



Parish Priest and Deacon

Fr Joson Antony MCBS

Dcn Des Neagle

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Churches

St Joachim's Church

41 Yuletide Street

Holland Park

St Agnes' Church

1227 Logan Road

Mt Gravatt

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 4:00pm

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Facebook:

st joachim's & st agnes' parish

Parish Schools and College

St Agnes' School

07 3349 5130

St Joachim's School

07 3397 9087

Seton College

07 3291-5333

St Vincent de Paul Welfare

1800 846 643

Safeguarding Officer

Dot Lomax 0474 297 201

(Safeguarding purposes only)

The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Year B

August 14th/15th 2021

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a dogma of the Catholic Faith; a necessary belief for all those who call themselves Catholic. But in my experience I've found that it is often one of the most misunderstood dogmas of the faith, not only for non-Catholics, but also for Catholic Christians themselves.

To begin with – What is the Church's teaching regarding this dogma of the faith which we celebrate on August 15th? The Church teaches that, "The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."

What many people fail to realize is that the vast majority of Christians both worldwide and throughout history have held to this belief. It is not only the Catholic Church which professes this belief in the Assumption of Mary, but also Eastern Orthodox Christians and Oriental Orthodox Christians.

I think another point of confusion tends to revolve around the language of "Assumption" versus "Ascension." The Catholic Church teaches that Mary was Assumed body and soul into heaven; but artistic representations throughout the centuries have tended to portray our Blessed Mother as Ascending into heaven in a similar fashion as Christ; perhaps carried on the wings of Angels.

So Mary was Assumed into Heaven... So What?

Finally, we might ask, what practical good does it serve for a Christian to believe in this doctrine today? Is it simply, as the Anglican's assert, a "matter of indifference?" Actually, far from it. There are several benefits which we could consider. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI writes,

"By contemplating Mary in heavenly glory, we understand that the earth is not the definitive homeland for us either, and that if we live with our gaze fixed on eternal goods we will one day share in this same glory and the earth will become more beautiful.

Consequently, we must not lose our serenity and peace even amid the thousands of daily difficulties. The luminous sign of Our Lady taken up into Heaven shines out even more brightly when sad shadows of suffering and violence seem to loom on the horizon.

As Dr Robert Stackpole, STD points out, "Most importantly, the Assumption of Mary is a loud and triumphant proclamation of the full truth of Easter. We sometimes say that the Easter faith, in a nutshell, is that "Christ is Risen." In a certain sense, that is true enough. But the good news that the Apostles proclaimed to the world was not only that Christ is Risen, but that, precisely because He is Risen, He is bringing His whole mystical Body on earth to join Him one day in heavenly glory.

Truly the Feast of the Assumption is good news for all of us who believe in the resurrection of Christ from the dead!

(Adam N. Crawford)

Readings: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Times

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

Ephesians 5:21-32

John 6:60-69

READINGS FOR THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

First Reading

Revelations 11:19; 12:1-6, 10

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.'

Responsorial Psalm

Response: 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.

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.

Second Reading

Corinthians 15:20-26

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.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:39-56

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 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.

Parish Diary

Monday, August 16th

Mass 8:00am

St Joachim's

Wednesday, August 18th

Mass 6:00pm

St Agnes'

Thursday, August 19th

Mass 9:00am

St Agnes'

Friday, August 20th

Mass 9:00am

St Joachim's

Saturday, August 21st

Baptism 10:00am

St Agnes' Church

Reconciliation 5:30pm

St Joachim's

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, August 21st

Mass 6:00pm

St Joachim's

Sunday, August 22nd

Mass 7:30am

St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am

St Agnes'

Baptism 10:30am

St Agnes' Church

Mass 6:00pm

St Agnes'

Prayer to St Joseph

You were chosen by God to be the fosterer father of Jesus, the most pure spouse of Mary, and the head of the holy Family. We ask your intercession...

Protect our pope and all who labour for souls amid the trials and tribulations of this life, and grant that all peoples of the world may follow Christ.

Protect us from every disease present in our world.

Remove all fear from our hearts. Fill us with confidence.

Dear St. Joseph, accept the offering I make to you. Be my father, protector and guide in the way of salvation.

Amen

Continuing on our faith journey during changed times; when our faith will sustain us through our challenges.

The Holland Park Mt Gravatt Catholic Parish acknowledge the Jagera people, the Traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

PARISH NEWS

WE REMEMBER

We remember Caroline McLaughlin and Sr Mary O'Sullivan OSU. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

WE REJOICE

With the Hallahan and Lee family as they celebrate the baptism of Flynn in the parish this weekend.

COUNTERS

Cheryl's team.

Meals on Wheels

St Joachim's team - Tuesday, August 18th.



ABUNDANCE YOUTH

The August Youth Mass will now be held on Sunday, August 29th. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Another exciting update on the horizon is the launch of the Encounter Kids primary youth group, being held at St Agnes School each Friday after School during term time. If you would like more information, please don't hesitate to email me on youth.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au

Have a blessed week! Nick Kelly, Youth Coordinator

COMMUNITY NEWS



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SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT LAUNCH

Bishop Ken Howell, Aux Bishop of Brisbane, will launch the Australian Bishops' 2021 – 2022 Social Justice Statement, "Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor", on Wednesday 25 August at St James Parish Hall, Coorparoo commencing 7:00pm. To register for the Statement Launch, visit: <https://app.tickets.org.au/eb/sjstatement>

MISSION 2021: ONE HEART MANY VOICES

Catholic Mission cordially invites you to our Mission 2021: One Heart Many Voices virtual conference in Brisbane on Wednesday, September 1st from 9.30am – 1.30pm at the Hanly Room, The Francis Rush Centre, Cathedral Precinct.

Please RSVP to :

Leonie Constable before Wed 25 Aug 2021

Email: lconstable@catholicmission.org.au

Mobile: 0413727345

1961 **60** 2021
YEARS

Come and celebrate Mass
for the

60th Anniversary of

St Joachim's Church

Friday 27th August commencing 9.00am.

Bishop Ken Howell will preside and we will be joined by our Local MP and Council Members.

All are welcome to stay for a cuppa.



22nd August 2021

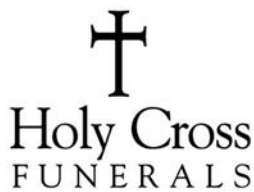
MARY MACKILLOP CATHOLIC SCHOOL ACCESS FUND

Continuing the legacy of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, the MacKillop Bursary Fund provides Catholic education bursaries to children whose families are in financial and often spiritual distress.



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... for it is to such as thee that the kingdom of God belongs.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.

This means that everyone in the church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocesan Code of Ethical Behaviour and adherence to legislative imperatives of the State. This policy applies to Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, Students on placement and Visitors to our sites.