

August 15, 2021 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Stewardship is a Way of Life.

Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income for the week of August 1, 2021:

Regular: Not available

Tithing income for the week of August 8, 2021:

Regular: Not available

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY
READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
August 15, 2021

“And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me... Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.”

Our Catholic faith informs us that at the end of her earthly life, Mary was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory. She who was conceived free from original sin, who gave birth to our Savior, was now rewarded as she was reunited with her Divine Son in heaven.

Try to imagine the awesomeness of that meeting. If the conversation between Mary and Elizabeth in Luke's gospel led to the beauty of the Magnificat, perhaps just the gaze of Mother and Son captured it all.

As we pray the rosary or recite the Hail Mary, we too have our conversation with her, as she did with her relative. May we be comforted by the example of Mary. With the horror of the coronavirus, may we devoutly ask her protection as we sinners pray, 'now and at the hour of our death.'

**First Reading: Revelations 11: 19a;
12: 1-6a, 10ab**

There appeared a woman clothed with the sun, crowned with twelve stars, having the moon beneath her feet. Her newborn son went not to the huge red dragon, but to God and His throne. God's kingdom and the authority of his Anointed One have come.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-27

Paul reminds us that in Christ all is brought to life. At Christ's coming, all who belong to Christ will be part of the kingdom handed over to the Father. Christ will destroy all his enemies, the last one being death.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

When Mary greets Elizabeth, her child leaps in her womb. Elizabeth calls Mary blessed among women and commends her faith in the Lord's words. Mary praises God for his greatness and mercy, his concern for the lowly and the hungry, his promise of mercy to Abraham and his children forever.

LITURGICAL NOTES

Mass  *for the*
Intentions *Week*



And Weekly Readings

**Saturday, August 14: St. Maximilian Kolbe,
Priest & Martyr (Memorial)**

Joshua 24:14-29; Psalm 16:1-2a & 5, 7-8, 11;
Matthew 19:13-15

5:30 PM People of the Parish

**Sunday, August 15: The Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**

Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Psalm 45:10,
11, 12, 16; 1 Corinthians 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56

9:15 Frances Schilling

Monday, August 16: Weekday

Judges 2:11-19; Psalm 106:34-35, 36-37, 39-40,
43ab & 44; Matthew 19:16-22

9:00 AM People of the Parish

Tuesday, August 17: Weekday

Judges 6:11-24a; Psalm 85:9, 11-12, 13-14;
Matthew 19:23-30

Wednesday, August 18: Weekday

Judges 9:6-15; Psalm 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7;
Matthew 20:1-16

Thursday, August 19: Weekday

Judges 11:29-39a; Psalm 40:5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10;
Matthew 22:1-14

**Friday, August 20: St Bernard, Abbot & Doctor
of the Church (Memorial)**

Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Psalm 146:5-6ab, 6c-7,
8-9a, 9bc-10; Matthew 22:34-40

Saturday, August 21: St Pius X, Pope (Memorial)

Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Psalm 128:1b-2, 3, 4, 5;
Matthew 23:1-12

5:30 PM Donald Thome from Karen Thome

**Sunday, August 22: 21st Sunday in Ordinary
Time**

Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Psalm 34:2-3, 16-17,
18-19, 20-21; Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69

9:15 AM Mary Ann Truitt from Minerva Bolger

Catholic Bishops of PA Prioritize Safety as Mass Obligation Resumes

Jesus commanded his followers to care for the sick and to bring physical and spiritual healing to everyone. In that spirit, the Catholic bishops of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have issued this statement: Caring for the health, safety and spiritual wellbeing of parishioners and their communities is a priority of all the bishops of Pennsylvania. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, dioceses have made every effort to implement best practices in public health for every aspect of parish life. Each diocese is continuously re-evaluating coronavirus mitigation efforts, frequently consulting with state and federal healthcare experts and constantly monitoring data. Diocesan leaders are listening to input from parishioners, including those with medical expertise, as cases of the Delta and other new variants are surging. It now seems evident that this global health crisis could linger for months or years to come. **Our call as shepherds is to provide the Eucharist in a safe environment. To that end, each diocesan bishop will communicate to the faithful, asking them to prioritize their own health and the health of their neighbors and faith communities.** As previously announced, the bishops are reinstating the obligation to attend Mass in person on Sundays and Holy Days beginning on Sun., Aug. 15, 2021. **However, by longstanding Church law, this obligation does not apply to those who are: sick, have a serious health risk, in a household with those at risk, primary caregivers to those at risk, have serious anxiety or concerns about being in a large-group setting due to COVID-19, unable to attend Mass in person.** As an act of charity, anyone who believes they might have COVID-19 or one of its variants or have been exposed should stay home. Those who are legitimately excused from Mass on Sundays and Holy Days are encouraged to spend time in prayer, meditating on the death and Resurrection of the Lord, reading the sacred Scriptures, and uniting themselves to Christ. They are also encouraged to investigate the numerous options to view broadcasts and streams of Mass, which are continuing across the state. **While masks are not currently mandated, each parishioner is strongly encouraged to make a responsible decision about the use of masks and vaccinations following in the examples of all Pennsylvania Bishops, Pope Francis and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI who have all been vaccinated for the common good.** Our coronavirus mitigation efforts will continue to evolve, based on the most up-to-date public health information. Each bishop will continue to communicate with the faithful as changes become necessary.



Ministry Schedule: August 14-15 Assumption

Sat. 5:30 PM

Lector: C. Fitzgerald

EMHC: A. Zarnowski

Altar Server: J. Zarnowski

Cantor: M. Kerchusky

Usher: T. Kerchusky

Sun. 9:15 AM

Lector: G. Treaster

EMHC: D. Swigart

Altar Server: St. Michael's Guard

Cantor: A. Arnold

Usher: S. Arnold, L. Bastian

Ministry Schedule: August 21-22

Sat. 5:30 PM

Lector: C. Fitzgerald

EMHC: A. Zarnowski

Altar Server: J. Zarnowski

Cantor: M. Kerchusky

Usher: T. Kerchusky

Sun. 9:15 AM

Lector: J. Kelly

EMHC: D. Parson

Altar Server: St. Michael's Guard

Cantor: M. Miller

Usher: R. Aufer, M. Eberts

FAITH MATTERS

With Fr. Peter Rettig



Utilitarianism - the dangerously attractive philosophy...

Have you ever had a piece of damaged furniture and said, "It's just not worth keeping!" That's because it doesn't serve its purpose anymore. After all, who would want a sink that keeps leaking or a chair that keeps collapsing? But what if we applied this mindset to human life? The Catholic Church has a long history of providing health care, particularly for the dying, as an extension of Christ's command of charity to one's neighbor. This moral teaching historically overflowed into the American medical system. However, such a charitable approach is clearly disappearing in the modern medical world. The secular, or non-religious, medical stance largely uses utilitarian ethics to justify its procedures. In fact, utilitarianism IS the philosophy from which most modern thought stems. Now you might be thinking, "Whoa! What do all these words mean???" Well, utilitarianism is defined by its root word – *utility*. The utilitarian mindset deems an object's worth based on its utility, or usefulness. For example, have you noticed how architecture of government buildings built 100+ years ago is so much more artistic, whereas in the last 100 years it has become more drab; a bleak repetition of concrete and metal beams? That's because the modern utilitarian mindset has deemed decoration as expensive, unnecessary, and not useful. When it's applied to architecture it's arguably harmless, simply making your surroundings a little less attractive. But when utilitarianism is applied to human life, it becomes the darkest of philosophies. Utilitarian thought would deem a bedridden person worthless since he or she does not contribute to society, but only drains its resources. Utilitarian thought teaches that the fetus with Down Syndrome should be terminated since he/she will have a "hard life." Utilitarian thought sees the person with severe chronic pain as not worth living because he/she should be "freed from

suffering.” Essentially, utilitarian thought puts a price tag on life, ignoring the human’s inherent dignity. The Holy Roman Church views such a philosophy as product centric. We mustn’t label people based on how much they’re worth. All people have the same infinite worth in God’s eyes because we are his children. All people are equal. All people are loved infinitely by their Father and Creator. Life is not just a thing, but rather, a GOOD thing! And, we don’t have the right to tamper with human life since we are not the authors of their own lives, but rather, our loving God is.

CCD News

 **Registration for all new students in grades K thru 8 will be after each Mass on Sept. 5th, in the church basement.** Classes begin Sept. 12th from 9 AM until 10:15 AM. Grades K thru 5 will be Zooming for at least the first half of the year. Grades 6, 7 & 8 will meet in the church basement.

CCD Teachers Needed

We are in urgent need of CCD teachers and substitute teachers. Anyone interested in volunteering each Sunday morning during the school year to teach CCD is asked to contact Shane or Elizabeth Armstrong.



When: Sunday, Sep. 12 @6:30-8:30 *** (2nd and 4th Sundays of every month).***

Why: Come and make Christ your personal friend while having fun with other guys and girls your age.

Moms and Dads, we will meet every 2nd and 4th Sunday, beginning Sep. 12, so mark it on your calendars as a reoccurring event! Fr. Peter kindly asks that, if possible, at least one other adult (parent, family member, or friend 18 years or older) remain present during each meeting as a chaperone.

Christ is your best friend. Get ready to know Christ on a level you’ve never imagined. Come, and see...

- Fr. Peter Rettig
- **Please continue to pray for the repose of the souls of:**
- Genevieve Gregos John T. Kromel
- Steven Graham William Nash
- Nicholas Spak Roseanne Spak
- Frances Schilling Mary Tonge
- Mary Ann Truitt
-

ST. JUDE OFFICE HOURS:

The office will be open on Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Also, immediately after Sunday services. Please have any announcements to the church office by Thursday at 10:00 a.m. rectory@stjudemifflintown.org



Hey TEENAGER! Did you know that you’re awesome??? And, do you know how much God loves you??? In fact, when I was praying the other day, God told me how awesome YOU are. That’s why I’m reaching out to you personally to invite you to the “St. Jude Parish Youth Kickoff.” Come and enjoy **music, food, wholesome fun, and the love of Christ.** Plus, you can hang out with the new priest, Fr. Peter Rettig!

Who: You, and many other teenagers!

What: A kickoff party for the St. Jude Parish Youth Group.

Where: We will meet in the St. Jude Parish **rectory** – 3918 William Penn Highway, Mifflintown, PA 17059.

Evangelization Ideas for August...or Any Time

Evangelization is about proclaiming or re-proclaiming, in word and deed, the Good News of Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church. Why not take time to practice some of these simple evangelization tips today?



- ✚ **Be kind, say hello, and smile at people...even when you don’t feel like it...especially then!**
- ✚ **Forgive everyone and pray for reconciliation with those you might be at odds with...Think of the “Our Father,”...and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us”.**
- ✚ **Besides going to Mass Aug. 15 (Solemnity of the Assumption), also pray the 5 Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary on that day.**

Catholic Charismatic Day of Renewal with Fr Weary

For all seeking healing, light, & growth in the power of the Holy Spirit, please save the date, **September 18, 2021**, from 8am-3pm, for the **Catholic Charismatic Day of Renewal** at the Diocesan Center (4800 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg). Mark your calendar now! The theme **Out of Darkness, Into the Light: God's Power over Pandemic** will be presented by **Keynote Speaker Rev. William Weary**. Please join us for Mass, Adoration, Talks, Prayer for Power & Healing of the Holy Spirit and More! A fee of \$20 per person will be accepted on site the same day and only by cash or check. No credit cards will be accepted. We ask that you **pre-register by Sept. 8th**. Lunch will be ordered **only** for those who have pre-registered. To pre-register call Joyce at 717-308-7245, or email charismatic.harrisburg@gmail.com. For additional information visit aliveinthepirit.net. Don't miss the grace!

RCIA Classes

Sharing is the basis for our religion—sharing God's love with those around us, but most of all, sharing the Body & Blood of Jesus Christ and becoming One with Him. Paul tells us that we don't get into heaven alone. What could be more rewarding than to know that you took the initiative to ask and **someone accepted** the invitation to share our faith? Your mission is to love and serve the Lord. That "**someone**" is waiting to be asked! **If you know anyone who would be interested in Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) classes, please contact the Parish Office at 717-242-2781.** RCIA is a program of 1 time per week classes, usually for about 9 months, for those interested in entering the Catholic faith. Also, Catholics who have been "away", for whatever reason, are invited to attend and find answers in these sessions to re-establish their receiving of the Sacraments.



SCHOOL NEWS

SHS SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Tue., Wed. & Thur. 9AM-1PM

**If assistance is needed outside of office hours, leave a message on the school answering machine or contact the Parish Office at 717-242-2781.



Save the Date! The 24th Annual SHS Benefit Auction is scheduled to be held October 9-10, 2021 at the Mifflin County Youth Park. The auction committee is

looking for handmade, new, or like new donated items to be auctioned off. In the past these creative items have proven to be the most sought after and cherished by our generous bidders! Like to think outside the box? How about teaming up with some of your friends to auction off a dessert a month, a progressive dinner, soup a month, the opportunities are endless. For questions, please contact development@sacredheartschool.com. Please bring all items to the Parish Office by **September 10, 2021**. We thank you in advance for your support of our largest fundraiser of the year!

Do you love SHS? Has SHS touched your life in any way? We are looking for a few monetary sponsors for

some SHS families that are in need of tuition help. If you are interested in helping a Catholic child receive a quality catholic education in a safe and nurturing environment, please call Ashley Henry at the Parish Office 717-242-2781 or email at development@sacredheartschool.com.

Our families appreciate your support!