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19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" *Matthew 14:31*

19° Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

"Hombre de poca fe, ¿por qué has vacilado?" Matthew 14:31

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TUESDAY, AUGUST 15TH - MASS TIMES - VIGIL, MONDAY AT 6:30 P.M., TUESDAY AT 9:00 A.M.

HEARING AND OBSERVING

In today's Gospel, a woman from the crowd gives a shout out to Jesus' mother; because mothers surely deserve some acknowledgment for the virtue of their children! And Jesus says that actually, those who hear and observe the word of God should be praised. At first, Jesus' words may seem dismissive of his mother, as if he is saying that she is not blessed. But we can hear his words as, "Yes, because she heard the word of God and observed it perfectly. And so, blessed are all those who do the same!"

Mary is certainly privileged in many ways, but her true beauty and virtue is that she received all that came from God and every thought, word, action, and desire of hers was in alignment with His will. Today, as we celebrate one of the Marian dogmas of the Church, her Assumption into Heaven, we praise the true blessedness of the Mother of God. Blessed is she who heard the word of God, received it, assented to it, observed it, and never drew back, through all the vicissitudes and confusions and heartache and uncertainty and sorrow that she faced in this life! She remained faithful to her fiat at the Annunciation through the misunderstandings of Joseph and her neighbors, through the threats of the Pharisees against her son, through the lack of understanding of the disciples and the crowds who followed Jesus, all the way to the Cross and beyond. She never wavered.

Throughout her life, we see the strength that she draws from her deep faith and unwavering hope. Even at the Cross, she stood. She did not look away from the worst cruelty and the deepest heartache of a mother we can imagine. She stood, suffering FOR her son, and WITH her son, offering him and herself to the Father. Cosuffering. Co-redeeming.

"She conceived, brought forth and nourished Christ. She presented Him to the Father in the temple, and was united with Him by compassion as He died on the Cross. In this singular way she cooperated by her obedience, faith, hope and burning charity in the work of the Saviour in giving back supernatural life to souls. Wherefore she is our mother in the order of grace.

This maternity of Mary in the order of grace began with the consent which she gave in faith at the Annunciation and which she sustained without wavering beneath the cross, and lasts until the eternal fulfillment of all the elect. Taken up to heaven she did not lay aside this salvific duty, but by her constant intercession continued to bring us the gifts of eternal salvation." (Lumen Gentium, # 61, 62)

Let's ponder these words from Vatican II today and remember that when her life on earth was finished, her body was not left in a tomb to decay. Rather, she was lifted body and soul into Heavenly glory, to continue her motherhood of the whole Body of Christ! Mary, our Mother, pray for us.

STEWARDSHIP AUGUST 6

Offering	\$2437.00
Mission Coop	\$5.00
St, Nick	\$45.00
Rainy Day	\$180.00

Total \$2667.00

COMING IN SEPTEMBER: "In the Beginning"

A Creation Series, presented by the Diocese of Harrisburg. In this 8-part series of educational and theological talks, all are invited to learn more about our very beginnings and our role as stewards of God's Creation. To view the complete schedule and register, visit https://www.hbgdiocese.org/creation/.

SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

The Benton Council of Churches will be collecting school supplies to be distributed on Saturday, August 26th, at the Benton Community Park at 10:00 a.m.

Supplies needed Pencils, Pens, Rulers, Lined Paper, Crayons, Markers, Colored Pencils, Erasers, Pencil Sharpeners, Notebooks, Safety Scissors and Folders.

Supplies should be turned in by August 20th. There is a box in the Social Hall.

PIEROGI MAKING

Thanks to all who have helped to make pierogies over the past several weeks!

The Bloomsburg Fair is our biggest Fundraiser. Your help is appreciated!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 12 Marilyn LaBonte by Joe LaBonte

Sunday, August 13

Marie & Russ Castrogiovanni by Lee Ann & Joe Boiwka

Monday, August 14 (6:30 p.m. Vigil) Camillo Vincent Ciccone by his Sister

Tuesday, August 15 (9:00 a.m. Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Anne Eustice by Renee Hansen

Saturday, August 19 People of the Parish

Sunday, August 20 Deb Haden by Paul Haden

Mass intentions are available in memory of, or in honor of a loved one. The donation for having a Mass said for a personal request is \$10.00. You can drop your request in the collection or contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL ROLES

Lector Schedule

August 13 - Paul Haden August 20 - Barb Treier

Extraordinary Minister

August 13 - Stephen Root August 20 - Lee Ann Boiwka

Collection Stewards

August 13 - Gloria Galer & Judie Scavone August 20 - Charlotte & Joe Casarella

LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LORD IS ABOUNDING IN LOVE AND MERCY, BUT HE ISN'T ALWAYS "LOUD."

It was in the tiny, whispering sound that Elijah experienced the Lord's presence. It is a good reminder for us that sometimes God is in the storm, sometimes he is in the whisper, sometimes he is the calming presence walking on the water. His love and mercy abound, and we need simply to keep our eyes on him and reach out our hand when we need help.

In the first reading, the Lord revealed his presence to Elijah not in great forces of nature but in a tiny whisper. Saint Paul writes of his sorrow in loving his people who do not accept Christ. In the Gospel, Jesus invites Peter to join him in walking on water; Peter does so until he doubts, and Jesus catches him when he begins to sink.

Women's Fall Mini Retreat

The Harrisburg Diocesan Council of Catholic Women invites all women of the Diocese to our Fall Mini Retreat, "A renewed encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist" on Saturday, September 16, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Saint Katharine Drexel Church, 1 Peter Drive, Mechanicsburg. Keynote speaker, Betsy Schaedler, will speak on Stay with me, Lord: The Eucharist and Adoration. The day includes Mass and will end with adoration and benediction. Cost is \$10 and includes brunch. Register by September 5th by contacting Terri Gelles at 717-398-9023 or email: tgelles@comcast.net. The flyer is available on the HDCCW website - Home (webs.com).

GRIEF SHARE SUPPORT GROUP

Find Hope and Healing after the death of a loved one.

Join us at a weekly grief support group on

Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.

August 8th - October 31st, 2023

Benton Christian Church, Corner of

Church & Third street

Contact Kim Keller at 570-204-3888 or Church Office
at 570-925-2266 to register

 ${\small 3~Key~Parts:~video~seminar,~group~discussion~and}\\ {\small personal~workbook}$

Topics covered: your grief journey sadness & loneliness, fear & anxiety, anger, regrets, grief & your relationships, questions for God, Hope!

CYE News

I pray you are having a restful and pleasant summer.

Please join us as we celebrate the joys of summer as a CYE family on August 15, the feast of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven. We will celebrate at the new Bloomsburg Town Pool from 6-8 pm for a private party.

CYE classes begin on Sunday September 10 with 9 a.m. Mass and concluding at 1130.

There is an important parent meeting at this time as well. It is VERY important that at least one parent plan to attend this meeting. Changes, updates, and other vital information will be discussed at this meeting.

Unborn Candle Donations

\$3.00/ week, \$5.00/ 2 weeks or \$10.00/ month. Month of August - Richard & Tamara Lindner

BENTON FOOD BANK

For the month of August we will be collecting foil, wax paper and baggies due to the Food Bank by August 13th.

The Food Bank at the N4C's is the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

BENTON COUNCIL OF CHURCHES VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Happy Campers, Spend S'More time with God!

Dates: August 13 -17, Time: 5:45 - 8 p.m. at Benton Christian Church

Ages: pre-K (must be toilet trained) - 6th Grade

Looking for Volunteers to help lead "Campers" and activities. If 18 or older will need volunteer clearances. Also looking for junior volunteers ages 14-17 to help.

Any questions or to sign up contact Heather at hzimmo2@epix.net or text/call 570-594-0514.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND - LENT, 2024

Please join us on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land March 1-10, 2024, with Fr. John Szada, priest of the Diocese of Harrisburg. Join us as we travel to Bethlehem, Jericho, Cana, Nazareth, Galilee, Mount Tabor, Jerusalem and more.

Pricing includes: Basic Tour and Guided Sightseeing, Round-trip International Airfare, Entrance Fees, First Class Hotels, Daily Breakfast and Dinner, Deluxe Motor coaches, Hotel Gratuities and More!

Price from Philadelphia is \$4196, Pittsburgh is \$4246. Other departure cities available. Please call for price.

For more information or to register, please visit www.QoHtours.com or call 1-800-213-4295

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER:

- INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER,
- ALL PRIESTS INCLUDING:
 - Fr. Mowery
 - Fr. St. Hilaire
 - Fr. Sola
- CARL BARCHIK
- MICHAEL BARDI
- Danny Bauman
- Maureen Beck
- LORENA BENNET
- BUTCH BOGART
- NANCY BOGART
- CHRISTINA CAPRIOLA
- RUSSELL CASTROGIOVANNI
- COBERT FAMILY
- Honor Dell
- RYAN DELL
- CHRIS ERTWINE
- VIVIAN WHITENIGHT HYNICK
- Bob Kalie
- MARGARET KALIE
- Austin Kelsey
- JOSEPH LABONTE
- MARY ANN LEVAN
- DOROTHY O'HANDLEY
- Nancy Oman
- RICHARD SCAVONE
- Jackie Scherer
- MARK SULLIVAN
- Marisa Whitenight
- Iosephine Wilson
- NANCY WISBAR
- Sonny Womelsdorf
- Mary Ann Zeveney



SAINT MAXIMILIAN KOLBE AUGUST 14

Perhaps most well known for his martyrdom in a concentration camp where he offered to die in place of a father with a family, his story of sainthood began much earlier. He entered the minor seminary of the Conventual Franciscans in his native Poland at a young age and was ordained a priest at 24. He founded The Militia of the Immaculata to fight evil through the positive witness of a holy life. He also began a magazine to spread the good news and it eventually reached one million subscribers. All that he did was driven by his devotion to the Blessed Mother, for it was she who appeared to him holding in her hands one white and one red crown, asking him if he would like to have purity or martyrdom. He chose both and lived out his days dedicated to her and her son, until he died by starvation and lethal injection to save another man's life. Although we may not be called to physically die for another, there are many ways we can die to ourselves each day in love and service to others. Let us follow the example of Saint Maximilian Kolbe and be willing to lose our lives that we might find eternal life in heaven.

