

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity – 15 August 2021

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab. Psalm 45:10, 11, 12, 16. 1 Corinthians 15:20-27.

Luke 1:39-56.

A Heart So Great

Mary, by uniting herself to God, does not distance herself from us. She does not go into an unknown galaxy, but whoever approaches God comes closer, for God is close to us all; and Mary, united to God, shares in the presence of God, is so close to us, to each one of us.

There is a beautiful passage from St. Gregory the Great on St. Benedict that we can apply to Mary, too. St. Gregory the Great says that the heart of St. Benedict expanded so much that all creation could enter it. This is even truer of Mary: Mary, totally united to God, has a heart so big that all creation can enter this heart...she has a heart as great as the heart of God.

But there is also another aspect. In God, not only is there room for humankind; in humankind there is room for God. This too, we see in Mary, the Holy Ark who bears the presence of God. In us there is space for God, and this presence of God in us is so important for bringing light to the world with all its sadness, with all its problems.

What is there to say then? A great heart, the presence of God in the world, room for God within us and room for us in God...this is the symphony of this Feast, the instructions that mediating on this Solemnity gives us. Mary is the dawn and the spender of the Church triumphant; She is the consolation and the hope of people still on the journey.---- *taken from Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, August 15, 202*

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity – 15 August 2021

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab. Psalm 45:10, 11, 12, 16. 1 Corinthians 15:20-27. Luke 1:39-56.

Taken to Heaven. In the Eastern Churches, what we call the Assumption, they call the Dormition of Mary – her falling asleep in the Lord. A wonderful image to face death that may be soon or far away.

1. How am I preparing to fall asleep in the Lord?
2. How can I, like Mary, sing God's praise?
3. How can I, like Mary, look after a cousin or friend or neighbor in need of help?

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 22 August 2021

Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b. Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21. Ephesians 5:21-32. John 6:60-69.



Pastor: Rev Christian Iwuagwu

Phone (618) 658 – 4501

E-mail: spccil@frontier.com

Website: www.stpaulvienna.org

Mission: Live Catholic teachings,
Participate in Sacramental and

Liturgical Celebrations, Serve our Community



ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

2020 State Rte. 146 E, Vienna, IL – 62995

Parish Council Chair: Steve Pobst

Trustees: Matthew Slife, Jared Bergmann

Sundays – 8:00 am

Weekdays – Wed 6:00 pm

Fri 6:00 pm

Mary, the Mother of God

In his moving musical composition *Like Winter Waiting*, John Foley, S.J., has Joseph sing about Mary, “Who is this woman?” For many people (and, of course, maybe for Joseph too) the question is really, “Who is this woman *to me*?” These two questions are very different in character.

Consider the first one: who is this woman? The traditional answer to this question is that Mary is the Mother of God.

This answer can be hard to understand. All Christians agree that God is without beginning. It seems that a God without beginning *can't* be born. And so it seems that God can't have a mother either.

But Jesus is fully human *and* fully divine. As man, God *can* be born. And so, after all, God can have and did have a human mother. The woman who was that mother is Mary.

And that is why if it is taken as the question Joseph sings in John Foley's music, “Who is this woman?,” the answer to the question is this: Mary is the Mother of God.

But the more pressing question remains: “who is this woman *to me*?” The answer to this question depends on the life and love of each person who answers it, doesn't it?

Think about it this way. For every person who reads this website, John Foley is the Jesuit priest who is the editor of this website and the composer of very influential liturgical music. But the answer to the question, “who is John Foley *to me*?” depends on the person answering the question. *To me*, he is a dear friend. But that is because the history of my life includes care for him and commitment to him.

And this is how it is for each person and Mary too. What Mary is *to you* depends on you, on your own care for her and commitment to her.

But, you might think, how much care and commitment *should* I have for Mary?

Isn't that a backwards way to think about relationship with any person, though, Mary included? Maybe this is a better way. Elizabeth said to Mary, “who am I that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” ([Luke 1:43](#)) Maybe what we should ask is, “what are we that the mother of our Lord should come to us?” What Mary is *to me*—or *to you*—depends on how you answer Elizabeth's question. -- Eleonore Stump from SLU Sunday website

**Vol. 22 #33 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity
– 15 August 2021**

Schedule of Masses

Sun Aug 15	8:00 am	SP	Richard Stone
Wed Aug 18	5:30 pm	SP	General Intention
Fri Aug 20	6:00 pm	SP	General Intention
Sun Aug 22	8:00 am	SP	Butch Balchunas

Birthdays
Aug 21 Myron Cole

Liturgical Ministers

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>EM</u>	<u>Servers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
Aug 15 8 am	M Slife	X Gruszczuk	M Nelson	Vol	*S Widowski, P Widowski
Aug 22 8 am	S Pobst	A Dueker	B Palmer	Vol	*Joe Nelson, Jeremy Nelson

STEWARDSHIP OFFERING Aug 8, 2021

Envelope \$ 1412.00 (25), Loose 5.00 Masses \$20 Bld. & Maint. \$295
Total \$ 1732.00 (collection counters are needed to continue this church ministry – see Laurie Coleman)

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

Sun Aug 15	Sunday Mass at SP.....	8:00 am
Wed Aug 18	Mass.....	5:30 pm
	Parish Council Mtg.....	6:00 pm
Fri Aug 20	Mass.....	6:00 pm
Sun Aug 22	Sunday Mass at SP.....	8:00 am



Starting this week, we are going to feature our Homebound parishioners who cannot come to church when it is their birthday this week,

Please call or send Birthday greetings to:
 Myron Cole (birthday August 21).
 10 Craig Lane
 Carrier Mills, IL 62917
 618 841 0128

He and his wife Karen are both suffering health issues. Keep them both in your prayers.

REMEMBER NEW ST. PAUL URGENT NEED CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact with Fr Christian for urgent needs is phone 618-303-4997 or at the parish office at Harrisburg, 618-253-7408. The phone in the office at St Paul at 618 658-4501 will be monitored for messages or requests, as well as our e-mail spccil@frontier.com

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING will be this Wednesday, August 18 at 6 pm. Please note that Wednesday Mass this week starts at 5:30.

WE THANK OUR PARISHIONERS Who represented St. Paul Church working at Faith Alive Thrift Store. The proceeds from those donations sold at the store go to area charities in our Johnson County area and help the Ministerial Alliance of pastors to provide assistance to people facing difficult financial and urgent situations.

DRAWDOWN RAFFLE TICKETS are now available for sale before and after Sunday m Early bird drawing will be September 19 for \$100.

URGENTLY NEEDED: Parish School of Religion (PSR) teachers to provide instruction to St. Paul parish children. Please contact Matt Slife 618 534-6978 to volunteer. Our parish children are our church's future! Sharing your gifts and interest in teaching is a precious gift. PSR classes start September 12 with our Parish Picnic. Matt will be contacting our children's parents about registration information.

CONGRATULATIONS FATHER CHRISTIAN ON YOUR 25TH JUBILEE to be celebrated at St. Mary's Harrisburg on September 12. This event was established before his assignment to St. Paul. Fr. Tom will be helping Fr. Christian to celebrate by providing an 11:00 am mass here on September 12 in conjunction with our St. Paul annual parish picnic and PSR class start up. Please share your congratulations and well wishes with Fr. Christian personally!

CONSIDER THOSE BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUPPLY SALES AND SUMMER SALES for your Box of Joy Shopping. This is a Cross Catholic initiative promoted by the Belleville Diocese Council of Catholic Women. You may either take a box to fill with items for children in the Caribbean and Central America or donate items in the designated container in church entrance. Feel free to pick up a flyer and sheet of suggested items. Please return any filled boxes by the last Sunday of October.

GERI TESINA HAS VOLUNTEERED TO ASSIST US WITH A PHOTO PARISH DIRECTORY. Please let her take your picture before or after Mass. Thank you Geri.! We all agreed after reviewing the poster she put together from Fr. Tom's Jubilee/retirement that she makes us all look good!

VOCATION CORNER August 15th – Today we celebrate the Assumption of Mary into heaven. The Gospel tells us of her visit to Elizabeth. Mary, the Mother of Vocations, proclaims her 'fiat' out loud. She definitely said YES to God and carried and raised His Son. We likewise need to proclaim our "fiat" – Thy will be done. Our best way to live out our vocation – our calling to be a "proclaimer" of Jesus Christ our Savior. Pray to God that you are truly living your vocation.