

Assumption 2022

Why did you go to Church today?"

Someone might have asked us, "This isn't Sunday, it's only Monday."

"It's a holy day of obligation. The feast of the Assumption," we answer.

"Oh," the person says, and might add, "What's that?" — Most Catholics won't be questioned about today's feast.

Many Catholics might not even remember it.

But you and I do. We have come to Mass to celebrate it. And we know why we are here. We are remembering the day on which Mary, the Mother of God, was assumed body and soul into Heaven by her Son Jesus Christ where she was crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth.

Chairlift to Eggstocke Mountain.

In Braunwald, Switzerland, there is, or at least was, a chairlift that can make even the bravest person a bit weak-kneed. This lift is called the Sesselbahn. It is a system of overhead cables attached to high supports built into the rocky slopes of the Eggstocke Mountain. On these cables, chairs are hung which are electrically caused to slide up the cables carrying provisions and people to the Ortstock Haus on the top. Two chairs hang side by side. They are similar to ordinary metal ones with a kind of sunshade over them. There is no protection of any kind, just two chairs dangling in the air with only a narrow footrest, no sides or backs other than a couple of bars.

The person with nerve enough to get into one of these chairs is, in the words of the article, "swung up over fearsome abysses and up the face of a mighty rock precipice by invisible power." Sounds like a risky ride. Yet, many people have gotten into those chairs and made it safely to the top and down again.

No accidents were ever reported. — But it seems to me that to ride the Sesselbahn chair-lift is to have great faith in a manmade device.

Probably we trust manmade things more than we trust in God. What do you think? Today we celebrate the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. Mary allowed herself and her life to rest completely in the hands of God. She did what she thought He wanted her to do, and she trusted that He would take her through to the end and bring her out safe and sound. We could say she got into one of God's chairs, let God accompany her in the one next to hers,

and up they went - all the way over and through the dangers of life and into Heaven. That takes great Faith.

(Fr. Jack Dorsel) Fr. Tony (<https://frtonyshomilies.com/>).

Call no man worthless:

A story is told of a wandering university student in the Middle Ages. As with many university students in those times when universities were being founded, he traveled to wherever he heard that good teachers were. Also as with many of his fellow students, he was dirty, ill-fed, and ill-clothed. He fell seriously ill and was taken to hospital almost dead.

The doctors consulted around his bed. They said his life appeared worthless, and the best use they could put his body to would be medical experimentation.

They spoke in Latin not realizing that he was a university student whose classes were in that language. — Hearing them, he opened his eyes and said to them in Latin, "Call no man worthless for whom Jesus has died."

(Harold Buetow in *God Still Speaks: Listen!*)

Fr. Tony (<https://frtonyshomilies.com/>).