

# St. John of God Catholic Church

Serving the UCSF Medical Center Community Since 1967

1290 Fifth Ave., San Francisco CA 94122 | [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net) | Office (415) 566-5610

Parish Office Hours: 10 AM – 1:00 PM

Daily Weekday Mass: Monday to Friday 12:10 PM (followed by the Rosary)

First Friday (following Mass): Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Vigil Mass Saturday 4:15 p.m.

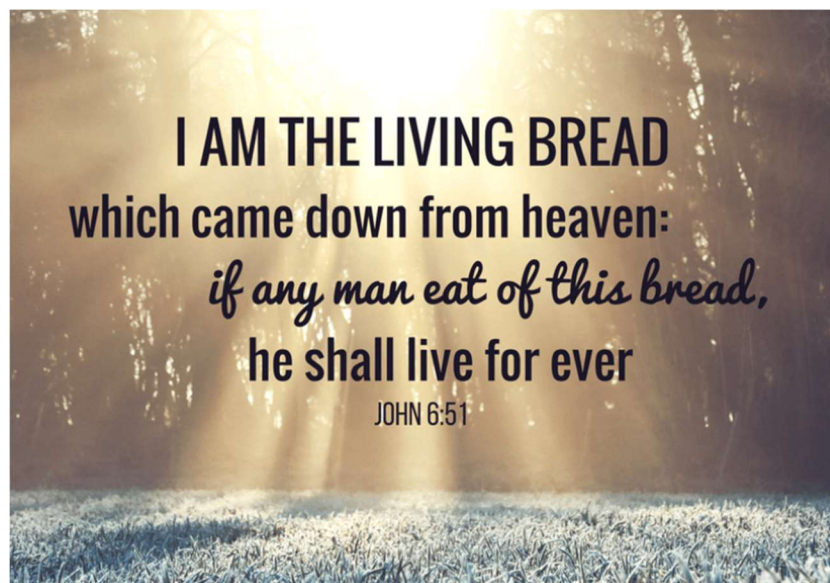
Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

*Reconciliation (as requested or by appointment)*

August 11, 2024

## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:4-8 | Eph 4:30—5:2 | Jn 6:41-51



### The Feast of the Assumption of Mary

Thursday August 15th, a

Holy Day of Obligation

Mass at 12:10pm

(See attachment at end of bulletin)

August 11, 2024

## The Good News

### Today's Gospel

The Jews murmured about Jesus because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven," and they said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph? Do we not know his father and mother? Then how can he say, 'I have come down from heaven'?"

Jesus answered and said to them, "Stop murmuring among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draw him, and I will raise him on the last day. *It is written in the prophets: / They shall all be taught by God. / Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him comes to me.* Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father.

*Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.* I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert, but they died; this is the bread that comes down from heaven so that one may eat it and not die.

*I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."*

**John 6:41-51**



### The Mission of St. John of God Church

Following the dedication of Saint John of God to healthcare workers caring for the poor and the sick, we walk the same path to minister to patients and their families, hospital staff and faculty in the UC San Francisco Medical Center to help meet Jesus Christ through our actions, charity, transparency, social justice, and inclusiveness.

### Today's Reflection:

Jesus' disciples and followers have difficulty believing that he is the bread of life from heaven, because they know him as the son of Mary and Joseph. Jesus says whoever believes **has** eternal life; not **will** have eternal life – not a promise in the future, but *for today and always*. Through faith and the sacraments, and especially when we receive *with faith* the Precious Body (consecrated Host) and Precious Blood (consecrated wine), we participate in the eternal love of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

With no doubt our Blessed Virgin Mary had utmost faith in Jesus and God the Father from the beginning and through the rest of her life. All the feast days of Mary mark the great mysteries of her life and her part in the work of redemption. With the Assumption that ended Mary's earthly life into eternal life, God completed his work in her. The Assumption looks to eternity and gives us hope that we, too, will follow Our Lady when our life is ended.

**Thank you for worshipping with us. We are not complete without you.**

### Today's Readings – Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

**First Reading** – Strengthened by that food, he walked to the mountain of God. (1 Kgs 19:4-8)

**Psalm** – Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9)

**Second Reading** – Walk in love, just like Christ. (Eph 4:30-5:2)

**Gospel** – I am the living bread that came down from heaven. (Jn 6:41-51)

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### Please remember to pray:

- For those suffering illness, infirmity, and the homebound, especially those we know or who have moved into care facilities: **Don Pearson (our choir pianist)**
- For the names written in the Book of the Sick.
- For the special intentions of our parishioners and their families.
- For the newly baptized, newly confirmed, and newly married.
- For the souls of the recently departed, that through the mercy of God, may they rest in peace, for the repose of the souls of all deceased and their grieving families and friends.

## Welcome to St. John of God Church

Welcome to those who may be visiting with us. If you are new to this area, we hope to see you again and that you may consider joining this community. Please join us for refreshments after Sunday 9:30/11:30 Mass.



Continued...

## Sacraments

Anointing of the Sick

Baptism

Holy Communion

Reconciliation

Marriage (requires six months advance preparation for in-church ceremony.)

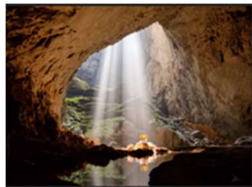
## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Adults seeking Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Communion, or joining the Catholic Church, please call or send an email to the Parish Office. For more information on RCIA, please contact:

- Debbie Feliz 415-819-9093, dafeliz50@gmail.com
- Paul Riofski 415-517-4647, sjogmusic@aol.com

## Sacramental Reconciliation

No sin is new to Him. No wrongdoing too great. Come reconcile with God and experience His mercy and joy. Call to make an appointment or ask the celebrant.



## St. John of God Choir



Music Liturgy Group invites you to join the choir. For details, please call our Music Director, Paul Riofski at (415) 517-4647.

**Choir rehearsal on Monday 8/12.**

## Faith Formation

Consider answering Christ's call to be a volunteer Catechist or Catechist Aide. Training will be provided. Please call the Parish office (415) 566-5610 if interested.

Continued...

**Note:** For Mass intentions or to report a gravely ill or recently deceased parishioner please call the Parish Office (415) 566-5610 or send an email to [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net)

### The St. John of God Prayer (by Rev. Thomas L. Seagrave)

Dear God, through the intercession of St John of God, patron of the poor and the sick, grant me the grace this day to greet every person that I meet with understanding and compassion. Reveal to me their needs and give me the means and inspire in my heart the humility and generosity of St. John so that I might be to them a revelation of Christ's love. Amen.

### Readings, Saints and Special Observances of the Week:

**12 Monday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Jane Frances de Chantal)  
*Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.*

Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c | Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14 | Mt 17:22-27

**13 Tuesday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time** (Saints Pontian and Hippolytus)  
*How sweet to my taste is your promise!*

Ez 2:8-3:4 | Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131 | Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

**14 Wednesday – Memorial of St. Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr**

*The glory of the Lord is higher than the skies.*

Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22 | Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 | Mt 18:15-20

**15 Thursday – Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.*

Rv 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB | Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16 | 1 Cor 15:20-27 | Lk 1:39-56

**16 Friday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Stephen of Hungary)

*You have turned from your anger.*

Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 | Ps Isaiah 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 | Mt 19:3-12

**17 Saturday of the Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time** (St. Clare of Montefalco)

*Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32 | Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 | Mt 19:13-15

**18 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time** (St. Helena)

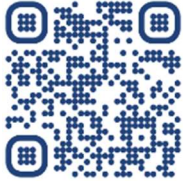
*Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

Prv 9:1-6 | Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 | Eph 5:15-20 | Jn 6:51-58

Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States, second typical edition, Copyright © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; Psalm refrain © 1968, 1981, 1997, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.

### Ways to Donate to SJOG Church:

1. Monetary offerings during Mass.  
Electronic transfer (convenient way to make a one-time or recurring donation) via:  
<https://www.sjog.net/donate>
2. Scan the QR image below with a mobile phone.



Either #2 or #3 will open the Vanco SJOG donation page. If you have questions, please send an email to [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net).



For more information to rent the Hall, please call the Parish Office at (415) 566-5610 or send an email to [stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnofgod-sf@sbcglobal.net).

#### Pastoral Staff:

- Fr. Narcis Kabipi, Administrator and Hospital Chaplain
- Fr. Te Van Nguyen, Parochial Vicar and Hospital Chaplain
- Liturgy Committee: Lynette Castiglione, Bob Gajewski, Paul Riofski
- Pastoral Committee: Lynette Castiglione, Debbie Feliz, Chuck & Gilda Witherell

#### Administration Support:

- Secretary: Tracy Thompson
- Office Support: Caroline Forrester and Marilu Illenberger
- Finance Committee: Bill Becker, Susan Fox, Dave Freitas, Bob Gajewski
- Bookkeeper: Jessica Flores
- Bulletin Editor: Marilu Illenberger
- Webmaster: Joe Humphreys
- Custodian: Phil Thurman

### Weekly Mass Intentions

*(Please call the Office to reserve your dates.)*

Date & Mass Time	Names
Sun., August 11 09:30 11:30	
Mon., August 12 12:10 pm	
Tues., August 13	
Wed., August 14 12:10 pm	
Thurs., August 15 12:10 pm	<b>Assumption of Blessed Mary</b>
Fri., August 16 12:10 pm	
Sat., August 17 4:15 pm	
Sun., August 18 09:30 11:30	



## August 15 – Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



*Mary is surprisingly portrayed as falling, as if she were definitively letting go of all the trials and sufferings of this life and allowing herself to fall asleep. Indeed, she is letting go of life itself as she passes from this world to the next. It is just at this moment of abandoning herself into the Father's hands that the angels rush down to catch her and bring her up to heaven.*

The depiction of the end of Mary's life—her moment between heaven and earth—can be found on one of the main doors of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.

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What does Catholicism teach about the assumption of Mary? And why is this event contemplated in the fourth glorious mystery? Let us begin by considering a few key points from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (see 966).

First, in discussing the assumption, the *Catechism* affirms that Mary did not suffer from original sin but was conceived full of grace. According to this doctrine, known as the Immaculate Conception, God's supernatural life dwelt in Mary from the very beginning of her existence.

It is important to emphasize that from a Catholic perspective, the Immaculate Conception is not simply about Mary. This doctrine, which has its roots in early Christianity, ultimately is about the mystery of Jesus Christ. God became man in Mary's womb. Since Jesus truly is the all-holy God, the Second Person of the Trinity, Catholics believe he is worthy to dwell in a pure vessel, a holy temple. Thus, it is fitting that God would prepare Mary as an immaculate dwelling place, full of grace and not stained by sin, for the God-man.

The annunciation scene in Luke's Gospel may at least point in this direction. The angel Gabriel greets Mary, "Hail, full of grace." The Greek word in Luke's Gospel for "full of grace" (Luke 1:28) is in a perfect passive participle form, which would indicate that Mary already has been filled with God's saving grace, even before Jesus was conceived in her womb.<sup>6</sup> As we will see, the Immaculate Conception will serve as a basis for understanding Mary's assumption.

## **Mary's Death?**

Second, the *Catechism* teaches that Mary was taken to heaven when the course of her earthly life was finished. The Church does not declare whether Mary died and then was assumed into heaven or whether she was assumed before she died. It leaves open both possibilities. However, the majority of theologians and saints throughout the centuries have affirmed that Mary did experience death—not as a penalty for sin but in conformity to her son, who willingly experienced death on our behalf. In support of this latter view, John Paul II said, “The Mother is not superior to the Son who underwent death, giving it a new meaning and changing it into a means of salvation.”

Third, the *Catechism* affirms that Mary was taken body and soul into heavenly glory right at the end of her earthly life. One of the consequences of original sin is the corruption of the body (see CCC, 400; Genesis 3:19). If Mary was full of grace and did not suffer from original sin, it is fitting that she, like her son, would not experience such bodily corruption.

## **Biblical Assumptions**

Although there are no explicit proof texts in Scripture for Mary's assumption, some biblical themes may at least shed light on this doctrine. For example, the notion of being taken up into heaven has some precedent in Scripture. Enoch was taken into heaven without seeing death (see Hebrews 11:5), and Elijah was whisked into heaven by the chariots of fire at the end of his life (see 2 Kings 2:11). If God could assume these righteous men of the Old Testament, it is certainly possible that Jesus could assume his own mother as well.

Even more, since the Bible presents Mary as the first Christian disciple, it is fitting that she would be the first to receive the blessings of following Christ. In the New Testament, Mary is presented as the first to hear God's word and accept it at the annunciation (see Luke 1:38, 45). She responds to God's word promptly by going in haste to help Elizabeth. She also describes herself as a servant of the Lord (see Luke 1:38, 48).

Mary remains faithful to her son, following him even to the cross (see John 19:25–27), where she experiences the fulfillment of Simeon's prophecy at the Presentation: “A sword will pierce through your own soul also” (Luke 2:35).

She perseveres in faith throughout her life. She gathers with the apostles for prayer even after her son's ascension (see Acts 1:14). Thus, the New Testament presents a clear portrait of Mary as the first and preeminent disciple of Christ, who hears the word of God and keeps it in her heart.

Since one of the blessings promised to all faithful disciples is victory over death, it is fitting that Mary, who is the first and model disciple of Christ, would be the first to receive this blessing. Catholics thus believe that the privilege of resurrection promised to all faithful Christians was given first to Mary and in a totally unique way.

While the rest of us hope to have our bodies raised to glory at the end of time, Mary experienced the resurrection and glorification of her body at the moment her earthly life ended. Thus, her

assumption—which flows from her unique participation in Christ’s victory as the mother of the Savior and as the first and most faithful of Christ’s followers—anticipates to some degree our own share in the fullness of that victory if we persevere as followers of Christ.

### **An Event of Love**

Finally, let us consider what a moment the Assumption must have been for Mary! In describing this scene, some Church Fathers spoke of Jesus himself coming back to earth to take his mother and bring her to her heavenly home. More recently, John Paul II said that the Assumption truly was an event of love, in which Mary’s ardent longing to be with her son was finally fulfilled. In fact, many paintings of the Assumption portray Mary rising in splendor on a cloud to heaven, received by the angels with trumpets and celebration, and reunited joyfully with her beloved son.

This depiction captures an aspect of Mary’s assumption that offers us hope in the midst of our trials in this “valley of tears.” This is the hope that God will carry us through our distress and lift up our heavy hearts. So, take a moment right now and ask yourself, what burdens, troubles, and worries are weighing you down? How can you entrust yourself more to God’s loving care?

With whatever we’re facing in life, may we, like Mary, fall into the Father’s arms, so that we may have a more profound experience of his supporting us in our present sufferings and raising us to himself—both now and at the hour of our death.

### **Reflection**

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**[The above blog is by Edward Sri, a theologian, and was taken from Franciscan Media]**

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### **From the Vatican**

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary was already being celebrated on 15 August in the 5th century. It bore the sense of Our Lady’s “Birth into heaven”, or in the Byzantine tradition, her “Dormition”. The feast began to be celebrated in Rome in the middle of the 7th century. It was not until 1 November 1950, that Pope Pius XII proclaimed the Dogma of Mary’s assumption body and soul into heaven. In the Apostles’ Creed, we profess our faith in the “Resurrection of the body” and in “life everlasting”. This is the ultimate goal and meaning of our life’s journey.