

LITURGY OF THE WORD The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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
R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 44:10-12, 16. R. v.10

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

1. 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.

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

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
R. Thanks be to God

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 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

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

A mother carries her child in her womb, giving that child a share in her own life. What if a child were able to share its life with its mother? This is what we believe happened between our Risen Lord and his mother, Mary. It is our faith that our Lord nourishes Mary with His Resurrection life, meaning that her bodysoul, her total humanity, is suffused with His Divine glory. She grace-fully made the transition from earthly to heavenly existence without the wrenching apart of body and soul which we may expect. This is what we mean by 'The Assumption'. This has been believed and celebrated since the early centuries of the church. Why was it only proclaimed by Pope Pius XII in 1950? I think because in the first half of the 20th century tens of millions were killed in wars, death camps and in the Russian and China Communist dictatorships. The Holy Spirit needed to remind the world that human beings are bodysouls made for transfiguration, not disfiguration by starvation, torture, massacre and disposal like animal carcasses. We could pause for a moment to pray that we may share in the gift of transfigured bodies at the end of history.

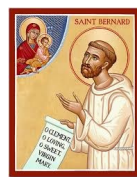
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SAINTS OF THE WEEK

Monday 16th August
St Stephen of Hungary

Friday 20th August
St Bernard of Clairvaux

Saturday 21st August
St Pius X



ST BERNARD'S PARISH
BATEMANS BAY
2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536



P.O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.
Tel: 4472 4153
E: batemansbay@cg.org.au
Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay
Office Hours: 10am to 2pm
Tuesday-Friday

Priest: Rev. Martins Aloga
Secretary: Roslynn Trompp
Finance Admin: Anne Jackson
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
Asst. PC Co-ord: Sr. Marie McAlister
Youth Minister: Liarna Miller

Principal: Mrs. Jo Wain
St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
R.E.C: Sharon Beashel
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Erica Drewsen



For the celebration of the Word and the Eucharist



Singalong - postponed due to Covid restrictions

Cenacle Prayer - Tues at 4.45pm Church
Enjoy The Good News - postponed due to Covid restrictions

Opal Mass - Every 1st Wed 10.30am
Glen Mass - Every 2nd Wed 10.30am .
Goodwin Manor Mass Every 3rd Wed 2pm
Maranatha Mass - Every 4th Wed 2pm

Craft Group - Thurs 10am -12pm
Adoration - Fri (20/8) 5:30pm

Charismatic Prayer Group - Friday (3/9) after morning mass.

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop - Postponed due to Covid19 regulations date to be advised.

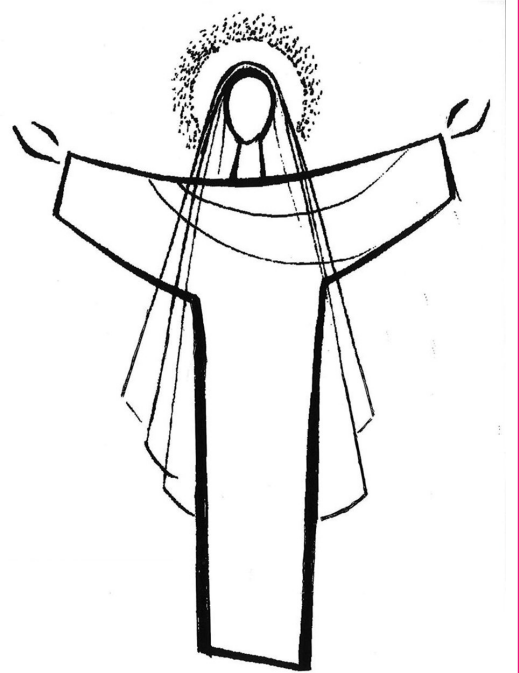
THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

On August 15 we **celebrate** the culmination of Mary the Mother of God's life as we reflect on the mystery of the bodily taking up of Mary the mother of Jesus into heaven at the end of her earthly life.

This doctrine was proclaimed by Pius XII in November, 1950. Pope Benedict XVI speaking of the **Feast of the Assumption** in 2005 says the Feast is 'a day of joy God has won. Love has won. It has won life. Love has shown that it is stronger than death, that **God possess the true strength and that his strength is goodness and love.** We are to be brought with Mary to the glory of the Resurrection [Prayer after Communion]. In the second reading God reminds us that 'we are co-heirs with Christ' and 'all I have is yours' [Luke 15:31]

August is also a month that challenges and reminds us of World War 11 – the deadliest conflict that resulted in 85 million fatalities; the majority being civilians. Millions of people died due to genocides including the Holocaust, starvation and disease. The anniversary of the first atomic bombs dropped on in the cities of Hiroshima [Aug 6] and Nagasaki [Aug 9] also occur this month. In the aftermath people around the world struggled to comprehend 'people's inhumanity to people' as it was revealed.

In response the UN drew up the declaration of Human Rights in 1948, while the Church proclaimed and affirmed the dignity of the human person, not only of Mary the mother of Jesus, but of all human beings, through the dogma of the Assumption [1950]. The Assumption speaks of human dignity 'lifted up' after a horrific time of war. God wants us to know that dignity, to cherish it in ourselves and honour it in others. As Fr. Billy Swan states: Human dignity is 'assumed' and lifted closer towards its future in the company of Mary in whose life the seeds of Resurrection have fully blossomed' [Word on Fire] **Mary is a profound symbol of hope and healing for the body and soul in a broken world.** May we continue to respect and honour the human dignity of each person, blessing all with kindness and compassion.



Marie Weatherall

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

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.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

Tues 17th: 5.30pm Healing Mass
Wed 18th: 9am Mass
Thurs 19th: 9.00 am Mass
Fri 20th: 9.15 am Mass
Sat 21st: 9am Mass /Rosary
9.30am Reconciliation
6pm Mass
Sunday 22nd: 9am Mass 5pm
Family & Youth Mass

ROSTERS

14/15 AUG 2021
Church Cleaning
B Favetta/J Nugent (16-20Aug)

Welcomers
6pm C Brownlie
9am C Connell
5pm D Ebejer
Commentator
6pm J Quigley
9am M Lowe
5pm M Devine
Readers:
6pm J Mackay
9am C Lowe
5pm S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm A Rogers
9am N Page
5pm M Devine
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Jackson
5pm J O'Sullivan
REGISTRARS
6pm M Vidovic & Zdenka
9am M & SBeashel
5pm. M DeSmet
MORNING TEA
No morning tea due to COVID19

21/22 AUG 2021
Church Cleaning
D & L May (23-27Aug)

Welcomers
6pm D Robinson
9am Sr Marie
5pm M de Smet
Commentator
6pm P O'Kelly
9am A Skinner
5pm A Horsfall
Readers:
6pm P Nolan
9am A Brown
5pm J O'Sullivan
Eucharistic Ministers
6pm C Brownlie
9am L Stevens
5pm Volunteer
Computer Screen
6pm K Conway
9am T Priest
5pm M O'Neill
REGISTRARS
6pm P Jobs
9am G Norris/BBasevi
5pm. Volunteer
MORNING TEA
No morning tea due to COVID19

LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY



Blessed Among Women – The Feast of the Assumption

The feasts of Mary in the liturgical year are a virtual catalogue of the works of God in humanity and the collaboration of humanity in the Incarnation of the divine in our midst. She is, the ancient prayer reminds us all
- **“blessed among women.”**

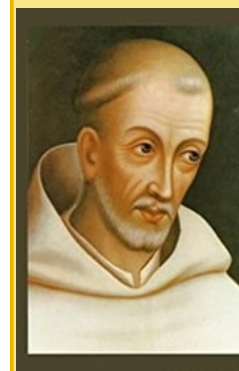
Mary is simply a woman like ourselves whose acceptance of the will of God changed the trajectory of humanity. The implications for the rest of us are awesome. The implications for women as women are particularly impacting. If God worked through one woman to bring redemption, how is it that anyone can argue that God does not go on working through other women as well?

Recognition of this relationship between God and humankind in the ongoing creation of the world is one of the most ancient teachings of liturgical theology. If it applies to Mary, it also applies to us.

The proper place for devotion to Mary is a clear one: she is the mother, the woman, the human participant in the work of redemption by her Son. She is the one who heard the Word of God in her heart and followed it to the end, whatever the cost to herself. By her unconditional fiat, she became the perfect recipient of God's will that each of us would like to be. Her life belongs not simply to her own life but the life of the world as well.

It is in Mary that we see God's creative will being done. In her, God not only prevails over the inherent weakness of mortality but brings it to the fullness of life for all our sakes. In the memories of the May altars, the crowning of May queens, and the praying of a thousand decades of the Rosary, all those ideas came to life in me and generations of others, came to heart in us, came to stay forever.
(Joan Chittister, 2020)

The Gospel today recounts the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth – reaching out in love. Mary responds with joy - the Magnificat which is prayed and sung often. Her words
‘My soul is praising the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour’.
Let us join with Mary in praising the greatness of God in our everyday lives.



St Bernard of Clairvaux Doctor of the Church

FEAST OF ST BERNARDS - FRIDAY 20TH AUGUST

Mass will be at 9.15am

There are those who seek knowledge
for the sake of knowledge;
that is *Curiosity*

There are those who seek knowledge to
be known by others; that is *Vanity*.

There are those who seek knowledge in
order to serve;
that is **LOVE.**

HELP NEEDED: We have
two elderly parishioners who
need visitation and Holy
Communion in the **Surf Beach/
Denham's Beach Area.**
If you have the time to do this
ministry your help would be
most appreciated.
Resources and 1:1 training
available if needed.
Marie Weatherall
[m] 0405 028 057

**Gathering: ‘Nourishing my/our Spirit’
facilitated by Loretta Parsley, Aboriginal Elder.**

Loretta will share her life, culture, connection to the Land, art,
spirituality and how we can nourish our spirit.

Bookings have closed. A reminder to those who have booked
Tues Aug 17 at St Bernard's Church, 9am Registration for 9:15am start –12:30pm.
Please bring a plate for Morning Tea.
Covid Protocol will be followed. Wear a mask.

CHILDREN OF THE BLACK SKIRT

In aid of Maranatha Lodge.
Saturday 18th September @ 2 pm
Ticket purchased by:
Email: purplepowell@gmail.com
Phone: 0421 420 605

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

*Gentle Joseph:
Teach us to be gentle
with our power
and strong in our
tenderness.*



The Updated Archdiocese Covid Protocol
**It is available on our website. Please bring your mask when you
come to Mass and observe the practice of hand sanitising and
social distancing.**

**Holy Communion only under the species of bread and is to be received
only in the hand.**

Thank you for your co-operation.
We hope to create a safe environment for everybody.

WRAP WITH LOVE

Wednesday 25th August in
the Meeting Room.
Enquires:
Jenny 0414 664 077

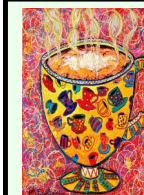
Joy Giust and family would like
to thank you sincerely for your
kindness and
sympathy following the passing
of Bill Giust. Please keep him
in your prayers.



Remembering the Sick:

Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Eileen Hogg, Antony and Andrew, Lois White, Rita Condon, Teresa Humphrey, Catherine Mylott, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, James Lee, Mary Henderson, George Fitzgerald, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Margaret Harris, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

Death Anniversaries: Giuseppe Ferrante, Regina Mass, Denis Mayer, Ray Duke, Pam Carriage, Robyn Moore, Des Beckhaus, Mato Katic, Anthony Clift, Evert Ordelman, Jan Schor
We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Patricia Sweeney, Lorna Gunn, Bill Guist, Savannah Leane, Maree Gregory, Frank Rosin, Guiseppe Nibali, Maree Killmier, Harold Fox, Anna Ordelman, David Bushnell, Susan McNamara, Liberata & Francisco Desabella, Elaine Jane Ceruzi, all souls in Purgatory, Anacorita Villanueva and Numerina Sencio



COFFEE CLUB

Thursdays after
Mass.
All are welcome.

VENUE: Corrigans Cove

COFFEE N CHAT

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

**If you would like to
join the Parish
e-platform giving,
at the start of the new
financial year, the
details are as follows:**
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BSB: 062-786
Bank Acc:000012939
Ref: Family Name



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