

Solemnity of the Assumption (Year B) Sunday 15 August 2021

First reading **Apocalypse 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.'

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Responsorial Psalm **Psalms 44(45):10-12,16**

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.

The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

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.

The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

Second reading **1 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.



Sacred Heart Parish Preston

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Solemnity of the Assumption (Year B) Sunday 15 August 2021

The Assumption of Mary is "A Promise of Heaven and the Sign of Joy"

Today we celebrate the solemnity of the Assumption of Mary. It is the feast that celebrates Mary being taken body and soul into heaven at the end of her earthly life. It is believed that she didn't go through the natural process of decay upon her death. This feast is observed not only by Catholics but also by Oriental Orthodox and Lutherans. The church's belief in the Assumption of Mary is dated back to the first few centuries but was finally declared official dogma of the Catholic Church on 1 November 1950 by Pope Pius XII. It teaches us that the Virgin Mary 'having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven.'

Reflecting on Mary's assumption, there are two aspects we need to focus on. Firstly, it stands as a reminder of the promise and hope of the Risen Lord who said to his disciples: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me will live, even though he dies." (John 11:25). This is a promise of the resurrection and new life in Christ which is open for all. Mary, Mother of Jesus Christ, not just received this promise of the resurrection and the new life but was also rewarded with her Body and Soul being taken up into Heaven. What an amazing grace. Like Mary, we too are given this promise of the resurrection. How can we obtain it? We can obtain it by being a good listener and doer of the Words of God like Mary. Secondly, it reminds us of the importance of joy. The Gospel reading tells us that following her encounter with the Angel Gabriel, who declared God's favor on Mary to be the Mother of His only Son, Mary paid a visit to her cousin, Elizabeth. Upon Mary's arrival and welcoming her into the house, Elizabeth was filled the Holy Spirit. She was so overjoyed, that even the baby in her womb leapt for joy too. Like Mary, we too are expected to bring joy to others. To be able to bring joy to others we ourselves need to be close to Jesus in Holy Eucharist, prayers, in the reading and meditating of the Word of God.

Let me close this reflection with a sharing on how we, Catholics, in Vietnam celebrate the Assumption of Mary. For us, it is a big celebration. Many Catholics will come to the Church in our very best clothing joining the choir or other musical bands. This makes the Mass more Solemn and meaningful to parishioners. Following the Mass, families will share meals with friends and relatives. The Mass and meal

together strengthen the bond among parishioners and the priest.

As we celebrate Mary's Assumption we pray that our Blessed Mother constantly remind us of our resurrection and new life in Christ. Moreover, may Mary be our mother and model in following Christ faithfully until we all gathered in her Son's Kingdom. Amen.
(Deacon Hai Nguyen)



Office Hours:
Mon, Thurs & Fri: 10am -2pm

Parish Priest:
Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD
Ph: 0428 715 282

Italian Community Chaplain:
Fr Albano Da Costa, SVD
Ph: 0478 963 248

Parish Office: Rachel Costa
School Principal: Mark Tierney
School Phone: 9487 1001

Sacrament Co-ordinator:
Ylenia Useli
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Child Safety Officers:
Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212
Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

Child Safety Committee:
Robert Dullard (Chair), Kay Dufty,
Mary Harb, Teresa Dang and
Pauline O'Day

Parish Council Members:
Gerard Grant (chairperson), Kay
Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley,
Ophelia Swai, Anisasio (Pauline)
Veamatahau, Mark Tierney,
Ben Fortuna and Natalie Baran

Parish Finance Committee:
Peter Constable (Chair)
Ph: 0425 779 831

St. Vincent de Paul Society:
Stephen Costello (President)
Ph: 0432 405 417

No public Masses until further notice

10:30am Sunday Mass
and 9:10 weekday
Masses are livestreamed.
For the live stream link
please visit:

www.sacredheartpreston.com.au

Parish Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 6:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am (Italian),

10:30 am, 6:00 pm

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Friday: 9.10am

Luke 1:39-56

Sacred Heart Parish Prayer

Loving God, we honour the heart of Jesus, your beloved Son. We remember how he opened his heart in love to all people. Open our own heart to receive the gifts that continue to flow so richly from the heart of Christ, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Registration for Sacramental Program for 2021

Children of our parish who attend other than Catholic schools and wish to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Year 3) and First Holy Communion (Year 4) are required to enrol for preparation classes conducted in our parish. Enrolment forms are available in the foyer of our church.



Feast Days of the week:

Monday 16th August St Stephen of Hungary
 Thursday 19th August St John Eudes, Priest
 Friday 20th August St Bernard Abbot, Doctor
 Saturday 21st August St Pius X, Pope

Family Prayer Time For Mothers

O Loving Lord, You have created mothers in love and blessed them with children. As they work tirelessly to support their families may they be showered with your blessings.

Give mothers strength to exercise compassion as they live each day under your care. May those who are joined in your love, support mothers by their fervour of spirit and devotion to prayer. Amen



Joke Corner

Every ten years, the monks in the monastery are allowed to break their vow of silence to speak two words. Ten years go by and it's one monk's first chance. He thinks for a second before saying, "Food bad." Ten years later, he says, "Bed hard." It's the big day, a decade later. He gives the head monk a long stare and says, "I quit." "I'm not surprised," the head monk says. "You've been complaining ever since you got here."

Natural Fertility Awareness Week August 23-29, 2021

Billings LIFE is pleased to launch Natural Fertility Awareness Week with a free Webinar presentation on this year's theme **Tracking Fertility :Tracking Health.**

An information session about the Billings Ovulation Method® will be held on Monday 23rd August @ 7.30pm - 8.30pm AEST.

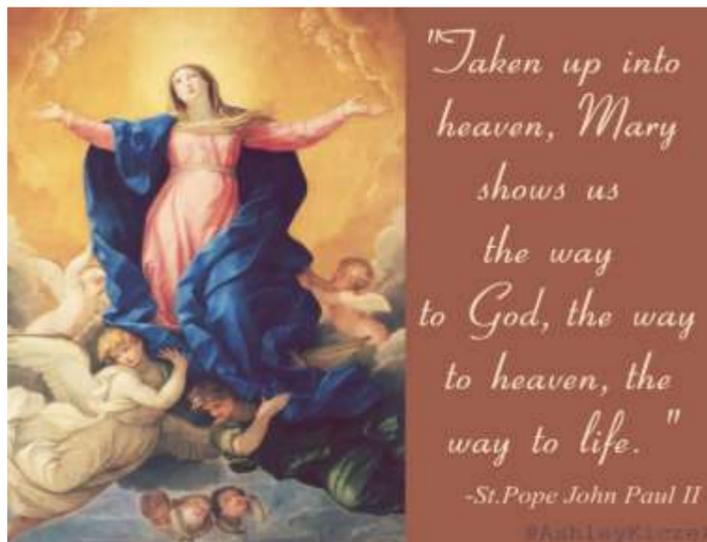
To register please go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/free-webinar-tracking-fertility-tracking-health-tickets-163000285241>

Further information about natural fertility awareness can be found at the Billings LIFE website: <https://billings.life/en/>



"Heart of Life

Position Vacant - Part-time General Office Assistant, Mondays 9am-3pm, with potential for Tuesdays also, at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, located at Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern. To assist with social media, Zoom support, administrative and general duties. Job description and applications (by 28 August 2021): contact the Secretary, email secretary@heartoflife.melbourne, or tel 9890 1101.



An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.
 (say this prayer in lieu of receiving Communion)

INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers.

COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **NEW DATE: 4 September**, Saturday 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), East Melbourne.

For more information: Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTSO>

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

Read More: [Brochure] <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

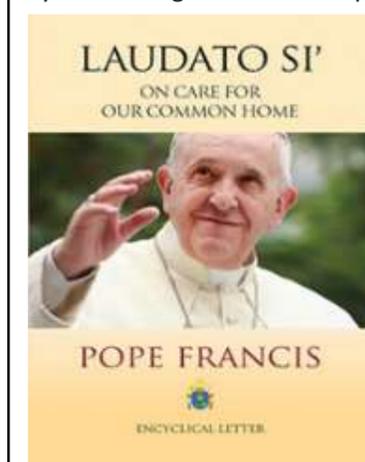
Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate (Phone) 03 9412 335 (Email) diaconate@cam.org.au

LAUDATO SI: ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

This week two very important documents on the environment were published: *The Social Justice Statement 2021-2022* titled "Cry of the Earth – Cry of the Poor" from Australian Bishops and the *International Panel on Climate Change: Sixth Assessment Report 2021* from climate scientists. The message is **CODE RED FOR HUMANITY!**

Pope Francis reminds us: **LS 85:** God has written a precious book, "whose letters are the multitude of created things present in the universe". The Canadian bishops rightly pointed out that no creature is excluded from this manifestation of God: "From panoramic vistas to the tiniest living form, nature is a constant source of wonder and awe. It is also a continuing revelation of the divine". The bishops of Japan, for their part, made a thought-provoking observation: "To sense each creature singing the hymn of its existence is to live joyfully in God's love and hope".

This contemplation of creation allows us to discover in each thing a teaching which God wishes to hand on to us, since "for the believer, to contemplate creation is to hear a message, to listen to a paradoxical and silent voice". We can say that "alongside revelation properly so-called, contained



in sacred Scripture, there is a divine manifestation in the blaze of the sun and the fall of night". Paying attention to this manifestation, we learn to see ourselves in relation to all other creatures: "I express myself in expressing the world; in my effort to decipher the sacredness of the world, I explore my own".

WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick
 Anthony, Peter Bourke,
 Pasquale Curcio, Anthony Joseph
 Paige Lapenta, John Plum ,and
 Bronislawa Slobodzian



That they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect

Those who have died recently

We Commemorate
 Mario David Santeco (RIP 8/7 - 1 month)
 Carol Sagert (5th Anniv)

O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.
 May they rest in peace. Amen.



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



God does not come in extraordinary events, but works amid the apparent monotony of our daily life, in the frequently dull rhythm of our activities, in the little things that, working with tenacity and humility, we achieve in our efforts to do his will.

Catholic Theological College
 Series of short sessions: online via Zoom
Engaging Your Faith
 Choose one, choose all, choose what interests you and all for just \$20 per session, running 21st Aug to 16th Sept
 Booking, payment and further information: www.ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/engaging-your-faith/

Roster for weekend of 21/22 Aug 2021		
	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6.00pm	Renato Tonini Teresa Dang	Mary Harb
Sun 9am (Italian)	Volunteers	Volunteers
Sun 10.30am	Eileen Stevens Sonya Bading	Ivana Lo Bello
Sun 6.00pm	Anna Liggieri Tim Rankin	Margaret Rankin

Cleaning Roster:
Saturday 21 August 2021
Volunteers
 Thank you for your hard work

