

Bulletin Letter August 15, 2021 Assumption Cycle B

From the Pastor:

Today the Church celebrates the solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary into heaven. The doctrine states that ***the Virgin Mary, "having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."*** The celebration of this event goes back to at least the fifth century. Early on, both the Jews and Christians believed that people who were extremely holy did not die and get buried as was the traditional practice. People such as Enoch, Moses, Isaiah, and Elijah, at death were directly assumed or ascended into heaven. After his resurrection from the dead, Jesus ascended into heaven. Though not explicitly affirmed by Scripture, it was believed, early on, that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was also assumed body and soul into heaven. For all of us this is a day to rejoice. We celebrate the taking into heaven of our mother Mary. At the same time we proclaim our belief that one day we, as her children and as sisters and brothers of Jesus, will one day join them.



We are excited to have two upcoming event for all three parishes. One is the **Picnic**, scheduled for September 12, details about sign up coming soon. Also we will have a collective **Morning of Service** on November 6. Stay tuned for more info!

Things are moving along with staffing. **Maria Yorkshire**, a longtime presence at Immaculate Conception has said goodbye to her job at Catholic Charities and will join all three parishes on August 16 as the Administrative Assistant for Evangelization and Catechesis. Welcome Maria, we know that your administrative and creative gifts will be an important part of our work here.

Have you had a chance to support our Knights by buying a **chicken dinner** at one of their drive sales? If you have you know how great it is, and if not you get another chance on August 27. See the bulletin insert for details.

We have had questions about the signs asking people to put on **masks**. There is **no requirement** to do so at this time, but given the rise in breakthrough cases the diocese is **asking** us to do this. Additionally, viruses among the unvaccinated are spiking, which includes all children under 12. Another element is anyone who is immune-compromised. They might be vaccinated, but not as well protected, and they will be at more risk. The same goes for vaccinated persons who are older or who have some other co-morbidity. I simply ask everyone to reflect on what will bring forth the greatest common good and to act accordingly. Thank you for your consideration.

I am pleased to tell you that **Fr. Leo Markert** will now be on the mass schedule along with me for our weekend masses and funeral needs. Fr. Leo has been assisting at Immaculate Conception during the week days, funeral masses, and special services like confession, marriages and Holy Week over the years. He is one of our senior priests and he is well respected and loved among many communities of our Diocese. It is a pleasure and an honor to have him on our staff. He will begin the weekend of August 22.

Someone asked me recently about the young red-haired man seen working around the IC campus over the past month. His name is **Jack Mongan**. Jack, a member of the IC community, has been a great asset to us by caring for the outside and inside of our property under the watchful eye of David Wetzel. He is filling in for our facilities manager, **Chris Belrose**, who is recuperating from surgery.

Until next week, be well, do good deeds, and say your prayers.

Fr. Jerry

OUR PRAYER: Loving God, be present to us and grant us wisdom, so that we, who may feel anxious about change, might trust in Your love and rest in the Changelessness that is You.