



ST. MARY
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
STAR CITY

3346 University Ave. Morgantown, WV 26505 • 304-599-3747

August 15, 2021 • Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass Times: Saturday, 6:00pm, Sunday, 8:30am, 11:00am, en español a la 1:00pm

Daily Mass*: Mon. 6:30pm, Tue.-Thur. 9:00am *please see schedule inside for any changes or cancellations.

Radio broadcast at 8:30am on 1300AM WCLG & 92.1FM, and TuneIn channel Morgan 92.1



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

“From this day all generations will call me blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his Name.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.” - Lk 1:48b-49, 52



www.stmarystarcity.com



Saint Mary Roman Catholic Church, Star City—JOIN us

St. Mary Parish

Pastor

John P. McDonough
papajohnwv@msn.com

Rectory

304-225-0506

Parish Office

Address:

3346 University Ave
Morgantown, WV 26505

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:30am-4:30pm
Closed Holy Days
& some Public Holidays

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St. Ursula Food Pantry & Outreach

Sr. Rachel Blais, S.C.

Phone

304-599-3822

Email

stursulafoodpantryoutreach@comcast.net

St. Francis de Sales Central School

304-291-5070

Prayer Requests

Barbara Fedikovich 304-599-3910
Rena Cyphert 304-599-6642



Are you registered in the Parish?

Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and to make a commitment to the life of the parish family.

Clearly stating your Catholic commitment in all its dimensions brings many advantages, recognition, and responsibility.

At St. Mary Roman Catholic Church, our policy, is that you must be registered and participating in Sunday Mass regularly before a baptism can take place, or for the initial meeting with the pastor in the case

of marriage.

Regular attendance is also required for adults who are asked to be a godparent or sponsor at another parish, in order that a letter can be sent stating that they are a practicing Catholic and a registered member of a parish faith community.

Even though you may have attended Mass here for months, or even years, we would like for you to be registered.

Please pick up a registration form at the church or parish office, or register online at stmarystarcity.com
For more information, call the parish office at 304-599-3747.

Sacraments

Baptism: (Birth – Age 7) Parents are required to participate in a preparation program before the celebration of Baptism. Parents must be registered and attending Sunday Mass regularly. Please contact the parish office for information.

Reconciliation: 30 minutes prior to each daily Mass

Order of Christian Initiation: Children 7-14 years of age, and Children 15 years of age and older & Adults— *The Order of Christian Initiation*, RCIA please contact Please contact the parish office for information

Marriage: Engaged couples planning to marry at St. Mary Church should be practicing Catholics, participating in Sunday Eucharist regularly. Also, they must participate in a Marriage Preparation Program. Call the Parish Office for information. At least **six months notice** is required. *No date for a wedding will be set over the phone.*

Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound: When a parishioner is confined to home or hospital because of illness or advanced age, call the Parish Office. We will be happy to make arrangements to bring Holy Communion.

Anointing of the Sick: Upon request and communally as scheduled

Bulletin Deadline:

Tuesday@Noon, email or written copy please,
no bulletin announcements will be taken over the phone

Email: stmaryschurch@comcast.net

Subject line: attn: Bulletin, and include topic of announcement

Celebrating the Human Body

August 15

The Solemnity of the Assumption is the oldest and greatest feast of Mary. Orthodox Christians call August 15 the Dormition (“falling asleep”) of Mary. “She who sheltered the Divine Word in her breast was to be lodged in the dwelling place of her Son,” says Saint John Damascene, describing his belief that after Mary’s death, her body was raised to live with God forever. That Mary’s body—not just her soul—is in God’s presence is a sign of the holiness of creation. The human body is not evil—it is good. Death is not the end of creation—it is the beginning of eternal life. In our day, when violence can desecrate the human body, the sign of Mary’s assumption gains new import.

The New Testament reading for this feast calls Jesus the firstfruits of those who have died, to be followed by the harvest of all who hope in him. As Mary, the model believer and sign of the church, is gathered in, we hope that we too will one day be part of this harvest. We surround Mary’s statue at church and at home with brilliant clusters of flowers, herbs and fruits—the first harvest of our gardens.



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Giving Summary

Last Sunday’s Offering was not available at the time of printing. Please see future publications for this information.

For ease of accounting, **separate checks are preferred** for all donations to different collections and purposes, including special collections, Mass intentions, memorials, and donations to different funds e.g. Trust Fund for the Poor, Debt Reduction, etc. Thank you for your help!

Offertory Envelope Usage

Even if you do not make a weekly donation, if you place your empty, sealed offertory envelope in the collection, this can be used to track your attendance at Mass. If you are asked to be a sponsor for confirmation or baptism, and you are not active in a ministry, this can be used to confirm that you attend Mass regularly.

If you have signed up for online giving and are still getting offertory envelopes in the mail, please notify the Parish Office so that we can discontinue them. You will retain your envelope number for record keeping.

 **DONATE TODAY**

GIVE ONLINE!

by clicking on the image on our website
www.stmarystarcity.com.

THIS WEEK'S CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

August 15, The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday, 6:00pm For the People
 Sunday, 8:30am Rose & Glenn McBee
 Sunday, 11:00am Tom Fedikovich
 Domingo, 1pm Por la comunidad de la Parroquia

Monday 8/16 6:30pm	St. Stephen of Hungary Mary Bisset
Tuesday 8/17 9:00am	Weekday in Ordinary Time Anthony & Donna Fata
Wednesday 8/18 9:00am	Weekday in Ordinary Time Michael Dougan
Thursday 8/19 9:00am	St. John Eudes Marie Swanson

In the event of Closing of school due to inclement weather, there will be no Daily Mass or Prayer Service.

In the event of a funeral, morning Mass will be cancelled

August 22, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, 6:00pm Glynna Higgins
 Sunday, 8:30am For the People
 Sunday, 11:00am Kathryn A. Folio
 Domingo, 1pm Por la comunidad de la Parroquia



Mass intentions are still being accepted for 2021. We have weekday and weekend Masses still to

fill. The suggested donation is \$20 for a weekend, \$10 for a weekday. Please call the Parish Office if interested, 304-599-3747. Please note that any Masses cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances such as a global pandemic, inclement weather, or a funeral, will be moved to the next available 'like' date and time e.g., Daily Mass on Tuesday moved to another Tuesday, 8:30 Sunday Mass moved to another 8:30, as available.

Al-Anon (for those affected by someone else's drinking) meets every Thursday at noon at St. Mary Church. Information: call 1-888-425-2666 or WSO@al-anon.org

NA Meetings St. Mary Church, Star City
 Tuesdays-6:30pm, Sundays-1pm
To find other meetings near you, visit
<https://www.na.org/meetingsearch/>



Memorial Donations for Bread and the Tabernacle candle are **being accepted for the year 2021.** The requested donation is \$40. Please call the Parish Office if you are interested, 304-599-3747.

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY

Sunday, August 15 Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Coffee and Doughnut Fellowship after Masses
 1:00pm NA Meeting

Monday, August 16

7:00pm Volunteer Catechists Meeting
 (All Ages—Library Lounge)
 7:00-9:00pm Boy Scouts—Pavilion

Tuesday, August 17

6:30pm NA Meeting—Peace Hall

Wednesday, August 18

7:00pm Catholic Homeschoolers Bible Study

Thursday, August 19

12:00pm Al-Anon
 5:30pm Spanish Mass Music Rehearsal—L/L

Saturday, August 21

10am-12:30pm 5 Year Planning Cmte Mtg—P/H
 5:00-5:40pm Reconciliation

Sunday, August 22

1:00pm NA Meeting



Ministry Meetings!

If you have signed up for a ministry, or you are just interested, please attend the appropriate meeting. All are welcome!

Volunteer Catechists (All age levels)
 Monday, August 16 7pm—L/L

Building & Grounds Committee
 Monday, August 23, 7:00pm—L/L

FELLOWSHIP
 SUNDAY



Following 8:30 and 11 am Masses this Sunday, August 15, we will have a coffee and doughnut fellowship in the

Narthex. Everyone is welcome to stay after Mass to greet old friends and meet new ones.

If you, or any parishioner you know, are sick or homebound and would like a visit from Fr. John, please contact the Parish Office 304-599-3747



St. Ursula Food Pantry needs:

- *Toilet Paper
- *Liquid Laundry Detergent (please no pods or powder)

Baby & Toddler Program needs:

- *Baby Wash & Shampoo

St. Ursula Food Pantry and Outreach needs an iPhone 8 or greater (new or used)



If you would like to donate a phone, or contribute to the cost, please contact St. Ursula, 304-599-3822.

Donations for St. Ursula

Food Pantry and Outreach may be placed in the labeled bins in the church, or dropped off in the baskets in the CFC entry.



Catholic Charities West Virginia

Catholic Charities

WV is looking for dual Spanish/English speakers who could volunteer to help with

occasional translation for our Spanish-only speaking clients. We expect that most of the volunteer work would be remote – via conference call and would only rarely involve coming to our office. If you are interested, please contact Renee Corbett (Refugee Outreach Worker), email rcorbett@ccwva.org, cell 304-650-7320.

Job Openings at St. Francis de Sales Central Catholic School

We are currently seeking qualified applicants for the **Middle School Religion Teacher** and **Custodian/Janitor** positions at SFdSCCS. Both are full-time positions. If you are interested in applying, please visit our school website at stfrancismorgantown.com, click on the "About" tab, then select "Employment" to learn more about the positions. All interested applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and 3 letters of reference to Principal Moore at amoore@sfccs.org or mail/deliver to his attention at St. Francis de Sales Central Catholic School, 41 Guthrie Lane, Morgantown, WV 26508. Call or email if you have questions or need additional information.

R.C.I.A./R.C.I.C.

Are you someone, or do you know someone who...

- *Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- *Has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- *Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith and prepare to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season.

You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting.

For information please contact:

Cynthia Friesen: 304-225-1163

StMaryStarCityFaithFormation@gmail.com

Or sign up on the sheet in the Narthex

Classes will begin in the fall

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

30 minutes prior to each Daily Mass
Saturdays from 5-5:40pm as scheduled
(Mon: 6:00pm, Tue.-Thur: 8:30am)

*times may change based on any changes to the weekly Mass schedule



We have Hearing Assistance Devices available for use during Mass. If you would like one, please ask an Usher.

Support Local Business.

Shop our Bulletin Advertisers Today!



Attention all former TECites in St. Mary Parish!

The Diocese is re-starting the TEC program for the entire state under one big umbrella. The first event that the leadership team is planning is a **TEC Re-Union at St. John XXIII Pastoral Center in Charleston on August 28th from 10am to 4pm.**

We are encouraging everyone whose schedule allows and whose faith grew because of their TEC experience to join us for a day of prayer, singing, learning and seeing some of the people you may have met through TEC.

If this interests you, please visit <https://dwc.org/tec-reunion> and register for the event so we know how many people to plan for.



Christian Help is looking for volunteers interested in supporting our programs and helping at the downtown facility. Various available positions are:

- Front Desk
- Career Closet
- Children's Closet
- Food Pantry
- Free Store
- Mentorship
- Job Training
- Business Relations

For more information please contact:

Amanda Ejimofor at 304-296-0221 or

volunteercoordinator@motownchristianhelp.com



Volunteer Hours:

Monday: 9am - 4pm

Tuesday: 9am - 4pm

Wednesday: 9am - 4pm

Thursday: 9am - 4pm

Friday: 9am - 2pm



219 Walnut St. Morgantown

Saving Grace Support Group for Grandparents/Kinship/Foster/Adopted Families

meets at **Avery United Methodist Church** (1152 Cheat Rd. Morgantown, WV) **the Second and Fourth Tuesday of each month from 6-8pm.**

This support group offers:

- support from others in the same situation
- guest speakers from different agencies around the area
- training on many different topics from self-care to childhood trauma
- a safe place to express yourself and your concerns
- advice from other people dealing with the same things as you

Feel free to contact us at:

SavingGraceWV@gmail.com,

or join the facebook group:

"Saving Grace:Grandparents/relative With Custody Support Group"

"How much do you love me?"

JOIN THE STATE-WIDE
**TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST
FAMILY FOR
RE-TEC**

A Re-Boot and Renewal of TEC in the
Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2021
10:00am - 5:00pm
Saint John XXIII Pastoral Center, Charleston, WV

The "Fourth Day" of TEC Never Ends!



flocknote

Please **TTJ** (text-to-join) our Flocknote network. **Text the**

word "starcity" to 84576

or connect with us online at:

StMaryStarCity.flocknote.com



Sunday, Aug 15, 2021

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Some assumptions prove true

Catholicism acknowledges twin sources in scripture and tradition. While our faith is biblically rooted, we embrace an expanding truth discerned by saints and mystics, church doctors, and popes. Mary's Assumption isn't narrated in the gospels and wasn't taught dogmatically until 1950. It evolved from the second-century appreciation of Mary as the New Eve: preserved from sin at conception and therefore not subject to sin's effects in death. Liturgists, saints, and theologians promoted the Assumption for centuries, and devout Catholics championed this understanding. Finally, Pope Pius XII bowed to the "sense of the faithful" and made it official in 1950.

TODAY'S READINGS: Vigil: 1 Chronicles 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 15:54b-57; Luke 11:27-28 (621); Day: Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Corinthians 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56 (622).
"A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon beneath her feet."

Monday, Aug 16, 2021

MEMORIAL OF STEPHEN OF HUNGARY

Concern yourself with the greatest Kingdom

Royal families are typically concerned about succession and making sure they have an heir. They want their lineage to survive them. Many monarchs eventually failed at that, including King Saint Stephen I of Hungary, who founded the country in the year 1000 and made it Christian. Only one of his sons lived to adulthood but died before Stephen did. What Stephen did leave behind is a country that is still majority Catholic. We might not be remembered for sowing faith long into the future here on Earth—but if we remain faithful, we could end up with royal treasure in heaven.

TODAY'S READINGS: Judges 2:11-19; Matthew 19:16-22 (419).
"Teacher, what good must I do to gain eternal life?"

Tuesday, Aug 17, 2021

Pray for the persecuted

On this day in 1798, Our Lady of La Vang first appeared to Vietnamese victims of persecution. When Vietnam's emperor outlawed Catholicism, inciting brutality and martyrdom, believers fled to the rain forest of La Vang. They sought Mary's consolation, gathering beneath a large tree to pray the Rosary. They began seeing an apparition of Mother and Child, flanked by angels. She comforted them and is said to have pointed out nearby healing plants. Our Lady of La Vang is honored in the United States with a chapel at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Ask her to intercede for victims of racist hate.

TODAY'S READINGS: Judges 6:11-24a; Matthew 19:23-30 (420). *"We have given up everything and followed you."*

Wednesday, Aug 18, 2021

Let's work on making work better

The U.S. Catholic Bishops have spoken on *The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers*, saying in part: "The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected—the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages" Food for thought at a time when workers' reluctance to return to low-paid, unfulfilling

jobs is much in the news. Is the problem with the worker—or the workplace?

TODAY'S READINGS: Judges 9:6-15; Matthew 20:1-16 (421). *"Are you envious because I am generous?" Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."*

Thursday, Aug 19, 2021

MEMORIAL OF JOHN EUDES, PRIEST

Take this devotion to heart

The Sacred Heart of Jesus image is ubiquitous in the Catholic world, and today we celebrate one of the people who helped create a devotion to it, John Eudes, a French priest (1601-80), who also founded the Eudists, the Congregation of Jesus and Mary. The Sacred Heart image is a heart encircled by a crown of thorns often depicted with radiating rays of light and placed on the chest of Jesus. The image is physical and mystical, a reminder of Christ's bodily sacrifice and mysterious in its supernatural appearance. Seek out this image and allow it to shape your prayer today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Judges 11:29-39a; Matthew 22:1-14 (422).
"Everything is ready; come to the feast."

Friday, Aug 20, 2021

MEMORIAL OF BERNARD, ABBOT, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

All hail Doctor Mellifluous

No, Mellifluous is not the newest superhero villain; it's a title for one of the greatest heroes of the Roman Catholic faith. Bernard of Clairvaux earned the nickname because his writings were eloquent, as suggested by the Latin root of his nickname: "flowing honey." This gift was founded on his deep love of God, scripture, and the church's tradition. His description of the Holy Spirit as the "kiss" between God the Father and Jesus the Son gives us a beautiful example of how to image the relationship of love among the three persons of the Trinity. Following in the good doctor's footsteps, how have you experienced the kiss of the Holy Spirit in your own relationships?

TODAY'S READINGS: Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Matthew 22:34-40 (423). *"For wherever you go, I will go, wherever you lodge I will lodge, your people shall be my people, and your God my God."*

Saturday, Aug 21, 2021

MEMORIAL OF PIUS X, POPE

The year of living humbly

Prior to COVID-19, plagues mentioned in history books seemed like remote disasters that only happened in times and places where rats roamed streets filled with sewage. Now that we've been humbled by our continued vulnerability to unseen agents of disease and death, perhaps we can bring a renewed appreciation to Pius X, who endeared himself to the people of northern Italy because of his efforts tending the sick during the cholera plague of the early 1870s. Take a moment this week to thank someone who has tended the sick during our very modern plague.

TODAY'S READINGS: Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Matthew 23:1-12 (424). *"The greatest among you must be your servant."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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*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.*

*Salve, Guardián del Redentor
Esposo de la Bendita Virgen María.
A ti Dios te confió su único Hijo;
en ti Maria depositó su confianza;
contigo Cristo se hizo hombre.*

*Bendito José, para nosotros también
muéstrate padre
y guíanos en el camino de la vida.
Obten para nosotros gracia, misericordia y coraje
y defiéndenos de todo mal. Amén.*

Safe Environment Reporting

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888-434-6237 or 304-233-0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

Will or Estate Planning

Are you thinking of remembering St. Mary Church in your will or estate plans? A bequest through a Last Will and Testament is the simplest way of creating a lasting legacy of support for St. Mary Church. Bequests should be made out to:

"The Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, or his successors in office," with a specification of the purpose for which the bequest is to be used, e.g. "for the use of St. Mary Parish"

READINGS FOR THE WEEK August 15, 2021

Sunday: Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 [8]/
1 Cor 15:54b-57/Lk 11:27-28 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/
Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 [10bc]/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56
Monday: Jgs 2:11-19/Ps 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44 [4a]/Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday: Jgs 6:11-24a/Ps 85:9, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday: Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Mt 20:1-16
Thursday: Jgs 11:29-39a/Ps 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Mt 22:1-14
Friday: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Ps 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 [1b]/Mt 22:34-40
Saturday: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Ps 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [4]/Mt 23:1-12
Next Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/
Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69
©LPi

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service **ReportBishopAbuse.org (800) 276-1562**

The Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service has been established to receive reports of sexual abuse and related misconduct by bishops, and to relay those reports to proper Church authorities for investigation. Where a report includes a crime, such as the sexual abuse of a minor, it will also be reported to civil authorities. Otherwise, reports will be kept confidential. If you have any other kind of complaint about a bishop—such as parish assignments, church closings, or homily contents—please address those directly to your diocesan or eparchial bishop instead. Sexual abuse by a priest, deacon or a staff member or volunteer of the Church should be reported to the Office of Safe Environment for the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. So, to be sure you get the help you need, phone numbers and addresses may be found at www.dwc.org under the accountability tab. If you are the victim of sexual abuse (or any other crime), please contact local law enforcement.

Solemnity of the
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Vigil

Lectionary: 621

Reading I

1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2

David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring the ark of the Lord to the place which he had prepared for it.

David also called together the sons of Aaron and the Levites.

The Levites bore the ark of God on their shoulders with poles, as Moses had ordained according to the word of the Lord.

David commanded the chiefs of the Levites
to appoint their kinsmen as
chanters,
to play on musical instruments,
harps, lyres, and cymbals,
to make a loud sound of rejoicing.

They brought in the ark of God and set it within the tent which David had pitched for it. Then they offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings to God. When David had finished offering up the burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord.

Reading II

1 Cor 15:54b-57

Brothers and sisters:

When that which is mortal clothes itself with immortality,
then the word that is written shall come about:

Death is swallowed up in victory.
Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin,
and the power of sin is the law.
But thanks be to God who gives us
the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Lk 11:27-28

While Jesus was speaking,
a woman from the crowd called out
and said to him,
"Blessed is the womb that carried
you
and the breasts at which you
nursed."
He replied,
"Rather, blessed are those
who hear the word of God and ob-
serve it."

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Lectionary: 622

Reading I

Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

God's temple in heaven was opened,
and the ark of his covenant could be seen in
the temple.

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.
She was with child and wailed aloud in pain
as she labored to give birth.
Then another sign appeared in the sky;
it was a huge red dragon, with seven heads
and ten horns,
and on its heads were seven diadems.
Its tail swept away a third of the stars in the
sky
and hurled them down to the earth.
Then the dragon stood before the woman
about to give birth,
to devour her child when she gave birth.
She gave birth to a son, a male child,
destined to rule all the nations with an iron
rod.

Her child was caught up to God and his
throne.

The woman herself fled into the desert
where she had a place prepared by God.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:
"Now have salvation and power come,
and the Kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Anointed One."

Reading II

1 Cor 15:20-27

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since death came through man,
the resurrection of the dead came also
through man.

For just as in Adam all die,
so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,
but each one in proper order:

Christ the firstfruits;
then, at his coming, those who belong to
Christ;
then comes the end,
when he hands over the Kingdom to his God
and Father,
when he has destroyed every sovereignty
and every authority and power.

For he must reign until he has put all his ene-
mies under his feet.
The last enemy to be destroyed is death,
for "he subjected everything under his feet."

Gospel

Lk 1:39-56

Mary set out

and traveled to the hill country in haste
to a town of Judah,
where she entered the house of Zechariah
and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,
the infant leaped in her womb,
and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
"Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should come to
me?

For at the moment the sound of your greeting
reached my ears,
the infant in my womb leaped for joy.
Blessed are you who believed
that what was spoken to you by the Lord
would be fulfilled."

And Mary said:

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the
Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior
for he has looked with favor on his lowly
servant.

From this day all generations will call me
blessed:
the Almighty has done great things for
me

and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,
and has scattered the proud in their
conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their
thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Is-
rael

for he has remembered his promise of
mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children forever."

Mary remained with her about three months
and then returned to her home.



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