

Over 60 YEARS COURAGEOUSLY Living the Gospel

August 13, 2023 • The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

3 Traditional customs to bring back for the Feast of the Assumption

By Theresa Civantos Barber

These three traditional Assumption customs are a wonderful way to honor the liturgical solemnity.

Today is the feast of the Assumption, an ancient celebration of the Virgin Mary. Today we honor her role in salvation history and the eternal destination that Christ prepared for her. Traditionally, this feast day was set apart with special customs and devotions.

Although the Church did not formally define the dogma of the Assumption until 1950, the belief that God took Mary up into Heaven is an ancient part of Church teaching. The faithful have believed that Mary was assumed into Heaven since the earliest days of the Church. Because of this, August 15 is one of the oldest Marian feast days.

Naturally, all kinds of devotions sprang up to honor the Blessed Virgin on this holy day. We still practice some of these: Today is a Holy Day of Obligation and a solemnity. But some of these devotions have been forgotten over the years. These three traditional Assumption customs are a wonderful way to honor the day.

PRAYING THE ROSARY

Today is especially fitting to pray the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary, reflecting in a special way on the fifth mystery, "The Crowning of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth." This devotion reminds us of the eternal significance of today's feast.



BLESSING OF PRODUCE

Historically Our Lady is associated with plants, and this special feast was an occasion for blessing herbs, produce, and flowers. This custom reminds us to offer God the "first fruits" of our labors, as Abel did in the Bible.

You can find a beautiful blessing for home use in <u>The Catholic All Year Prayer Companion</u>, a book filled with hundreds of prayers for celebrating the important seasons and feast days of the Church calendar.

CROWNING WITH FLOWERS

What happens when you combine plants and flowers with honoring the Queen of Heaven and Earth? Flower crowns, of course!

In many places, crowning the Blessed Mother with flowers was a common practice on this day. Today, you could make a flower crown for a statue of Mary or have your kids or students use this sweet Mary Statue printable with tiny flower crowns.

If you have the time (and the flowers), it might be fun to make flower crowns for the kids too. Tell them the crowns are a sign of their divine filiation, the reality that they are beloved children of the Heavenly King. And it's a lovely reminder to imitate Our Lady in all things!

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Rev. Wayne C. Genereux

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Fr. Jack McDowell, OFM Fr. Anthony Fortunato, OdeM Fr. Victor Bartolotta

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Weekday Masses
Monday - Saturday 8:00 AM
Weekend Masses
Saturday Vigil at 4:00 PM
Sunday
8:00 AM, 9:30 Am & 11:30 AM

Follow the Sunday Mass on our website, **btsp.org**.

Confessions will be held Saturdays 2:45-3:45

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Scripture Class

Blessed Trinity Scripture Classes will resume on September 12th from 10:00 am - 11:30 am. We will begin with a new study from Q Place "celebrate", yes to life in Christ.

Class will be held in the Courtyard Hall and the books will be \$12.00 for 12 sessions. For further information and to confirm attendance, please call Barbara Townsend (727) 867-3605



Music Program

The Music Program is starting up once again. The first rehearsal for the Adult Choir will be on Wednesday evening, August 16th at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Handbell Choir at 7:30 p.m. The Contemporary Ensemble will have its first rehearsal on Sunday morning August 20th at 11:00 a.m.

If you are interested in joining the choir for the first time, all are welcome. I look forward to seeing everyone back, and maybe a few more.

~ Wayne Dieterich, Director of Music

Thoughts Worth Sharing



August 13, 2023

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a | Rom 9:1-5 | Mt 14:22-33

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Unlike with our other important relationships, God isn't exactly someone we can meet for coffee and look into his eyes while having a conversation. Whether we talk to God in our mind or out loud, we recognize that even with a good prayer life it can sometimes be difficult to cultivate and maintain a relationship with God. Doubters and unbelievers are quick to remind us how impossible it is to believe what we cannot see or hear, but today's readings also remind us that God doesn't speak to us as another human being would. Maybe he doesn't speak with the booming voice of a preacher or a politician, and maybe he doesn't write direct messages for us in the sky or sand, but God does speak. Perhaps, like Elijah, we tend to expect God to communicate with huge gestures, such as strong wind that crushes rocks, or earthquakes or fires; but we hear today that God spoke to Elijah in a "tiny whispering sound." It's not unlike a very good teacher who doesn't need to raise her voice to get her students' attention when they lose focus - she has their respect and simply needs to speak normally and calmly and the students quiet down, pay attention, and listen. When we still our hearts and minds and listen, in prayer, let us be confident we will hear God's voice.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Perhaps in order to hear God's voice in our lives we need to fine-tune our "hearing." First, how can we hear if we do not have faith? Jesus called Peter out of the boat and into stormy waters, and though he was able to walk on water for a time, Peter began to sink because he became afraid. Doubt or fear can hamper our ability to listen to the Lord clearly; don't let it cloud your love for Christ! Second, we must keep in mind the many ways God speaks to us: his Word (the Bible), the writings of the saints and Church Fathers, our Catholic Tradition, other people God has placed in our lives, and the "tiny whispering sound" we might hear only within our heart. Stay attuned to God's voice; the rewards are heavenly.

INVITATION Ignatian spirituality – meditations, prayers, and contemplative practices – may help us recognize and truly hear the still small voice of God in our lives. The Daily Examen is a prayerful reflection on the events of the day which might help us identify the movement of the Holy Spirit in those moments. Give it a try.



Are You Hoping to Receive One of the Seven Sacraments With Us?

Matrimony

Congratulations on your engagement! Every Diocese in Florida requires at least six months preparation before marriage. Please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for an appointment before setting a date.

Baptism

We are honored that you would like to choose Blessed Trinity Catholic Church for the baptism of your child! We ask that you please call our Pastor, Fr. Wayne Genereux, at the Parish Office for information regarding the pre-baptism class before scheduling a baptism.

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9-12 and 1-4 Closed for Lunch Noon to 1 pm

Journeying Through Grief

"Grief is not a sign of weakness. It is a tribute to the loved one who died, and a healthy response to our heart ache."

If you would like to be part of a Grief-Support "group" or you would prefer "one on one" support, please call Rachel between 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the parish office, 727-867-3663

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 12, Memorial of Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

8:00 a.m. Carole Huff (Dec)

Saturday, August 12, Vigil for The Nineteenth Sunday in OT

4:00 p.m. Bill Hueston (Dec)

Sunday, August 13, Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Michelle Zere (Dec)
9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners
11:30 a.m. Marlene Romani (Dec)

Monday, August 14, Memorial of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest

and Martyr

8:00 a.m. Shirley Romani (Dec)

Tuesday, August 15, Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed

Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. Steven and Estephanie Roberts (Dec)

7:00 p.m. Carole Huff (Dec)

Wednesday, August 16, Memorial of St. Stephen of Hungary

8:00 a.m. Mass for Vocations

Thursday, August 17, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Noreen and Peter Padvaiskas (Dec)

Friday, August 18, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Thomas Lacricchio (Dec)

Saturday, August 19, Weekday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Charles Pagliuca (Dec)

Saturday, August 19, Vigil for The Twentieth Sunday in OT

4:00 p.m. Nick Calandra (Dec)

Sunday, August 20, The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Robert Clippard (Dec) 9:30 a.m. Mass for Parishioners 11:30 a.m. Gerald Hayman (Dec)



Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Tuesday, August 15

Tuesday, August 15

Masses at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Prayer for Priests & Future Priests

Eternal Father, We lift up to you these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them, heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of your Son Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to you. In Jesus name, we pray. Amen.

08/13 • Tyler Gates, Seminarian

08/14 • Rev. Arthur Proulx

08/15 • Rev. Joshua Bertrand

08/16 • For Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life

08/17 • Rev. Jude C. Vera

08/18 • Rev. Bill D. Wilson

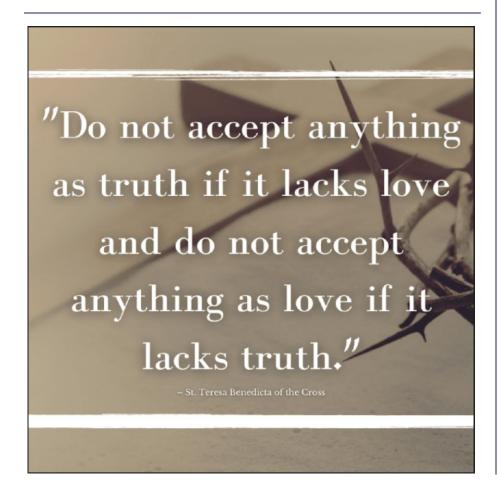
08/19 • Rev. Kevin Yarnell

These are the names of the active priests and seminarians in our Diocese. Remember our Bishop has designated Wednesdays as Diocesan Day of Prayer for Vocations. Please continue to pray that more young people will hear and answer God's call to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

Vocations

Are you called to serve the family of the Lord and share the Father's love as a priest, deacon, sister or brother?

Call Father Chuck Dornquast 727-345-3452 or write: scd@dosp.org



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Prayer for Protection from Hurricanes

God, Our Father, Creator and Lord of the universe, you have set the earth on its foundation and all the elements of nature obey your command. We humbly beseech you to keep us safe from all dangers and calm the storm that threatens us. May we be secure in your loving protection and serve you always with grateful hearts. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

I remember when all three of my children were learning to swim. In the beginning, it seemed like no matter how much assurance I gave them, they were certain they would drown. Even after watching me float in the water, they were pretty sure their bodies were created to sink. In time, they grew more comfortable in the water. Eventually, they could even swim the length of the pool. But this did not happen overnight. They had to grow in their faith that swimming was possible, not just for others, but for them as well.

Too many of us who are Christians believe that holiness is for someone else. We believe that the stories of the saints are about super humans who had something in greater supply than us. When our faith is weak, we assume that we can never have the faith of these holy men and women.

On the contrary, faith and holiness are not things only possible for a few. But we must practice our faith to grow in our faith. We must strive for holiness if we are to become holy.

Like a child fears the water before learning to swim, we often fear the path that leads to greater faith or holiness. We are not convinced that God can work in our lives to create a saint. Yet except for Mary, the Immaculate Conception, every saint was a sinner. God called every saint to exit the boat and walk toward Jesus on the water. In time, with practice and trust in God, they found they did not sink either.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

© Liturgical Publications



"Life in the Spirit" Prayer Group

Monday evenings at 7:00 pm in Courtyard Hall.

All are welcome!

For more information please call 727-867-3663.

St. Anthony's Prayer for Peace of Mind

O holy Saint Anthony, your deep faith in Jesus Christ comforted your heart, especially during times of trial and distress. Help me grow in faith, so I may experience peace of mind and heart in my present needs (Here mention). Free me from undue anxiety, needless worry, and burdensome fears. Grant me sure confidence, unfailing trust in God's loving mercy and daily serenity. ~ Amen



2023 Goal \$74,446.52



Thank you for your prayerful giving!



Keep in touch with us!

Text BTSP to 84576 or connect with us online at btsp.flocknote.com



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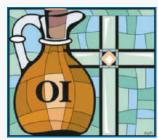
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Romani, Angelo Shelby, Ron & Montez Stankiewicz, Cy Thompson, Susan E.

Thuline, James and Vanderbeck, Jay Walsh, Thomas Youngman, Ruth



Anointing of the Sick

To request the Anointing of the Sick for yourself or a loved one, please contact the parish office, 727-867-3663.

If you or a close family member would like to be added or removed from our prayer list, please contact the parish office at 727-867-3663.



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