The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

Sacred Heart & Maria Regina. Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



Lovely Lady dressed in blue -Teach me how to pray! God was just your little boy, Tell me what to say!

Did you lift Him up, sometimes, gently on your knee? Did you sing to Him the way Mother does to me?

Did you hold His hand at night? Did you ever try telling stories of the world? O! And did He cry?

Do you really think He cares If I tell Him things little things that happen?

And do the Angels' wings make a noise? And can He hear me if I speak low? Does He understand me now? Tell me - for you know.

Lovely Lady dressed in blue -Teach me how to pray! God was just your little boy, And you know the way.

Mary Dixon Thayer



Thoughts of BI Francis Jordan

Consider Mary. She said little. But through her example her humility, modesty etc... she accomplished much. Imitate her so that you also accomplish quite a lot through good example.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions For August

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.



We will livestream our 10am Mass this Sunday so that all are able to join in Spiritual Communion with us as a parish family of Pittwater. To join the livestreaming please visit our parish website https://www.bbcatholic.o rg.au/pittwater/news-eve nts/parish-news/livestrea m-our-weekend-masses Due to NSW Government restrictions, our Churches are closed until further notice.

A warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us at Pittwater Parish Online



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

15th August 2021



Dear Parishioners,

In the Catholic Church, we celebrate two principal Marian feasts in August. The first is on this Sunday 15 August 2021, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, when, having completed the course of her earthly life, Mary was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory.

The second is on the following Sunday 22 August 2021, the Feast of the Queenship of Mary, when we celebrate the example Mary gave us by her complete and unwavering "yes" to God's will. As the mother of Christ, our King, we honour her also as our queen and mother.

Pope Francis reminds us that Mary knows well the difficulties and adversities we face. Through it all, "as a true mother, she walks at our side, she shares our struggles and she constantly surrounds us with God's love." (Evangelii Gaudium)

Similarly, explained Pope Benedict XVI, Mary exercises her Queenship of service and love, "by watching over us, her children: the children who turn to her in prayer, to thank her or to ask her for her motherly protection and her heavenly help, perhaps after having lost our way, or when we are oppressed by suffering or anguish because of the sorrowful and harrowing vicissitudes of life". (General Audience of 22 August 2012)

Our Mother and Queen, Mary is a certain sign of hope in these difficult and trying times. She is right beside her Son, listening to our prayers. She is the true Queen who can help us through her powerful intercession. Let us always be open to her care and pray for her protection as we face the challenges of this pandemic.

The Queenship of Mary is particularly a special celebration in our parish as both Our Maria Regina Church and our Maria Regina School are both under this title. For this reason, we will livestream the Mass for the Queenship of Mary on Sunday 22 August from our Maria Regina Church in Avalon. This will also be a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate with Bishop Bernard on the occasion of his upcoming 90th birthday on Tuesday 24 August.

You can read more about the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in this bulletin.

Join us for the livestreaming of our 10am Mass on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary via the following link: https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pittwater/news-events/parish-news/livestream-our-weekend-masses

Thank you for your understanding of the situation which we find ourselves in and your donations which continue to financially support our parish. If you would like to support us financially, donations can be made by Visa or MasterCard via our website https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pittwater/archive/donations-and-giving

Please don't hesitate to call the parish office (9157 0999) or email (office@pittwaterparish.org) at anytime if we can be of any assistance during this time.

We ask Mary for her accompaniment and maternal care for us to be able to get through this hard time,

Rideal asp

Fr Richard Sadowski SDS Parish Administrator

10 Reasons Why Mary's Assumption Was the Greatest Moment of Her Life by Gretchen Filz The Catholic Company



"Through thee have the gates of Paradise been thrown open to us, O thou who this day did triumph so gloriously among the Angels." - Divine Office Antiphon

Each year on August 15 we celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven, a Holy Day of Obligation. According to St. Peter Canisius, Doctor of the Church, the Solemnity of the Assumption is the greatest of all Marian feasts and therefore holds the highest place of them all. Why?

Because Mary's entrance into heaven was the happiest and most joyful event of her life - even happier than the Annunciation and the Nativity of Our Lord.

Below are ten points regarding the awesomeness of today's feast.

At her Assumption into heaven:

- 1. The Blessed Virgin Mary was, for the first time since His Passion and Ascension into heaven, physically reunited with her Son, Jesus, for all eternity, never to be separated from Him again.
- 2. Her long and difficult earthly mission as a co-worker in Christ's redemption of the human race was now complete; through God's grace she persevered to the end in perfect harmony and submission to the will of God.
- 3. At this moment she received the fulfillment of all she longed, sacrificed, sought, worked, desired, hoped, waited, and prayed for her entire life.
- 4. She experienced perfect and complete happiness in her entire person, as both her body and soul were united in heaven (Mary and Jesus are presently in heaven with their physical bodies; the souls of the other saints will receive their bodies at the final resurrection of the dead).
- 5. Everything mysteriously written and prophesied in the Scriptures of her role in salvation history was brought to its glorious fulfillment.
- 6. Mary, the true Ark of the Covenant where the Incarnate Christ dwelt, was finally in her exalted place in the Temple of the heavenly Jerusalem.
- 7. Just as Mary humbly received Jesus into the world at his nativity, now Jesus magnificently receives Mary into heaven for all eternity.

- 8. Mary, as the most beautiful and perfect creature in all of God's created order, enters heaven for the first time with her physical, human body and is given the highest place above all the choirs of angels, and there receives the honour and praise proper to her exalted state.
- 9. Mary is crowned as Queen of Heaven and Earth to reign as Queen Mother alongside her Divine Son, to rule, protect, guide, intercede, and lead all of her spiritual children to be with her Son, Jesus, just as she is.
- 10. Mary is the first to receive the promise of the resurrection given to all who are united to Jesus Christ and persevere in faith as she did; therefore she embodies the future hope of the Church and of all believers.

"Among all these feasts which have been celebrated so devotedly for so many years, even unto the present day, the Feast of the Assumption is considered the greatest and holds the chief place. Indeed there was no happier or more joyful day for Mary, if we duly consider the happiness of both body and soul granted to her on that day. Then especially, as never before, her spirit, soul and body rejoiced wondrously in the living God and she could rightfully say: **He hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden; for behold, all generations shall call me blessed; for he that is mighty hath magnified me."** - Homily by St. Peter Canisius (Doctor of the Church)

Prayer for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Almighty and everlasting God, You have taken up body and soul into the heavenly glory the Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of Your Son: Grant, we beseech You, that, ever intent upon heavenly things, we may be worthy to be partakers of her glory.

Through Jesus Christ Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

22 August 2021: The Queenship of Mary - Maria Regina Church is under this title.



One of the most beautiful and universal titles of the Blessed Virgin Mary is her title as Queen, honoured on the August 22nd feast of the Queenship of Mary, the octave day of the feast of her Assumption. Join us for the livestreaming of our 10am Mass from Maria Regina Church, Avalon on the Queenship of Mary via the following link: https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pittwater/news -events/parish-news/livestream-our-weekendmasses

15th August 2021



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Year A

The angel Gabriel visited Mary. Draw the angel.





With all my heart I praise the Lord, and I am qlad because of God my Saviour.

Mary was assumed into heaven. Colour the picture of Mary.

The Living Word

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Rev 12:1 A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

First Reading Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10 **A reading from the book of the Apocalypse** *I saw a woman clothed with the sun and with the moon at her feet.*

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened, and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it.

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psal Ps 44:10-12. 16. R. v.10 (R.) The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words: forget your own people and your father's house. **(R)**

So will the king desire your beauty: He is your lord, pay homage to him. They are escorted amid gladness and joy; they pass within the palace of the king. (**R**)

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:20-26 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

As members of Christ all people will be raised, Christ first, and after him all who belong to him.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the

first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order; Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy. Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 1:39-56 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke The Almighty has done great things for me;

he has lifted up the lowly.

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.' And Mary said:

'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord

and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.

Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me.

Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age

and his hiercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy according to the promise he made to our ancestors –

of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.' Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

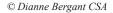
The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon Lk 1:48-49 All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

REFLECTION

by Dianne Bergant CSA

In the Western church this feast celebrates the assumption of Mary into heaven; in the East it commemorates her dormition or her falling asleep. The readings invite us to reflect on the role that she plays in the mystery of our redemption. Whatever we honour in Mary in some way points to her son. Over the centuries devotion to Mary has been expressed in forms taken from the culture out of which it developed. *Sometimes she is pictured as a humble* peasant girl. At other times she is depicted as a queen robed in gold of *Ophir who rules from heaven. Probably* the most familiar pose is that of a mother with her child. Perhaps the most dramatic of these themes is that of the celestial woman from the vision found in the Book of Revelation. It is because of the cosmic significance of Jesus that this tradition has been applied to Mary. Though the first reading depicts a cosmic woman, the gospel reading characterises Mary as a simple peasant woman intent on offering service to another. However, the words that are placed in her mouth are words of prophetic challenge. She announces the great reversals of God's good news. The greatness of Mary is a reflection of the greatness of the Son of God whom she bore. He was the firstfruits of salvation. He was the victor who won the kingdom. Her part in this victory was to bring him to birth and into maturity.





The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

15th August 2021



18/08 Wednesday Ordinary time 20 Judges 9:6-15; Mt 20:1-16

19/08Thursday Ordinary Time 20 Judges 11:29-39; Mt 22:1-14

20/08 Friday St Bernard, abbot, doctor Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14-16, 22; Mt 22:34-40 (Alt. Sirach 15:1-6; Jn 17:20-26)

21/08 Saturday St Pius X, pope Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11, 4:13-17; Mt 23:1-12 (Alt. 1 Thess 2:2-8; Jn 21:15-17)



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