00pm Spanish Choir Rehearsal, YR

Thurs, Aug 19

8:00am Mass - Holy Souls in Purgatory

7:00pm Choir Practice for the 10:30am Mass

Fri, Aug 20

8:00am Mass - Bob Knox INT

8:45am-4:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sat, Aug 21

3:30-4:30pm Confessions

5:00pm Mass - Tom Hegenbart †

Sun, Aug 22 Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am Mass - All Parishioners

10:30am Mass - Ed Serres †

12:00pm CDA Living Rosary, School Playground

1:30pm Mass (Spanish)

3:00pm Welcome Cafe Sack Lunch, SVDP

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

Thank you for all who continue to support our food bank! This week's need is canned chili.



Sacraments and Services

About Baptism Formation: To begin the process, contact Ryan Mainard, Pastoral Associate: Phone 503-742-8228
Email: r.mainard@sja-catholicchurch.com.

Marriage: Couples that plan to get married, please contact our Parish Priest for Marriage Formation Classes 9 months prior to the desired wedding date. (pastor@sja-catholicchurch.com)

Funeral Mass / Service: Please first contact Rev. Maxy D'Costa at 503-742-8200 to plan a funeral service at St. John the Apostle for your loved one at your earliest convenience. If you would like your loved one buried in the St. John the Apostle cemetery, please contact Gary Avery at 503-655-7148 to make those arrangements

Family Member that has moved to assisted living/care facility/hospice: If you have a family member that has moved to a care facility, please inform the parish office so we can arrange for pastoral care and we will note the address in our records.

Assisted Hearing System: We have an assisted listening system to help facilitate better hearing for all of our members. Contact the office.

FORMED! Connect Now

Online Faith Formation Content.

Visit sja-catholicchurch.formed.org to register.

Bulletin Announcements

Bulletin Announcements due on the Friday, nine days before the Bulletin publication date. bulletin@sja-catholicchurch.com



This week's featured advertiser is:

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Weekly Offertory

Week of July 18th	\$ 11,943.67
Week of July 25th	\$ 14,913.17
Week of August 1st	\$ 6,849.90
Week of August 8th	\$ 10,475.89
YTD Budgeted	\$ 65,160.53
YTD Received	\$ 66,785.29
Difference	\$ 1,624.76

Baptism



Baptism of Stella Maris Holmes, with parents Josh and Maria Holmes, Godparents Ryan and Jocelyn Mainard, Fr. Maxy and Fr. Dean Marshall

BAPTISM

~as defined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Holy Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. Through Baptism we are freed from sin and reborn as sons of God; we become members of Christ, are incorporated into the Church and made sharers in her mission: "Baptism is the sacrament of regeneration through water in the word."

Catholic Daughters invites all parishioners to join us for a Living Rosary praying for Rite to Life. It will be held in the SJA school yard on Sunday, August 22nd at Noon. We invite anyone interested in participating in saying any of the



prayers within the rosary, to arrive 10 minutes early for your assigned prayer. Please call/text Gail with any questions at 503-869-0027 or email gail0027@hotmail.com. We hope to see you there!

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