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**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
 AUGUST 15, 2021**

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 14**

*The Vigil of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
 5:00PM James Viola—Memorial

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 15**

*The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
 7:30 AM Evelyn & Michael Simon—Memorial  
 9:00AM Regina M. Capuano—17th Anniversary  
 10:30AM Elizabeth Miranda—1st Anniversary

**MONDAY, AUGUST 16**

*Weekday*  
 7:30AM Vito, Marie & Thomas Brescia—Memorial

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 17**

*Weekday*  
 7:30AM Helen M. Reilly—1st Anniversary

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18**

*Weekday*  
 7:30AM Dolores K. Vespia—Birthday Remembrance

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 19**

*Weekday; St. John Eudes, Priest*  
 7:30AM Michael Zwolinski—7th Anniversary

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 20**

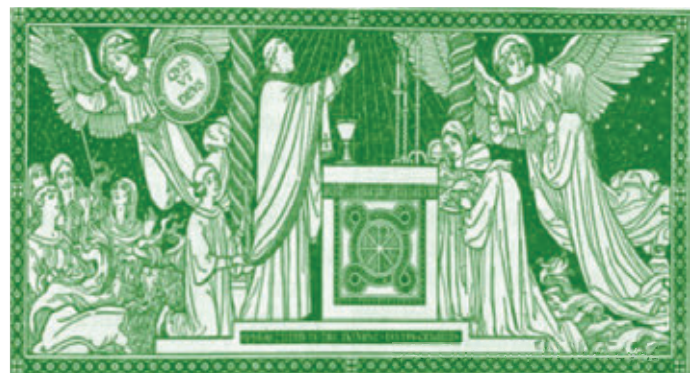
*St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church*  
 7:30AM Elena L. Bernstrom—Memorial

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 21**

*St. Pius X, Pope*  
 8:30AM Marcia Durel—Birthday Remembrance  
*Mass of Anticipation for 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
 5:00PM Joanne Backiel—Birthday Remembrance

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 22**

*The Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
 7:30 AM Mary Palombo Falchini—Memorial  
 9:00AM Anne M. Sedlock—3rd Anniversary  
 10:30AM Ruth Guilfoyle—100th Birthday Remembrance







Dear Parishioners

All Catholics are called to be missionaries by their baptism, sharing the good news of salvation in Jesus by their actions and words. Pope Francis states: *"We must renew the Church's missionary commitment and give fresh evangelical impulse to Her work of preaching and bringing to the world the salvation of Jesus Christ to the world."*

Every baptized Catholic has a responsibility to share the Gospel. Baptism and membership in the Church go together and are essential for salvation. And they also can contribute to peace and harmony in the world. The Mission of sharing the Gospel and offering them the gift of baptism *"is part of our identity as Christians,"* Pope Francis has said.

We bear witness to this missionary calling at OLM this weekend. We welcome Father Jose Jacob, who is preaching all the weekend Masses about the work of missionaries in Papua New Guinea. It is a small South Pacific nation of about 7.5 million people, more than one-quarter Catholic.

It is the world's most linguistically diverse nation, with more than 800 languages spoken. The Church first arrived by French missionaries in 1847, but the early efforts to evangelize proved problematic. In 1855, an Italian priest and missionary, Giovanni Battista Mazzucconi, was killed by hostile natives. He is now beatified.

By the 1880s, the Church began to make significant inroads, and as the 20th century

arrived, there were several centers of missionary activity. Such progress, however, brought risk, and on August 13, 1904, ten missionaries, including five religious sisters, were killed on the island of New Britain.

Yet many natives continued to convert to the Catholic Faith. However, missionary work was curtailed by the World Wars, particularly the Second World War, which saw invasion and occupation by the Japanese military. They persecuted, imprisoned, and killed many missionaries of any Christian denomination.

The post-WWII era saw a rise in missionaries, mainly from Australia, Canada, and the US. In 1966, the Catholic hierarchy of archdioceses and dioceses was established in Papua New Guinea. There are now a total of 19 dioceses, including four archdioceses. The Catholic Faith is the nation's largest denomination, with 27 percent of the total population, followed by Evangelical Lutheranism (19.5 percent), the United Church (11.5 percent), and the Seventh Day Adventist Church (10 percent), according to the US State Department.

The Diocese of Daru-Kiunga is in the remote section of Papua New Guinea. It is 38,470 Square Miles with a total population of 211,000 people with 51,000 Catholics. There are just thirteen parishes with only one Diocesan Priest. However, there are fourteen Missionary Priests who serve the Diocese. There are about 50 Religious Sisters and Brothers who also help there.

The Missionaries who serve and have served there do

incredible work proclaiming the Gospel and converting souls to Christ and the Catholic Faith. In 1970, there were just over 2,000 Catholics! Fifty years later, there are over 50,000!

This weekend we are called to support the Mission Church in Papua New Guinea. Each year we are reminded of our call to be missionaries. And while we cannot physically go to Papua New Guinea, we can support the Mission with our prayers and our financial donations.

As we give thanks for the blessings of our faith, our Church, and our parish, let us be mindful of the Missionary Church. The Mission Church is poor but vibrant and needs our help.

The Second Collection this weekend is dedicated to aiding the Diocese of Daru-Kiunga in Papua New Guinea. There is no envelope for this Second Collection. However, you may make a check payable to OLM with "Mission Co-Op" in the memo. If you are unprepared to help at Mass this weekend, you can drop a check off at the Parish Office or in the deposit box in the vestibule this coming week. I thank you for your generous financial support and prayers for the Missions. Welcome, Father Jacob!

Be well. Stay safe. Do good. God Bless. Go Sox! Happy Feast of the Assumption!



**WEEKEND OF AUGUST 14/15, 2021**  
**Diocese of Daru-Kiunga**  
**in Papua New Guinea**

The country of Papua New Guinea is a cluster of islands located south of the equator to the north of Australia and to the east of Indonesia. The Diocese of Daru-Kiunga is one of the 18 Catholic dioceses in this country and covers the entire state of Western Province. The geography of this massive area of approximately 42,000 sq. miles is most challenging: swamps, lakes, rivers and mountains most of which are dense tropical forests cover the area. As the country is close to the equator it is very hot and humid throughout the year.

The tribal people, of Melanesian race, came in contact with the external world when Montfort Missionaries from Canada arrived in the late 1950's. Since then the Church in this remote and undeveloped part of the world has brought faith, health and education to the people. Today the Catholic population is around 40,000 and makes up approximately 42% of the total population of the state.

The church began its work in the remote villages by establishing schools and primary health clinics which have brought considerable improvement in the quality of life of the people. To this day it is the diocese that provides basic health and educational needs of the people, in the absence of such services from the government. The area has few transportation facilities and depends on small planes to transport essential medical supplies and other necessities. In the absence of electricity and roads our main means of communication between parishes and the diocesan headquarters has been two way radios.

A very vibrant and energetic Church has emerged here over the past 50 years due to the hard work of the innumerable missionaries, some of whom have given their entire working years in the service of these simple, yet happy and welcoming people. Having emerged in the post Vatican period, the diocese promotes the Spirituality of Communion among all its faithful thus involving them in the decision making from the grass roots level.

One of the main challenges before the diocese is to raise enough funds to continue all these services in the formation of faith as well as other humanitarian and developmental activities. It is with the help of Catholics from Canada, the United States and Germany that the diocese has been able to accomplish so much over these years.

Through the mission appeal during the weekend of August 14th and 15th, 2021, we invite the parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church to join us in bringing the message of Jesus to the people of Western Province in Papua New Guinea. Fr. Jose Jacob is preaching all weekend Masses.

Please visit us at: [missionfrontier.org](http://missionfrontier.org)

**Weekly Collection**

**August 8, 2021**

Weekly.....	\$7,663.00
EFT.....	\$3,909.00
	<b>Total=\$11,572.00</b>
Outreach.....	\$1,717.00
Peter's Pence.....	\$1,551.00

**August 10, 2020**

Weekly.....	\$11,870.00
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**Thank You for Your Generous Support!**



**Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.**

**Second Collections**  
**This Week: Mission Co-op Appeal**

**OLM Parish Office Summer Hours**



**Monday—Thursday**  
**8:00AM—4:00PM**

*The Parish Office is closed on all Fridays in August*



In your charity please pray for the happy repose of the souls of the faithful departed most especially **William F. Brady and Gregory P. Solas** whose Masses of Christian Burial were celebrated at OLM last week.

**Rest in Peace**



*Congratulations  
To  
The  
Newly Baptized*



**Eleanor Elizabeth Overton,**  
and her parents, Robert & Jennifer.

**Grant Hutchman McCarthy,**  
and his parents, Kevin & Marissa.

*“Dear brothers and sisters: these children have been reborn through Baptism, and are now called children of God, for so indeed they are. Through Confirmation they will receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit and, approaching the altar of the Lord, they will share at the table of Sacrifice, and will call upon God as Father in the midst of the Church.”*  
— from The Rite of Baptism

**Outreach  
Update**

- **OLM Food Pantry** is always in need of food items and paper goods for the members of our local community. Please place all donated **non-perishable food items only and paper goods** in the box in the vestibule of Church or the box on the porch of Mercy House. **Thank you for your support!**
- **OLM Bereavement Group:** Next Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, August 19 at 4:00PM in Mercy House.** All those who are grieving are invited to join with us.
- For information, please contact the OLM Outreach Director, Doug Green at 401-884-4410 or email at outreach@olmparish.org

  
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**Monday, September 20, 2021  
1:00 p.m Shotgun Start**

**11:30 Lunch/Registration  
Quidnessett Country Club**

**Pray  
for  
Vocations**





# The Solemnity Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

AUGUST 15, 2021

## What is the Assumption?

The first name of this solemnity was the Feast of Mary, Mother of God. Later, its name in the East carried over, the Dormition (or Falling Asleep) of Mary. In the West, it became known as the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This solemnity celebrates the fact that Mary's Assumption is "a pledge of the future participation of the members of the mystical Body of Christ in the paschal glory of the Risen Christ." It shows that the Lord "reserves a munificent reward for his humble Servant because of her faithful cooperation with the divine plan, which is a destiny of fullness, happiness, glorification of her immaculate soul, her virginal body, perfect configuration to her Risen Son" (Directory, no. 180). The Mass has a proper vigil, and the solemnity replaces the Mass of the day when it occurs on a Sunday in Ordinary Time.

### What does this all mean?

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII declared the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which the Church celebrates every year on August 15. Simply put, the dogma of the Assumption states that at the end of her life, the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken, body and soul, into Heaven.

While this event isn't reflected in Sacred Scripture, it is clearly part of the Church's earliest observance. In the sixth century, St. John Damascene wrote in one of his sermons, "Your sacred and happy soul, as nature will have it, was separated in death from your most blessed and immaculate body, and although the body was duly interred, it did not remain in the state of death, neither was it dissolved by decay; your most pure and sinless body was not left on earth, but you were transferred to your heavenly throne."





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