

# August 13, 2017 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, August 12

5:00 p.m. +**Louis Kryzch**  
By Alison Ervin

### Sunday, August 13

8:00 a.m. **Parishioners of St. Theodore Church**

10:30 a.m. +**Victor Vallo, Sr.**  
By Victoria and Bob Dicheck

### Monday, August 14 *The Assumption Vigil*

6:30 p.m. +**Elisa Mildrum**  
By Paul and Elisabeth Boccolini

### Tuesday, August 15 (NO MORNING MASS)

8:45 a.m. **In Honor of the Madonna of Health**  
By Angela Gross

6:30 p.m. **Blessings of Health for Keira Hedges & Mary Rupell**  
By Family

### Wednesday, August 16

8:45 a.m. +**Frank and Samuel Ranelli**  
By Theresa Cappello

### Thursday, August 17 (NO MASS)

### Friday, August 18

8:45 a.m. +**Peter Bohlman**  
By A Friend

### Saturday, August 19

5:00 p.m. **Blessings for Susan Reynolds**  
By Bill and Mary Supple

### Sunday, August 20

8:00 a.m. **Parishioners of St. Theodore Church**

10:30 a.m. +**James Harris**  
By Brian and Gerry Moss

## Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary August 15

### *Holy Day of Obligation*

The Church does not just “assume” that any canonized saint is in heaven. Rather, it authoritatively declares that a person is in glory and should therefore be honored in liturgy and imitated in life. Our church calendar is filled with saints' days.

From very early times, August 15 has been observed as the “birthday” of our Blessed Lady. On this greatest of all Marian feasts we celebrate the greatest moment of her life – being permanently reunited with her son and sharing his glory.

All the saints experience the “beatific vision” upon their entry into heaven, and we celebrate this on every saint's day. But there is something unique about Mary's day. The Catholic Church teaches authoritatively that it is not just Mary's soul that was admitted to God's glory, but that at the end of her

earthly life, Mary's body as well as her soul was assumed into heaven by the loving power of God.

There is no eyewitness account of this actual event recorded in the Bible. Come to think of it, though, no one witnessed the actual resurrection of Jesus either. The evidence was an empty tomb and eyewitness reports that the Risen Lord had appeared to them.



There is a tomb at the foot of the Mt. of Olives where ancient tradition says that Mary was laid. But there is nothing inside. There are no relics, as with other saints. And credible apparitions of Mary, though not recorded in the New Testament, have been recorded from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century till today.

Mary is not equal to Christ, of course. Jesus, though possessing a complete human nature, is the Eternal Word made flesh. Mary is only a creature.

But she is a unique creature, the highest of all creatures. This is not just because she was born without the handicap of original sin. Eve and Adam were born free of sin as well, but it did not stop them from sinning as soon as they had the chance. Mary instead chose, with the help of God's grace, to preserve her God-given purity throughout the whole of her life.

The bodily corruption of death was not God's original plan. It came into the world through sin, as St. Paul says “the sting of death is sin” (I Cor 15:56). So it is fitting that she who knew no sin should know no decay and no delay in enjoying the full fruits of her son's work. It is fitting that she who stood by Christ under the cross should stand by him bodily at the right hand of the Father. “*The Queen stands at your right hand, in gold of Ophir*” (Ps 45). Enoch and Elijah, who the Old Testament says were assumed into heaven, were surely great in God's eyes. But they do not begin to compare with the immaculate mother of His Son.

We too, one day, insofar as we accept God's grace, will stand at His right hand. But Paul says that “all will come to life again, but each one in proper order” (I Cor 15:23). The Redeemer, of course, blazes the resurrection trail. But who is to be first among his disciples? The one who is last is first, the Lord's humble handmaid who did no more than say yes, and keep saying yes, and whose soul magnified not herself, but the Lord.

“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. "We may be sure of it: from on high, Mary follows our footsteps with gentle concern, dispels the gloom in moments of darkness and distress, reassures us with her motherly hand. Supported by awareness of this, let us continue confidently on our path of Christian commitment wherever Providence may lead us. Let us forge ahead in our lives under Mary's guidance". — Pope Benedict XVI



Stephen, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Keira Hedges, Peter, Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Paine, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Kerry Kraft, Peter S., Mary Supple, Mary Rupell, Patty Mahoney, Susan Reynolds, Millie B., Robert Dicheck, Christian, Tara, Zoe, Teagan, Eric Harding



By now many of you have heard or read about the tragedy that struck the Anema family, owners of *Dutch Valley Florist*. Randy Smith, the husband of Vicki Anema Smith was killed in a

farming accident last week. Randy leaves behind his wife and their young son, Michael. However, some of you may not know that the Anema's of *Dutch Valley Florist* have donated fresh flowers to our church every week since 2008. Their floral donations have saved us many thousands of dollars yearly and we are grateful to them for their generosity.

**The Parish of St. Theodore Church will be taking up a collection on August 27 to help in little Michael's upbringing. This collection will show our appreciation for their generosity to our church and in sympathy for their profound loss.**

### Our Weekly Offering

Last Week \$1,925. Last Year \$2,034

Our past bulletins have shown the amount of weekly contributions vs last year's. However interesting that may be to you, it doesn't address the financial health of the parish. To give you an indication if we are meeting the budget requirements or falling short, from now on the bulletin will show the amount needed for weekly expenses vs the amount of Sunday's collection.

**Church weekly expenses \$3,637;**

**Aug. 6 Collection: \$1,925; Deficit -\$1,712.**

Listed below are some of our expenses

- A significant portion of expenses is our **Diocese Assessment, Property & Liability Insurance and Catholic School Assessment: \$40,987 for 2017.**
- Some additional expenses: Priest salary, health insurance, pension, social security, food and household expenses, weekend and/or weekday priest assistance; staff salaries; pick-up truck insurance; pick-up truck & lawn mower expenses; utilities; liturgy & worship supplies; office supplies; Religious Education books & supplies; postage; children bulletins; heating & AC repairs.

We will be trying to hold events that will help raise needed money for the parish and foremost, to help restore the spirit of fellowship amongst our parish. If you have any ideas that could help us reach these goal, please email them to [sttheodorenj@gmail.com](mailto:sttheodorenj@gmail.com). Your ideas will be welcome and taken under consideration.

Thank you, parishioers, for your devotion to the parish and your willingness to support all the church's endeavors.



still waiting for registrations.

**Registration for Religious Education parents:** please take the time to send in your registrations. Classes will begin in a month and we are