



Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish, Stafford

A Parish of the Brisbane North West Deanery

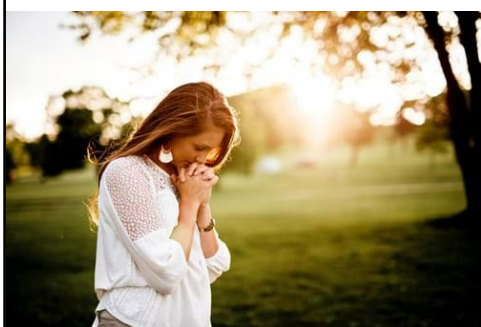
Vision: "To follow the example of Jesus by serving others."

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Year B 14th/15th August, 2021

Reflection on the readings

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The feast of the Assumption, or Dormition as it is called in the Eastern Churches, has a long history, but it is without uniformity of understanding, especially since no such event is mentioned in Scripture; variant accounts were put forward among the apocrypha. Even while defining the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that is, that at the completion of the course of her earthly life she was assumed body and soul into heaven, Pope Pius XII made no attempt to say what happened as an historical event. The earliest Christian authors unhelpfully made no mention of it, and indeed no further certain reference to her is found in the Acts of the Apostles after the mention of her being united in prayer with the nascent Christian community in the first chapter. Thus the various scenarios of the end of her bodily life, as also of her birth and childhood, emerge in the apocrypha and conjecture, and some people now think that these are somehow approved with the dogma. While some elements of from those texts have been included in icons and folk stories, they were not adopted in the liturgical texts and celebrations, all of which Pius XII drew his greatest support from, texts that remained sober in their tone and aspects. As a whole they dwelt on her graced unity throughout her life with the Word of God, incarnate of her body in Christ Jesus her son, the conqueror of sin and death. This unique relationship and role was seen as the cause of her exemptions from two general rules of life, that is, the spiritual corruption of sin and corporal corruption in death. The second reading (1 Cor 15:20-26), without mentioning Mary, most clearly draws these together in its recognition of sin and death as the common lot of human beings, but also it asserts that resurrection in Christ is the common goal of all who belong to him. Our Lady is upheld as an example of this already fulfilled, and therefore as a sign of hope to us all.



A significant point of difference in various claims arising concerning whether or not Mary died, some holding that she did not die but was taken to heaven, others that she died, was buried and like Jesus was raised on the third day and thence

assumed into heaven. The first is not without precedent, since the peculiar reference to Enoch's end (Gen 5:22) led to an ancient belief that he was assumed into heaven without dying; Moses is also often said to have been taken up to heaven; the prophet Elijah was snatched up in a whirlwind (2 Kgs 2:11). While much of Western art in the last few centuries depicts the Assumption in a manner consistent with that understanding, the texts of our liturgy make no such claim and only repeat that she was assumed into heaven; they do not specify exactly what that entailed in history. Eastern traditions consistently hold that Mary did die, was buried, and was raised, but there are different versions of what happened between those steps, many of which are influenced by other otherwise unrelated episodes in Scripture. However, in iconography, which we first must note does not represent a snapshot view of an event but depicts many things in a single

view, we often find Mary laid on a bier in death, with Christ behind holding her soul as a newborn child, thus receiving her into heaven. We see a similar depiction of this, but with her body not on a bier but being entombed, in the lower half of the thirteenth century psalter's image reproduced in the British and Australian edition of the Missal, page 980. In the top half, the adult Mary is crowned and seated beside Christ, but deferring to him.

The first reading, excerpted from Revelation 12:1-17 and prefaced by 11:19, is read by some as the scriptural source, but it is hard to deduce anything certain from much of the weird and wonderful world of ancient Jewish and Christian apocalypses. While this passage is readily understood to refer to our Lady giving birth to Jesus, and his being snatched to the heavenly throne, it says of her only that she fled to a place prepared for her in the wilderness, but it covers that twice, in a short and a long form (v.6 and 13-16). It is the various apocryphal accounts that has most informed iconography and art over the centuries, though elements from Revelation 12 are often included.

It is in this feast's Preface for the Eucharist that we find the strongest suggestion that she died, but also that God did not "allow her to see the corruption of the tomb". It is also here that we find the benefit of the Assumption to us is in having Mary as "the beginning and image" of the "Church's coming to perfection".

Text: Homily Help - Rev Dr Barry Craig - Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Year B

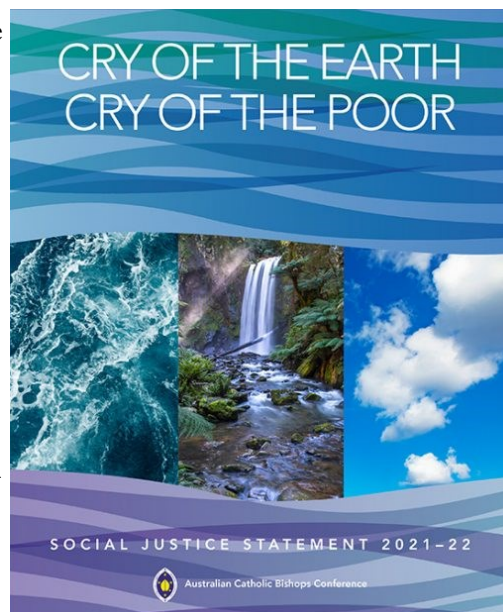
Image: Unsplash.com

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT 2021—2022

This year's Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement will be launched on August 5th of 2021 with the theme Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor. The statement affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour" and draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching, and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations.

The statement will be available for download from the ACBC Office for Social Justice website from August 5th here We have ordered some print copies, they haven't arrived yet.

[ACBC Office for Social Justice](#)



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

1st Reading: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32

Gospel: John 6:60-69

[Daily Mass Readings](#)

"And Mary said, 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior.'" Luke 1: 46



After Jesus, we look to Mary as our model of stewardship. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's will. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we too are called to reflect Christ to the world. We do this by living grateful and generous lives. We do this by putting other's needs before our wants.

Things to do while you can't do what you want to do.

While the routines we once had have flown out the window, we've had to find other things to keep us busy! I've been busy in the office doing what many of you have been doing at home. A bit of Spring Cleaning and sorting through things. Here in the office, we have a rather large amount of archive memorabilia for the parish. There are lots of photos, newspaper clippings and other really interesting things. At the moment everything is in plastic tubs and cardboard boxes.

I'm proposing that a group of history buffs, along with a sprinkling of super organised souls gather to sort through our 'museum'. This will be more than an hour over coffee. All those interested in helping could gather as a group to discuss the plan of attack and then maybe meet on a regular basis to sort and reminisce.

If I've peaked your interest, please give me a call or send me an email. This has no age barrier or years of service to our parish. I really need a few people to come along to identify faces in photos and to fill in the blanks of the various occasions. I also need some lovers of organisation to set about preserving our history for the next generations and next parish secretaries too!

This could be a great opportunity to get to know your community. I'm sure there will be much sharing of stories while diving into the history boxes of our parish. Debra

Still Spring cleaning, we have a large collection of prints and frames that are surplus to our needs! They will be in the foyer this weekend. You may like to repurpose the frames or you may love the artwork.

1 In 5 Australians Forced To 'Improvise' On Period Products

August is always our biggest Dignity Drive, but we are astounded by the number of requests we have received so far. Already we have had 28% of our 2900 charities request 135,000 products. This is shaping up to be the largest round of requests we've ever seen and speaks volumes as to just how vulnerable some communities are right now.

With millions of Australians in lockdown, fewer people are out and about. Our donation numbers are already in jeopardy of not meeting the requests of our charities. [If you can't get to the shops during August, please see our COVID-19 appeal page.](#)



Donate to our
DignityDRIVE
this August

So while you're doing your next grocery shop pick up an extra packet of pads, tampons, continence products, period undies or menstrual cups, and drop it at your closest collection point. Every donation has can change someone's life.

You may leave donations at the parish office or church during the month of August. There are a few local donation drop off points that may be convenient to you including all Woolworths, Epic Hair at Everton Park and Super Pharmacy Plus, Stafford Rd, Stafford.

Take what you love and we will be doing our bit for the environment, saving landfill and finding new homes for unloved art! We also have some seats that are ready for new homes. These are especially good for those that need an arm on the seat particularly if knees and hips are playing up.



catholiccampaign.com.au

Be blessed and bless others with your gift

Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Your gift today will be a blessing to struggling local families; to seminarians and retired priests; and children in our community in dire need of the love and care of a Catholic community.



**2021 ANNUAL
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN**
Our Church • Our Mission • Our Community



Care for Creation

Do you know about Greenfaith?

Because the Earth and all people are sacred and at risk, GreenFaith is building a worldwide, multi-faith climate and environmental movement.

Here is a peek at its history and integrity. The Australian Religious Response to Climate Change (ARRCC) work in co-operation with Greenfaith. For more information go to <https://greenfaith.org/about/>

Mission: Together our members create communities to transform ourselves, our spiritual institutions, and society to protect the planet and create a compassionate, loving and just world.

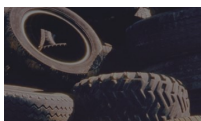
FAITHS 4 CLIMATE JUSTICE
A Global Multi-Religious Action
17-18 October 2021

In just the last month, climate change-

strengthened storms have wrought devastating flooding and mudslides across Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands; deadly heat waves across the US and Canada have killed hundreds of people; and a gas leak in the Gulf of Mexico lit the ocean on fire. World leaders have known about the dangers of climate change for decades, but action lacks decision and unity. The countries that produce the least greenhouse gasses are often the most vulnerable and the least equipped to deal with climate change. That's why grassroots people of diverse faiths around the globe are taking action.

What happens to your car tyres after replacement?

Tyre Stewardship Australia is a non-commercial organisation created to implement the national Tyre Product Stewardship Scheme – a system that puts responsibility for the sustainable management of tyres at their end of life on the companies that manufacture them and the retailers that dispose of them. The scheme is funded by the industry, but it is not compulsory, which is why it's so important for consumers to be informed. In 2020, the eight tyre importers funding the scheme represented approximately 43 per cent of the market. You can use your purchasing power to support retailers and manufacturers that are taking responsibility for their products.



Give the Gift of Faith. Your generosity towards Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish can go on forever when you include our parish endowment fund in your Will. With endowment funds, the principal is kept intact and the distributions to the parish come from growth and earnings. This provides a steady stream of income to parish ministries forever. For more information on naming Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Endowment Fund in your Will, please call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or the parish office.



The Queen Of Apostles Men's Group meets on the third Friday of the month. It is open to any senior gents in the parish - married, widowed, single, clergy, retired or working. They will meet on Friday 20th August at Café 63, Stafford City 10.30am. All Welcome. Phone Gary McLean (ph 3863 4149) for more information.



Piety Shop has moved into the parish office foyer.

The piety shop has a large range of gifts for children celebrating the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist including gift cards. There is also a great range for Baptism gifts and new babies. You will also find a range of books, wall art and rosary beads, saints medals and figurines. If you are looking for something special please pop in through the week. Fr Denis will open the foyer on weekends when possible. Preferred payment is Eftpos (COVID-safe payment).

Brisbane Multiple Birth Association Northside
Pre-Loved Baby & Kids Toy Market
SUNDAY
22 August 2021

School Hall
Queen of Apostles Primary School Stafford.

Time: 10am - 2pm

Bookings are ESSENTIAL and we ask only one member per household attends.
www.trybooking.com/BTAKM

Fill a standard Coles/Woolies Enviro Bag for just \$10 per bag. BYO bags.
Large oversized toys are \$5 each

Find out more: <https://fb.me/e/Qkgn5Y5U>

What's in the diary this week at Stafford?

Mon 16th	8.30am	Mass
Tues 17th	8.30am	Morning Prayer with communion
Wed 18th		
Thurs 19th	8.30am	Mass
Fri 20th	9.00am 10.30am	Mass Men's Group
Sat 21st	5.00pm	Mass with Livestream Zoom
Sun 15th	9.00am	Mass with Livestream Zoom

Our Lady, Queen of Apostles Parish Office

Address: 70 Appleby Road, Stafford
Parish email: stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish WEBSITE: www.staffordcatholicparish.org.au
Parish Administrator: Fr Denis Scanlan
Fr Denis' E-mail: pp.stafford@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Pastoral Council: ppcstafford@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Debra Visser
Office Hours: Mon/Tues 9 - 3.30pm Thurs 9-1
Office Telephone: 3356 7155

Parish Local Safeguarding Representative:

Helen Royan Phone 0407 372 540

STOPLine Service: 1300 304 550 or
AOB@stopline.com.au or
www.bnecatholic.stoplinereport.com

Queen of Apostles School Contacts

Address: 10 Thuruna Street, Stafford
School email: pstafford@bne.catholic.edu.au
School Principal: Ben Campbell
APA: Leanne Murray
APRE: Kym Waters
Phone (Thuruna St) 3352 9200
Phone (Chuter St) 3326 0400

BAPTISMS in this Parish occur at 10.30am on the Third Sunday of each Month (**except** during Lent and OCTOBER).

For BAPTISM BOOKINGS please contact the Parish Office.



AN OINTING OF THE SICK

If you are **going to hospital unexpectedly** for an op, let Fr Denis know and we can celebrate this Sacrament beforehand.



You may add a **sick person's name to the list by phoning the Parish Office** (3356 7155). **To keep the list 'fresh'** the last names will be removed. If their illness continues, let us know and we'll add them to the start of the list.

Let Us Pray

We pray for those who are unwell:



Jose Pitts, Jim Henry, Brian Wellman, Luca de Pascalis de Moraes, Rose Ann Takas, Nicki Goodman, , Caitlyn Lengkeek, Elizabeth Martin, Crad Smith, Sr Dorothy, Glenda Honan, Fay Barrett, Norm Ward, Isaac and Brendan Camille,

We pray for those recently deceased: Kay Dunn, Ari Vargas, Angel Bathen, Jill Barrett, Kathy Brady, Rene Ulcoq, Weny Bargayo Joan French (Mother of Alison Golden), Jean Tisdall, Sr Elizabeth Pointing RSM, Esme Whitby (John's mum), Veronica Burns, Marguerite Moloney, Raymond Labid, Bon Bargayo, Pam Ward, Peter Rogers, Sr Margaret Mines RSC, Joan Goldby,

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Francis Savellon , Joyce Davis, and all deceased parishioners, their families and friends, and all our brothers and sisters in Christ maimed, killed or dispossessed because of their faith.



The caring staff at Holy Cross Funerals assist families at the death of their loved ones, to ensure that the Funeral Services are conducted with dignity and compassion.

For however you choose to say goodbye.

*Burials *Cremations *Repatriations

*Pre-Arrangements *Funeral Bonds

Find us on

www.holycrossfunerals.com

Phone: 07 3293 0555

Email: info@holycrossfunerals.com

An Outreach of the Catholic Church

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Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81808532313>

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Passcode: eucharist One tap mobile

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+61861193900,,81808532313#,,, *698241838# Australia

Dial by your location

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+61 8 6119 3900 Australia

Passcode: 698241838



The August issue of The Catholic Leader is available now for \$4. Featured in this month's issue:

- ♦ Ipswich mayor Teresa Harding finds space to pray in her office
- ♦ Queensland nurses speak out against VAD
- ♦ Celebrating Catholic Education Week in July
- ♦ Queensland's newest priests race lockdown clock to be ordained
- ♦ Brisbane doctoral student opens up Catechism in new podcast
- ♦ Toowoomba family watch as daughter makes first vows in New York
- ♦ SPECIAL Catholic Education Week Advertising Feature
- ♦ Plus special columns, weekly Readings, puzzles

