



**15<sup>th</sup> August 2021**  
**Assumption of the**  
**Blessed Virgin Mary**

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### **Saints of the week**

*Friday 20<sup>th</sup>, St Bernard, Abbot, doctor. Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> : St Pius X, pope.*

**AS YOU ARE AWARE, BECAUSE OF COVID RESTRICTIONS, THE CHURCH IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. THE ROSTER AND MASS TIMES ARE ONLY TO KEEP TRACK OF THE USUAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CHURCH**

If you require the assistance of a priest, please contact Fr. Gustavo to 9649 3855

<b>SUNDAY MASSES:</b>	Vigil Saturday 5:00 pm Sunday 8:00am, 10am
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES:</b>	Tuesday to Saturday 9.15am
<b>ROSARY:</b>	Tuesday Saturday 8.30am
<b>RECONCILIATION:</b>	Saturday 4.15pm and by appointment
<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:</b>	Saturday 4.15pm
<b>BAPTISMS:</b>	Sundays after 10am mass and by appointment
<b>WEDDINGS:</b>	By appointment (minimum of six months notice required)
<b>ANOINTING MASS:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday in March, June, September & December
<b>PARISH SECRETARY:</b>	Tuesday & Thursday 9am to 3pm

(Mass Intentions & news items for the bulletin must be left at Presbytery by 12pm Wednesday)

**This Church is equipped with an induction loop for the hearing impaired**

## **REMEMBERING OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES**

**Recently Deceased:** Giuseppe Alvaro, Anna Napoliin Passarello, Theresa Franks, Joseph Mil, Josephine, Manuel Ruz, Delphine.

**Anniversaries:** Mariana Ortega, Teresa Alvaro, Dominic Alvaro and for all souls in purgatory

**May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.**

**We pray for:** Scott Perry, Susan Abood, Angela Mil, Paul Landa, Eliana Molina, Nicole Milagros, Joe Martin, Sybil Simon, Carmeline D'Souza, David D'Souza, Cornlius D' Souza, Claro Tungul Snr, Daniel Tungul, Catalina Tungul, Arturo Bonifacio, Virginia Bonifacio, Eugenio Ongcal, Rosita Ongcal, Joshua Koelmeyer, Frank Koelmeyer, Chrisby Koelmeyer, Day, Goodwin & Stafford Family, Marija Barclay, Judy Melville, Tom Ladler, Jessica Tu, Tristan Schuyler Simeon, Anthony Fabin, Mereen Browne.

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### **4<sup>th</sup> Week (Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

**5:00pm** 1<sup>ST</sup> READER/RESPONSE: Denise Hall, 2<sup>ND</sup> READER/ PRAYERS OF FAITHFUL: Robyn Hession, ACOLYTE: Tony Allan

**8.00am** 1<sup>ST</sup> READER/RSPONSE: Marissa Gutierrez, 2<sup>ND</sup> READER/PRAYERS OF FAITHFUL – Sophie Mucha, ACOLYTE: Ruben Baluyot

**10.00am** 1<sup>ST</sup> READER/RESPONSE: Henry Chow, 2<sup>ND</sup> READER/PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Sai Volitilevuka, ACOLYTE: Cheston/ Radley La'Porte

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**PARISH UPDATE** "STAY AT HOME BUT WE PRAY TOGETHER" New campaign of prayer. If you want to join to the special prayer of the parish just say a Rosary everyday, wherever you will be, for the following intentions:

**Monday:** for teachers and staff of St John's Catholic Primary School and Holy Trinity College

**Tuesday:** for workers, jobless people, for those who are looking for a job, also for nurses, doctors, and all staff in hospitals, care centres and age care.

**Wednesday:** for young people of our community

**Thursday:** for vocations, religious life and priests

**Friday:** for the sick and distressed

**Saturday:** for families, and married couples

**Sunday:** for benefactors and all volunteers of the parish



**SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** Assumption is a holy day of obligation. A Solemnity with obligation takes precedence over a Sunday in Ordinary Time.

**PROSELYTISING 'NO RELIGION' FOR THE CENSUS:** The Census is a dreary duty for many, yet for some, it is an opportunity to proselytise through ideological campaigns around religious affiliation. Over recent weeks, vocal atheists around the country have been taking to social media to convince Australians to tick 'No Religion' on the 2021 Census.

**Let us keep our Christian identity shining with joy, peace, humility, and courage for all people around us.**

**PASTORAL CARE** Remember that you are not alone. If you need the assistance of a priest for Holy Communion, Reconciliation or just for a talk please contact the parish. We are here for you. If you want to receive Holy Communion Fr Gustavo is available to bring it to your house.

### **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:**

Thanks be to God and thanks to the Sacramental team of our parish, a group of seven young people have finished their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Now we will wait for the lifted up Covid restrictions and proceed with the celebration of the Sacrament in our local parish. Thanks for your prayers.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** For mass intentions you can visit our [website](#) and fill the form or call to parish phone 9649 3855 or email to [cathpara@tpg.com.au](mailto:cathpara@tpg.com.au)

**PLAN GIVING:** Thank you to all of you who are part of the Plan Giving for the church, may God bless you a hundred-fold. Just to remind you that the new envelopes are ready to pick up, please contact Fr. Gustavo to collect them from the church, or if you prefer to be delivered to your address send us a [message](#) and we will do for you.

If you want to join to the Plan Giving, please do not hesitate to [contact](#) us and we will give you all the details.

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT OFFICER VOLUNTEER REQUIRED** We need someone to support the Parish Administrator to implement proactive Safeguarding measures to ensure safe environment for children, young people and vulnerable in our parish community. The ways in which the Parish Safeguarding Support Officer (PSSO) could support and assist the Parish priest are: - Providing Safeguarding induction to all workers and training to volunteers of the Parish who work with children. - Raising awareness of Safeguarding in our Parish. - Creating Risk Assessments for parish events/activities. – Responding to Safeguarding audit and compliance requirements. – Monitoring the Visiting Clergy Register in line with current protocols.

If you are interested, please contact [Fr. Gustavo](mailto:Fr.Gustavo@cathpara@tpg.com.au) (cathpara@tpg.com.au)

**A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY** Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org)

You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

## SUNDAY LITURGY



### Sunday Readings:

**First reading: Apocalypse 11:19,12:1-6,10**

*A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman adorned with the sun*

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.'

**Second reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20-26**

*Christ will be brought to life as the first-fruits and then those 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.

**Gospel acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Mary has been taken up to heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!*

**Gospel: Luke 1:39-56**

*The Almighty has done great things for me*

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.

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**REFLECTION ON THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:** "Today's solemnity crowns the series of important liturgical celebrations in which we are called to contemplate the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the history of salvation. Indeed, the Immaculate Conception, then Annunciation, the Divine Motherhood, and the Assumption are the fundamental, interconnected milestones with which the Church exalts and praises the glorious destiny of the Mother of God, but in which we can also read our history. In Mary's Assumption, we contemplate what we ourselves are called to attain in the following of Christ the Lord and in obedience to his word, at the end of our earthly journey. The last stage of the Mother of God's earthly pilgrimage invites us to look at the manner in which she journeyed on toward the goal of glorious eternity. And, lastly, the Assumption reminds us that Mary's life, like that of every Christian, is a journey of following -following Jesus- a journey that has a very precise destination, a future already marked out: the definitive victory over sin and death and full communion with God." (Pope Benedict XVI)

### **Interesting facts about the Assumption**

- When the feast of the *Dormition* of the Mother of God or 'falling asleep', which originated in the Byzantine Empire probably in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, came into the Western Church, the term *dormition* was replaced by 'Assumption'. This reflected an increased theological emphasis on the glorification of the complete person of Mary, body and soul.
- In 1568, Pope Pius V made the feast of the 'Assumption' a holy day for the entire Church
- The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven was proclaimed as a dogma of the Catholic faith by Pope Pius XII, in his Encyclical [Munificentissimus Deus](#) (The most bountiful God) on 1 November 1950, with these words:

"...by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, of the Blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, and by our own authority, we pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."

#### **THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

**"Each of us has to look at his or her own life with the eyes of Mary, what God did  
in her, He did for us, and therefore did it as in us"**

**St John Paul II**

If you wish to subscribe to our mail list, contact us: [cathpara@tpg.com.au](mailto:cathpara@tpg.com.au)

St John Of God Auburn parish