



**Disciples**  
*Making Disciples*



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## The Assumption of Our Lady

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

15 Aug 2021

Rev 11:19, 12:1-6, 10  
1 Cor 15:20-27  
Lk 1:39-56

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary celebrates the bodily taking up of Mary into heaven at the end of her earthly life. One of the four Marian dogmas in the Church – the others being Mary's Immaculate Conception, her Perpetual Virginity and her Divine Motherhood – our belief in Mary's direct assumption into heaven is rooted in both Tradition and Scripture, and coheres with the Church's theological teachings.

**Historically**, a litany of early Church Fathers and Doctors have spoken of Mary's Assumption as something already known and accepted. These saints include St John Damascene, St Germanus of Constantinople, and St Anthony of Padua, to name but a few. The numerous churches, sacred images, and patronages also attest to the faith in this event. And of course, in the Rosary, one of the Glorious Mysteries is the Assumption of Mary.

Accordingly, both the Eastern and Western liturgies have commemorated Mary's privilege of being assumed directly into heaven. In the Roman Catholic liturgy, St Sergius I had established the Dormition of the Virgin Mary as one of the four Marian feasts as early as the 7<sup>th</sup> century.

**Theologically**, Mary's Assumption follows from her Immaculate Conception. In general, the full effect of Christ's victory over sin and death is granted only at the coming of the end of time. As such, even the bodies of the righteous experience

corruption after death.

However, God had willed that Mary, whose holiness is exalted above all men and angels, be exempted from this rule. By a special grace, Mary overcame sin by her Immaculate Conception. Consequently, she was not subject to corruption of the grave and she did not have to wait until the end of time for the redemption of her body. Since the days of the early Church, theologians have also argued that Jesus had willed for Mary to be assumed into heaven out of his filial love for his mother.



*"[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."*

Pope Pius XII,  
*Munificentissimus Deus*

**Scripturally**, several passages have traditionally been interpreted to refer to Mary's unique status and privilege as Mother of God (Divine Motherhood), forming the basis of our belief in the Assumption. This Sunday's First Reading is illustrative: the scholastic Doctors recognized the woman clothed with the sun in Revelation as the fulfilment of the unique grace granted to Mary, as signified by the Assumption of Mary. Our gospel also alludes to Mary's exalted place in God's salvific plan, setting the stage for the declaration that her body remained incorrupt even as her virginity remained intact.

These developments culminated in the proclamation of the dogma – in *Munificentissimus Deus* on 1 November 1950 by Pope Pius XII – 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". Building on this dogma, *Lumen Gentium* added that Mary was "exalted by the Lord as Queen of the universe, that she might be more fully conformed [in heaven] to her Son". (LG 59)

In Catholic theology today, the Assumption of Mary is also derived from her participation in Christ's resurrection, and accordingly, it is "an anticipation of the resurrection of other Christians", as stated in CCC 966. Our Lady has thus become an eschatological icon. In her, we "contemplate what [the Church] will be in the homeland at the end of her journey", even as the Church is "awaited by the one she venerates as Mother of her Lord and as her own mother".

As we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary this Sunday, let us also fix our sights on our ultimate end and place our hope in Christ's resurrection, that we may also someday join him in his heavenly glory just as his Mother did at the end of her life.

## Announcements

For announcements in the bulletin, send your requests to [mmm@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg) by the MONDAY before the weekend, 2359hrs

### Have you seen your Mother lately?

Come join us this Feast of the Assumption to honour our Blessed Mother to pray the rosary - in thanksgiving and petition - not just for ourselves but for Mother Church and the world.

Sun 15 Aug, 8.30pm

<https://bit.ly/SundayRosary>

Zoom Meeting ID:

840 7232 7379

Password: 305946



## GIFT COLLECTION

This weekend, there will be a call for contributions for the GIFT (Giving in Faith & Thankfulness) programme to build a more vibrant, evangelising and missionary Church. Please give generously to support the organisations and projects of the archdiocese by making a monthly giving pledge. You can give via PayNow (UEN: 201231391K) or drop your contributions into the GIFT donation box. **More info at [catholicfoundation.sg](http://catholicfoundation.sg)**

## SSVP SECOND COLLECTION

With your kind donations last weekend, SSVP was able to raise **\$4,214.60** out of which there were 2 cheques received for Friends In Need. We thank you for your generosity and continued support of our activities. Please note that if you wish to make a cheque payment or PayNow, it should be payable to:

**SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL (SSVP)**

**OCBC BANK ACCOUNT NO:  
686 596 768 001**

## TEMPORARY ONLINE MASS OFFERINGS

Please submit your intentions **1 WEEK** in advance and wait for the Finance Department to contact you. They will provide you with a "Reference No", MO xxx (eg MO 001). Key in the given referral number upon making payment via PayNow (T08CC4033J).

# AUGUST MASS BOOKINGS

## [HTTPS://MYCATHOLIC.SG](https://mycatholic.sg)

### Tue 17 Aug, 12pm

4th/5th booking for remaining weekend Mass\*

\*Weekday Mass bookings for whole of Aug are open throughout the month and subject to availability with a cap of five weekday Masses per booking.

#### Things to note:

- Mass bookings/cancellation will be **3 hours** before Mass. Do remember to cancel your bookings if you are unable to attend.

*Let us remain vigilant at all times and cooperate with our church volunteers to ensure that our parish community remains safe for all to come and worship.*

### UPDATE:

**Capacity for 5.30pm mass for Sat 21 Aug and 28 Aug will be increased from 100 to 180 persons.** You may proceed to book PROVIDED you have completed the full vaccination regimen or undergone approved Pre-Event Testing (PET) per government requirements.

## CATHOLIC200SG SFX INTERCESSORY PRAYER



Our Parish will be leading an intercessory prayer session on Zoom, in conjunction with Catholic200SG. Come join us online on **Tue 17 Aug, 8pm** as we pray for the 200th anniversary of the Catholic faith in Singapore. Do invite your family and friends!



#### ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Meeting ID: 944 2696 7285 Password: Faith200

## MASS COLLECTION

**Your continuous generosity and donations will help contribute to our Parish's daily operations. You can make your offerings via the following options:**

- PayNow** - Launch the PayNow service on your bank's app or online website. Select "Send via Unique Entity Number (UEN)" and enter "T08CC4033J". Proceed to check entity name - **Church of St Francis Xavier**, then key in amount. Lastly, key in the reference - Mass Collection.
- Cheque** - Payable to 'Church of St Francis Xavier' and write 'Mass Collection' behind the cheque. Mail cheques to **63A Chartwell Drive, Singapore 558758**.

## SFX CHARISMATIC: SHEPHERD OF THE FLOCK

The next Charismatic Prayer Meeting via Zoom is on **Mon 16 Aug, 8pm**. Praise and Worship followed by a talk on 'Shepherd of the Flock' by Jessica Francisco. All are welcome.

#### ZOOM MEETING DETAILS

Meeting ID: 836 3543 9497

Password: HOLYSPIRIT



## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Good marriages can always be made better! To deepen your couple relationship, sign up for a Marriage Encounter Weekend scheduled for **Aug 20 - 22** and **Oct 22 - 24**. Contact David & Clara at 9670 5390 or email at [mewkend@gmail.com](mailto:mewkend@gmail.com)

## CPS LUNCHTIME TALK: SOWING SEEDS DURING UNCERTAIN TIMES

We are called to bring Jesus to those around us. During these uncertain times while facing challenges and difficulties in our own daily lives, how can we fully respond to this call to sow seeds of faith and love?

**Date:** 16, 23 & 30 Aug (Mondays)

**Time:** 12.30pm - 1.30pm

**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/3279k6m9>  
(Registration is required)



## LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR 2021

**'To know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.'** - *Ephesians 3:19*

Do you desire a new life in the Holy Spirit? Join us in the Life in the Spirit Seminar (LISS) - a series of 10 weekly sessions of hybrid online Zoom and in-person sessions held from **24 Sep to 26 Nov**. Includes live praise and worship, talk and small group discussions. Seats are limited. **Sign up now at [tinyurl.com/saccreliss21sg](https://tinyurl.com/saccreliss21sg)**

## CARITAS SINGAPORE: MODULE 5 OF MY PERSONAL MORAL COMPASS 2021 BY REV FR DAVID GARCIA, O.P.

*Are there universal moral principles that can help human societies progress even at a time of great change like today?*

The Catholic Social Teaching has been called the "best-kept secret of the Church" despite its practical nature. In this module on "Christians in the Social Community", we will look at how the Church's social teachings can be applied to a wide range of issues including fair wage, private property, political rules of engagement, the nature of business and economy, and other important social problems. Come and join us!

**Dates:** 19 Aug - 6 Oct (Thursdays)

**Time:** 7.30pm (via Zoom)

**Register:** <https://bit.ly/3xwb4cV>

For enquiries, please email Caritas Singapore at [mpmc@caritas-singapore.org](mailto:mpmc@caritas-singapore.org)

# What does the Assumption of Mary mean for us

The Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary recalls when Mary was taken, body and soul, to heaven. But what does this mean for us ordinary Catholics and mere humans?

Mary's Assumption is our hope. After Jesus, she is the first to have her body glorified. This glorification of the body is something promised to all the faithful, at the end of time. Mary is the first to experience it, and her glorification helps us to look forward with hope to our own.

Mary's Assumption also reminds us of what our suffering will lead to. Regardless of what our vocation is - consecrated celibacy, priesthood, religious life, marriage etc. - we will suffer for the sake of Christ. It is easy to feel discouraged when facing this suffering but then, we can look to Mary. She reminds us that suffering

is not without meaning. Christ calls us to take up our crosses, but he only does so in order that we learn to love as he does. In the end, like Mary, he will turn our sorrow to joy.

Mary's Assumption also means that God's glory is reflected through her body and soul. She is therefore uniquely positioned to help us grow in holiness, if we ask for her intercession.

With this rich understanding of Mary and a tradition of giving her the honour she deserves, Mary can teach us a lot through her example of virtue. Pray with Mary and she will lead you into a far deeper relationship with Her Son than you could ever achieve by your own direction.

Hail Mary!



*Adapted from*

<https://catholicexchange.com/solemnity-assumption-teaches-us-vocation>

<https://catholicexchange.com/8-reasons-assumption-mary-important>





Looking for more Information?  
visit [www.sfxchurch.sg](http://www.sfxchurch.sg)!

# Seven Joys of Mary

**MEDITATING  
ON THE JOYFUL  
EVENTS  
IN THE LIFE OF  
OUR BLESSED  
MOTHER**



This **Tuesday, 17 August 8pm**, as part of the Catholic200SG Intercessory Prayers, a group of SFX parishioners from various ministries will be leading the session and meditating on the Seven Joys of Mary.

Many of us would have heard of the seven sorrows of Mary and may have meditated on the Chaplet of Seven Sorrows but most of us may not be familiar with the Seven Joys of Mary or the Franciscan Crown Rosary. According to Franciscan tradition, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to a Franciscan novice in 1442. The novice had a devotion to our Lady and would adorn her statue with a crown of roses daily. But when he entered the Friars Minor, he was not able to offer this gift and wanted to leave. Our Lady appeared to him and told him not to leave. She then instructed him to weave a crown of prayers and taught him the Rosary of Seven Joys.

The Franciscan Crown Rosary consists of seven decades of 1 Our Father and 10 Hail Marys with each decade describing a joyful event in the life of our Blessed Mother. The Seven Joys are the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Birth of Christ, the Adoration of the Magi, the Finding of the Child Jesus, the Appearance of Christ after the Resurrection and the Assumption and Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven.

We will be celebrating the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 15 August and what a joy it will be to reflect on our Blessed Mother's Seven Joys. Come join us and intercede as One Parish and One Church!



## Mass Timings

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Tue & Thu:**  
6.30pm

**Fri:**  
8pm

### WEEKEND MASSES

**Sat Sunset  
(VACCINATED/  
PET ONLY):**  
5.30pm

**Sun:** 9am, 11am,  
1pm, 5.30pm  
*(There is currently  
no Confession  
before Mass)*

**MASS ON PUBLIC  
HOLIDAYS**  
9am

**HOLY HOUR**  
Suspended until  
further notice

## Opening Hours

### PARISH OFFICE

For pastoral care services (e.g. anointing, funerals etc), you may contact before coming at the following hours.

**Mon - Sat:**  
9.30am - 6.30pm  
**Sun:** 8.30am - 1pm

### ADORATION ROOM

Closed until  
further notice

### LIBRARY

Closed until  
further notice

### COLUMBARIUM

**Mon to Sat:**  
10am - 12pm, 2pm - 4pm  
**Booking via**  
<https://tinyurl.com/SFXColumbarium>

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK



The sacrament can be administered to any Catholic awaiting serious surgery, suffering from serious illness or weakened by old age. Anointing may be given before admission for the anticipated medical procedure. Contact the Parish Office to request for a priest. In emergencies, priests of the church nearest to the hospital can be contacted.

## INFANT BAPTISM



For more information, please contact the Parish Office for Baptism of Infants.

## FUNERAL



Please check with the Parish Office for priest availability and Mass timing before confirming the timing at the crematorium. For prayers at the wake, please contact the Parish Office.

## MARRIAGE



Contact the Parish Office 12 months before your intended date to book the church premises and ensure that your presiding priest is able to make that date.

## MASS OFFERING



Mass offering envelopes are available outside the Parish Office. Submit your envelopes at least one week in advance of your intended date. Please write the names clearly, and in block letters.

## VOLUNTEER & SHARE YOUR GIFTS!

If you're interested in content curation and design layout, contact [mmm@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg)