

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

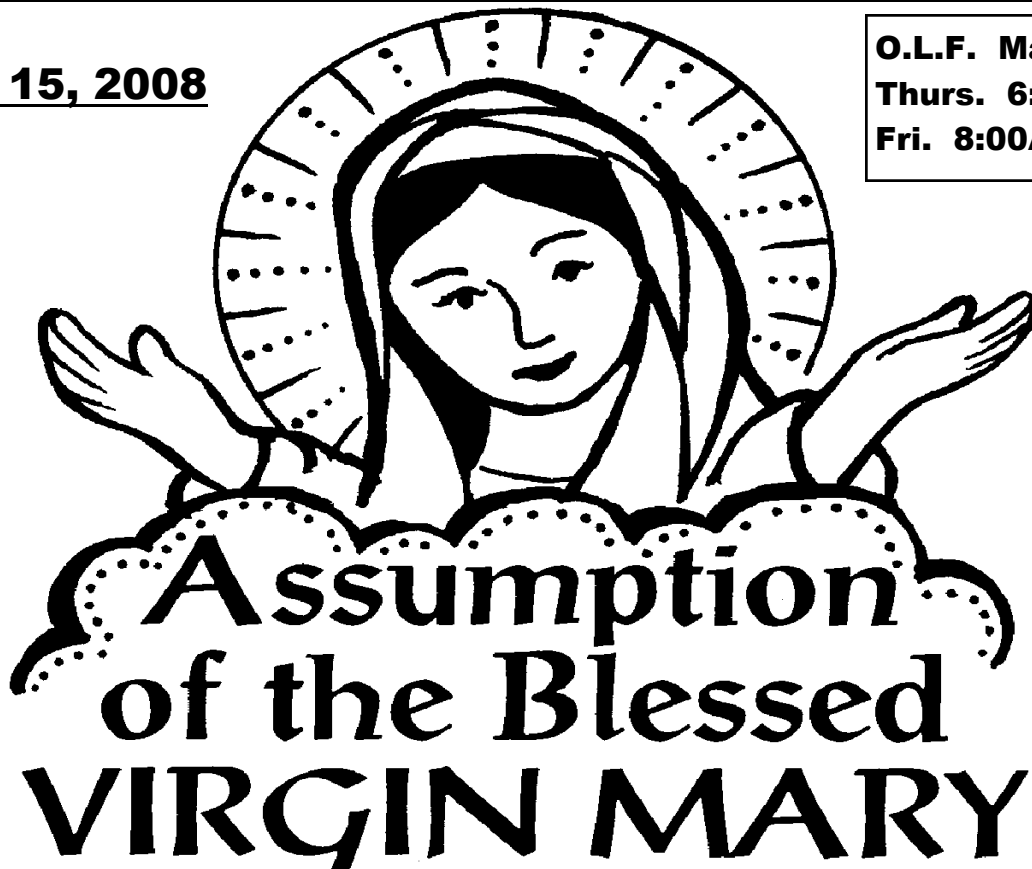
**August 9-10, 2008**

# Fatima Mirror

A weekly publication for the education and edification of parishioners and friends of Our Lady of Fatima Parish of the Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown in Altoona, Pennsylvania. Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec, D.D. is the diocesan bishop. Father J.D. Zatalava, M.Div. is the pastor. Parishioners worship in the church building named after Saint Leo the Great, 2000 12th Ave. 16601. 814-942-0371.

**August 15, 2008**

**O.L.F. Masses:  
Thurs. 6:00P  
Fri. 8:00A, 6:00P**



## **A BELIEF SINCE APOSTOLIC TIMES**

*Father Clifford Stevens*

The Assumption is the oldest feast day of Our Lady, but we don't know how it first came to be celebrated. Its origin is lost in those days when Jerusalem was restored as a sacred city, at the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (c. 285-337). By then it had been a pagan city for two centuries, ever since Emperor Hadrian (76-138) had leveled it around the year 135 and rebuilt it in honor of Jupiter.

For 200 years, every memory of Jesus was obliterated from the city, and the sites made holy by His life, death and Resurrection became pagan temples.

After the building of the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in 336, the sacred sites began to be restored and memories of the life of Our Lord began to be celebrated by the people of Jerusalem.

One of the memories about his mother centered around the "Tomb of Mary," close to Mount Zion, where the early Christian community had lived.

On the hill itself was the "Place of Dormition," the spot of Mary's "falling asleep," where she had died. The "Tomb of Mary" was where she was buried.

At this time, the "Memory of Mary" was being celebrated. Later it was to become our feast of the Assumption.

For a time, the "Memory of Mary" was marked only in Palestine, but then it was extended by the emperor to all the churches of the East. In the seventh century, it began to be celebrated in Rome under the title of the "Falling Asleep" ("Dormitio") of the Mother of God.

Soon the name was changed to the "Assumption of Mary," since there was more to the feast than her dying. It also proclaimed that she had been taken up, body and soul, into heaven.

That belief was ancient, dating back to the apostles themselves. What was clear from the beginning was that there were no relics of Mary to be venerated, and that an empty tomb stood on the edge of Jerusalem near the site of her death. That location also soon became a place of pilgrimage. (Today, the Benedictine Abbey of the Dormition of Mary stands on the spot.)

At the Council of Chalcedon in 451, when bishops from throughout the Mediterranean world gathered in Constantinople, Emperor Marcian asked the Patriarch of Jerusalem to bring the relics of Mary to Constantinople to be enshrined in the capitol. The patriarch explained to the emperor that there were no relics of Mary in Jerusalem, that "Mary had died in the presence of the apostles; but her tomb, when opened later . . . was found empty and so the apostles concluded that the body was taken up into heaven."

In the eighth century, St. John Damascene was known for giving sermons at the holy places in Jerusalem. At the Tomb of Mary, he expressed the belief of the Church on the meaning of the feast: "Although the body was duly buried, it did not remain in the state of death, neither was it dissolved by decay. . . . You were transferred to your heavenly home, O Lady, Queen and Mother of God in truth."

In 1950, in the Apostolic Constitution <Munificentissimus Deus>, Pope Pius XII proclaimed the Assumption of Mary a dogma of the Catholic Church in these words: "The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven."

With that, an ancient belief became Catholic doctrine and the Assumption was declared a truth revealed by God.

## **THE PRECEPTS OF THE CHURCH** [The Catechism of the Catholic Church]

**2042** The first precept ("You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor") requires the faithful to sanctify the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord as well as the principal liturgical feasts honoring the mysteries of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the saints; in the first place, by participating in the Eucharistic celebration, in which the Christian community is gathered, and by resting from those works and activities which could impede such a sanctification of these days. ***The Feast of the Assumption is a Holy Day of Obligation.***

# Fatima Facts

Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown Office of the Bishop  
126 Logan Boulevard Hollidaysburg, PA 16648-2604

DATE: August 4, 2008

TO: Pastors

FROM: Bishop Joseph SUBJECT: Bulletin Announcement

This September 17, I will have the privilege of hosting the bi-annual convocation of the Conference of Slovak Clergy in the United States. I expect the attendance of four other American Bishops, besides me.

The convocation begins with a Mass in Slovak at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona at 9:30 a.m.

Anyone interested is invited to attend. I ask that you place the following announcement in your parish bulletin.

Thank you.

+Joseph

## **MASS IN SLOVAK**

A Mass in the Slovak language will be con-celebrated on **Wednesday, September 17, at 9:30 a.m. in the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona.** That Eucharistic celebration will open this year's bi-annual convocation of the Conference of Slovak Clergy in the United States. Five American Bishops and a number of priests and deacons of Slovak ancestry are expected to participate. Anyone interested is invited to join them in prayer.

Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown - Family Life Office - 5379 Portage St. - Lilly, PA 15938 - Telephone (814) 886-5551

## **Thirty-Ninth Annual Anniversary Day Celebrations for Couples Celebrating their 1st, 25th 40th, 50th, 55th, 60th+ Wedding Anniversary**

Bishop Joseph and the Family Life Office cordially invite all couples celebrating their 1st, 25th, 40th, 50th, 55th, and 60+ Wedding Anniversary in 2008 (and their families) to attend the Thirty-Ninth Annual Anniversary Day Liturgy. Couples may attend either Sunday, September 21 at the St. John Gualbert Cathedral in Johnstown or Sunday, September 28 at Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament in Altoona. Locations are both handicap accessible. Both liturgies begin at 2:00 p.m. Bishop Joseph will be the celebrant and homilist at each celebration. Punch and cookies will be available after the mass for anniversary couples and their families. **Reservations must be made through your parish priest for either celebration by Wednesday, August 27.**

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR ADVISORIES FROM THE DIOCESE

### All Saints

November 1, 2008, is a Saturday and, in accord with the USCCB decision of November 1991, confirmed by the Holy See in July 1992, the Solemnity of **All Saints this year will NOT be a holy day of obligation**. The Funeral Mass maybe celebrated on this day. November 1 remains a Solemnity and ritual Masses are forbidden on this day. Since marriages are normally celebrated on Saturdays, pastors should take care in scheduling weddings on this date. While the ritual Mass for marriage is forbidden on the Solemnity of All Saints, the Mass of the Day with the nuptial blessing maybe celebrated. However, all the Lectionary readings for All Saints Day must be used. The Rite of Marriage outside Mass may also be celebrated. If the Eucharist is celebrated on the evening of Friday, October 31, the Mass is that of the Solemnity of All Saints.

### All Souls

November 2, 2008, is a Sunday and the Church celebrates the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed. The orations and preface are found in the Sacramentary taken from the Proper of Saints for November 2. The Lectionary provides many options for the readings at Mass; Volume III, Lectionary for Weekday Mass, Number 668, offers three options of Old Testament readings, thirteen options of New Testament readings, and twelve options for the Gospel. The Eucharist celebrated on Saturday evening, November 1, is that of All Souls Day and is taken from the Proper of Saints section in the Sacramentary (the same as on Sunday, November 2).

### Immaculate Conception

December 8, 2008, falls on a Monday this year. In accord with the USCCB decision of November 1991, confirmed by the Holy See in July 1992, the precept to attend Mass on this Solemnity is maintained. Therefore, **Monday, December 8, 2008, IS a holy day of obligation for the faithful in the United States**. The Sunday evening Mass of December 7 will be the Mass of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception; pastors are asked to make this clear to the faithful in advance (since **there is an obligation to attend TWO Masses: one for the Second Sunday of Advent and one for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**).

### Conversion of Saint Paul

January 25, 2009, is a Sunday and as a result of the Pauline Year celebrating the 2000th anniversary of the birth of Saint Paul, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments issued a decree on May 30, 2008, authorizing the use of the Mass formulary and Lectionary readings for the Conversion of Saint Paul for Mass on Sunday, January 25, 2009. The date, however, remains the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. Regarding the Lectionary readings, as there is no Second Reading for the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, the Second Reading is taken from the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, namely, I Corinthians 7:29-31. In addition, the Creed is said, as is customary for a Sunday Mass.

### **SEPTEMBER 11 (memorialized on Sunday, September 13)**

Thursday, September 11th is the seventh anniversary of September 11, 2001. On September 13, 2008, Bishop Joseph will celebrate the Blue Mass at the 5:00 PM Saturday Vigil Mass at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Altoona. This Liturgy honors the work of all public safety personnel-police and fire departments, EMS professionals, and elected officials who watch over and protect us. All are invited to attend this special Mass which will fulfill the Sunday obligation.

**19th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**August 9-10, 2008**

**MONEY MATTERS 18th in Ordinary Time (August 3)**

280 people Celebrated Liturgy at O.L.F. contributing \$2,027.50 of which \$240.55 accounted for "loose" cash.

# Envelopes In Circulation 237 # Used 114 # Unused 123

Not this Wednesday (8/13) but NEXT Wednesday (8/20) is

# O.L.F. HOAGIE DAY

Call-in orders to

**942-0371 Right Now!**

or no later than

**Monday, August 18, by Noon**

**OR**

**Grab a Clip-board after Mass this or next weekend**



Don't forget that on Wednesday, August 13, our parish celebrates the fourth apparition of Mary at Fatima in Portugal in 1917. That was the date Mary scheduled for her visitation, but because the secular authorities detained the children, Mary accommodated their 6 day incarceration by cleverly showing up (again) on the 19th. Fr. Z has scheduled a Parish Eucharistic Holy Hour for 6:00 PM on 08/13/08.



## **MASS INTENTIONS FOR August 11-17, 2008**

Monday	08-11	08:00 AM	Donald Resig, Ken & Dianne, children	Clare, virgin
Tuesday	08-12	08:00 AM	Debra Shuma, B. Ewig & C. Ringler	Weekday
Wednesday	08-13	08:00 AM	Walter Bieniek, Mike & Lois Mignogna	Pontian, p, mtr/Hippolytus, pr, mtr
Thursday	08-14	08:00 AM	Susan A. Cassidy, Eleanor Noye	Maximilian Mary Kolbe, pr, martyr
<u>Thursday</u>	<u>08-14</u>	<u>06:00 PM</u>	Mary Louise Mincin, M/M Andy Gregor	Assumption of BVM
Friday	08-15	08:00 AM	Wally Jorkasky, George Jorkasky	Assumption of BVM
<u>Friday</u>	<u>08-15</u>	<u>06:00 PM</u>	Robert Moses, B-day, Fran & Family	Assumption of BVM
Saturday	08-16	04:30 PM	Health of Frances Kasun, Carol Smith	20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday	08-17	09:00 AM	Liv/Dec of Our Lady of Fatima Parish	20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday	08-17	11:00 AM	Carl T. Mincin, Anna Miller	20th Sunday in Ordinary Time