

Sunday, August 15 , 2021

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9am - 4pm
Fridays & Weekend: By Appointment

Email: stluke.dc@adwparish.org
www.stlukechurchssj.org



Staffed by the Josephite Fathers and Brother

Serving Washington DC (Far S.E., N.E., and Prince Georges County since 1957)



ST. LUKE

CATHOLIC CHURCH

4925 E. CAPITOL STREET, WASHINGTON, DC
20019



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EDUCATION**

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DIRECTOR OF CENTER

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Welcome

St. Luke is a warm and embracing parish family. We gladly extend our love and warmth to all those who desire to worship and follow our Lord, Jesus Christ. Come join us to celebrate the Holy Eucharist which is the source and summit of our Christian life. Our theme for 2019 is "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom." [Psalm 90:12] Together we will praise God, love one another and serve each other.

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00pm

Sunday Masses: 8:30am & 11:00am

2nd Sunday 1:15pm (Igbo) 3rd Sunday 1:15pm (French)

Weekday Masses

In the Martin De Pores Chapel

Monday: 10:00am & Thursday: 10:00am

Wednesday Bible Study: 6:00pm

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday 7:00pm . -8:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:45pm Sunday: 7:30am-8:15am

Sunday: 10:00am-10:45am Or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Infant Baptism registration takes place at the Parish Office prior to baptism preparation class which is held on the First Saturday of each month. Baptism takes place every First Sunday after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Please call parish office for more information.

PASTOR'S CORNER

8 Reasons Why the Assumption of Mary Is So Important

BY STEPHEN BEALE

The Assumption of Mary, which we celebrate on August 15, is not just a Catholic extra or add-on to the fundamentals of the faith. It is a vitally important teaching with deep roots in Scripture and direct relevance to our daily lives. Here are eight ways it is significant.

1. **We will share in Christ's resurrection:** At the core of our faith is the belief, based on the biblical accounts, that Christ experienced a bodily resurrection from the dead and ascended, while still bodily form, to heaven. The Assumption of Mary confirms that this extraordinary reversal of death is not limited to Christ. If Mary can end up in heaven, body and soul, so can we who share in her humanity.

2. **Our hope is for a physical resurrection:** The whole point of the dogma is its emphasis on Mary's bodily assumption. Otherwise, there would be no need for it. Arguing that Mary's soul went to heaven at the end of her earthly life is to claim nothing different than what happens to every other person who died in a state of grace. (Of course, those who aren't saints would have to stop in purgatory before entering into the fullness of heaven, but still the overall point holds.)

Mary's assumption reminds us that salvation is holistic. God does not just save half of us. He doesn't just pluck the soul out of the husk of a sinful body. We are saved in the fullness of our humanity, body and soul. (Pope Pius XII makes this argument in his definition of the dogma.)

3. **Heaven is for saints:** One of the peculiarities of the Old Testament—at least from our perspective—is that it did not have a well-defined concept of heaven. When people died, even the righteous, they ended up in Sheol, the shadowy underworld that is the Hebrew equivalent of the Greek Hades. The ancient Israelites did understand that there was a heavenly temple from which God reigned. This is beautifully depicted in Isaiah's vision. But they didn't necessarily view heaven as a destination for saints. Enoch, Elijah, and Moses were exceptions to the rule. The Assumption of Mary clarifies and confirms that the heaven of the New Testament is a place where the saints experience the presence of God. She is the first one to enter under the New Covenant. (We cannot be sure that the Good Thief went directly to heaven.) In a way, Mary opened up heaven for rest of the saints, just as she opened up the earth to the fullness of God's Incarnate presence.

4. **The final reversal of the Fall:** The Church teaches that Mary shares in Christ's lot. This is based upon her role as the New Eve to His New Adam, which is evident in Simeon's prophecy and her presence at the crucifixion. Mary's Assumption to heaven is the final reversal of the evils of sin and death unleashed by the Fall.

5. **Man is not meant to be alone:** To be human is to live in relation to another. This is one of the first things Scripture teaches about man. In the Garden of Eden Adam was in paradise, presumably lacking for nothing, including the company of fellow creatures, yet it was 'not good' for him to be 'alone.' So God created Eve. Christ, who was perfectly human, 'needs' the perfect companionship of another human, especially in paradise, as theologian Matthew Levering points out in his book on the assumption. Christ is not a solitary savior. In His divinity he enjoys the communion of the Trinity. In His humanity he reigns from heaven with his Mother.

6. **Marian veneration is Christo-centric:** Mary's assumption means that there are no bones or tombs of Our Lady to venerate. This means that, contrary to the Protestant accusations, Marian veneration is particularly Christo-centric. Thanks to the assumption, it is impossible to think of her without thinking of her being in the fullness of Christ's heavenly presence.

7. **Mary is uniquely positioned to help us:** Although souls in heaven are not deprived of the beatific vision they are somewhat limited by not having bodies, according to St. Thomas Aquinas. He explains that souls without bodies are in an unnatural state, lacks perfection, and are denied the fullness of happiness. Even the beatific vision is affected in a way. Although God is seeing through the eye of the intellect, souls need bodies in order to see His glory reflected in other creatures, according to Aquinas. The Assumption of Mary ensures that she has none of these limitations. Having her body is particularly crucial for her given that it is a source of so much of her power: in the Incarnation God took flesh from Mary and it was through her body that He was born. The upshot of this is that Mary has everything she needs to see our problems—as well as our potential for holiness—and to help us grow into little Christs.

8. **Mary's beauty is perfected:** One further implication of what has just been stated above is that Mary's beauty in heaven is perfected. She is not a disembodied soul. She is not a spirit flitting about in paradise. The beauty that became espoused to the Holy Spirit lives in her fullness in heaven, as the vision of Revelation 12 shows us so well. This is one reason that the Church venerates Mary above all other saints.

Excerpt culled from <https://catholicexchange.com/8-reasons-assumption-mary-important>

REFLECTION FOR THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

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.

Liturgical Publications 2015

HAPPY BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY

We would like to wish a wonderful happy birthday

Lamont P. Diggs, Sr., Trenita E. Russell, Violet Tinsley, Joan Davis, Sha'Mya Davis, Damonte D. Scott-Terrell, Linda Davis, Sharon Nickens, Carolyn Fleming, Brenda Edmond, Melissa Hyde and Monique Williams.

Happy Wedding Anniversary to Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Paulette Hamlin .

**MAY THE JOY OF THE LORD
BE YOUR STRENGTH!!!**

Readings for the week of August 15, 2021

Sunday: *Vigil:* 1 Chronicles 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2/Psalms 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14 [8]/1 Corinthians 15:54b-57/Luke 11:27-28
Day: Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Psalms 45:10, 11, 12, 16 [10bc]/1 Corinthians 15:20-27/Luke 1:39-56

Monday: Judges 2:11-19/Psalms 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44 [4a]/Matthew 19:16-22

Tuesday: Judges 6:11-24a/Psalms 85:9, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday: Judges 9:6-15/Psalms 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [2a]/Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday: Judges 11:29-39a/Psalms 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [8a and 9a]/Matthew 22:1-14

Friday: Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/Psalms 146:5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 [1b]/Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday: Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17/Psalms 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [4]/Matthew 23:1-12

Next Sunday: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Psalms 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/Ephesians 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/John 6:60-69

Church Support

Please consider making a donation to support our parish during this trying times. You may Drop off or mail your gifts to the parish. You may give online through our website:

<http://www.stlukechurchssj.org/>

And clicking on the donate button.

You may also TEXT: 202-335-3116

WEEKLY MASS

Monday 08/16
Eternal repose of the soul of **Wardell Anthony Washington+++ (BB)** by Daughters of Isabella

Thursday 08/19
Eternal repose of the soul of **Steven Brooks +++** by Hilda McDougald

Tuesday 08/17
Weekday

Friday 08/20
St. Bernard

Saturday 08/14
St. PiusX

Wednesday 08/18
Weekday

Pray for the Sick & Shut-In of Our Parish

Barbara Barnes
Blanche Bourm
Barbara Batts
Tanisha Bennett
Tammy Berry
Ruth Bundy
Beatrice Carroll
Melinda Conrad-Brown
Edith Cornish
Aniceto Charles
Patricia Chase
Valene Chemoo
Joyce Cristwell
Alvera Dance
Iyana Davage

Marita C. Edelin
Kimbolyn Flowers
Anthony Flowers
Tina Garvin
Florence Hall
Steve Halle
Chris Hawkins
Charlene Haywood
Brenda Henson
James Holley
Rudolph Holley
James Hughes
Melvin Jamison
Mary Ann Johnson
David & Keisha Jones
Dawn Lattimer

Lawrence Lee
Maria A. Logan
Bernadette Mahoney
Doreene Mahoney
Barbara Mallory
Doris McCannon
Alice L. Montague
Veronica Murray
David Neal
Florence Patterson
Marlene Patterson
Silvia Perry
Lillian Pharms
Kecia Proctor
Doreene Redd
Leroy Sandifer

Betty Smith
Kayla Tatum
Rolland Taylor
Gloria Thompson-Price
James F. Thompson, Jr.
Matthew Thompson
Barbara B. Tyler
Wayne A. Wallace
Marquita Ward
Shiela Washington
Steven Washington
Cecelia Williams
Wellington Waters
Dolores Woodard, Jr.
Harold Woodard, Sr.

St Luke military families.

All the Homeless men and women in our community.

Please pray for all those who are sick but have no one to pray for them



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Dear Parishioners, our Tree of Life has not fully bloomed. We are continuing the sale of leaves the northwest corner of the inside of the church (East Capitol St. side) There are 21 leaves still available for memorializing deceased family members or posting your current family names or beliefs. Each leaf is \$250 and can be paid in monthly installments. All proceeds will be used for the improvement of our beautiful church. Please contact Kathy Harris Ndouga if you would like more details at (202) 575-8732.

St. Luke Parish Weekly Schedule

Mondays Morning Mass @ 10:00am (will also be livestreamed)

Wednesday Bible Study Live Stream & Voice @ 6:00pm

Thursdays Morning Mass @ 10:00am (will also be livestreamed)

First Friday & Last Friday Adoration @ 7:00pm

Saturday Holy Rosary (Voice call only) @ 6:00pm

Sunday Mass 8:30 am & 11:00am (11am mass will also be livestreamed)

WELCOME BACK TO CHURCH AND THE EUCHARIST

Dear parishioners, I would like to welcome you back to your home (God's dwelling place). The past year and half have been difficult, challenging and shocking. It has also been a period of blessing; for we are still alive in the land of the living. So we (St. Luke faithful's) are thankful to the Lord for his blessings and protection. Now that many of us have been fully vaccinated (hopefully you have), we are invited back to our church to physically worship together. Truth be told, I miss your presence deeply and we miss seeing each other, praying for one another and supporting others. As you make the decision to return, please call your neighbors and encourage them to do likewise. We promise to keep observing the guidelines and best practices that would help us gather without incidence. I pray that God would protect us all and grant us His grace and mercy.

I am longing to have you back to share your warmth, joy and passion for the Kingdom.

PS: Fr. Cornelius loves you.

To continue assisting St. Luke: You may **DROP OFF** your donation or **MAIL** your check or visit our **WEBSITE** <http://www.stlukechurchssj.org/Donate> OR **TEXT**: 202-335-311621

Offertory Contributions for 08/08/2021: \$5,765.45

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity.

Quote of the Day:

**"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? Luke 1:42-45**

MASS OF CHRISTIN BURIAL: Derrick Vernon Colbert with a viewing on August 27, 2021 from 6pm to 8pm and the Funeral Mass on August 28, 2021, Viewing 9-11 and Mass at 11am.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

SEPTEMBER 18, 2021: RETREAT FOR PARENTS WHOSE CHILDREN ARE AWAY FROM THE CHURCH: *"Gather all my Children Scattered through the World"* Parents are invited to join St. Catherine and St. Ignatius Parish in Port Tobacco, MD for an in person retreat for parents whose children are away from the Church. The retreat will be held from 8:00am – 2:30pm and will include prayer, hope-filled talks, small and large group discussions, and witness talks. The cost of the retreat is \$10.00 per person with breakfast and lunch included. To register email the parish at stcatherine-alexandria.md@adw.org or call 301-934-9630 or click here for online registrations.

STEAK AND SALMON THIS SUNDAY, AUGUST 15, 2021 1:00pm to 4:00pm at the Knights of Columbus in Forestville, MD. Dinner and desert for only \$10.00