

Dear Padre,

Why do Catholics believe in Mary's assumption into heaven?

Mary's assumption to heaven is a belief shared by Eastern Christians and Roman Catholics, although the explanations of this dogma have different emphases in the two traditions. While there is no biblical or historical record of this event, the first explanation of this doctrine is found in a document from the late 300s.

Mary's assumption was considered a pious opinion until 1950, when Pius XII defined it as dogma (an official Church teaching). The Pope made the declaration after bishops and he found overwhelming consensus throughout the Church.

The definition of Mary's assumption—body and soul—to heaven reaffirmed that God had not only created humans, but also redeemed and claimed them. Mary's assumption reminded the world of the goodness of God's creation and that Christ redeems us from the evil around us (and in us) and made us a new creation.

Perhaps the best explanation can be found in St. John Paul II's 2004 homily at Lourdes. "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be," he said, quoting John 14:3. He explained that Mary's assumption is the pledge that Christ's promise will be fulfilled. The Pope's words echo the teaching of bishops at the Second Vatican Council, which described this dogma as "a sign of sure hope and solace" (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church [*Lumen Gentium*], 68).

From *Catholic and Cornered: Answers to Common Questions About Your Faith*,
© 2011 Liguori Publications



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY, PAVA CATHEDRAL
ADAM JAN FIGEL / SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Mary is assumed into heaven: small and humble, she is the first to receive the highest glory. She, a human creature, one of us, attains eternity in soul and body. And there she awaits us as a mother waits for her children to come home. Indeed, the people of God invoke her as the Gate of Heaven.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION, AUGUST 15, 2019

Calendar

Monday
AUGUST 16
Weekday
Jgs 2:11–19
Mt 19:16–22
Tuesday
AUGUST 17
Weekday
Jgs 6:11–24a
Mt 19:23–30
Wednesday
AUGUST 18
Weekday
Jgs 9:6–15
Mt 20:1–16
Thursday
AUGUST 19
Weekday
Jgs 11:29–39a
Mt 22:1–14
Friday
AUGUST 20
St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
Ru 1:1, 3–6, 14b–16, 22
Mt 22:34–40
Saturday
AUGUST 21
St. Pius X, Pope
Ru 2:1–3, 8–11; 4:13–17
Mt 23:1–12
Sunday
AUGUST 22
Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jos 24:1–2a, 15–17, 18b
Eph 5:21–32 or Eph 5:2a, 25–32
Jn 6:60–69

Do you have
a question
for the Padre?

Go to **DearPadre.org**
to send your question
and to learn more
about **Dear Padre**.



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15, 2021



Holy Spirit Catholic Church & Christ the King Catholic Mission

Reverend Peter Kmiecik, Pastor

Deacon John E. Jennings † Deacon Norbert Lloyd, Jr.

Parish Office 283-5252 – Fr. Peter's Office 233-0947 - Fax 283-5255

holyspiritcc@bellsouth.net – www.holyspiritcc.com

Office Hours: Mon-Thur-8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Fr. Peter is off on Monday

Holy Spirit Mass Schedule & Intentions

Week of August 14–August 20

Sat	6:00 pm	Parishioners Living & Deceased
Sun	11:00 am	†Diane Fisher
Sun	6:00 pm	†Robert Robbins
Mon	8:00 am	NO MASS
Tue	8:00 am	†Anna "Sarah" Lechner
Wed	8:00 am	†Kevin Ray
Thr	8:00 am	†Stella, Frank & Joseph Wozniak
Fri	8:00 am	†Albert "Albie" Lechner, III

Christ the King Mass Schedule & Intentions

Week of August 14–August 20

Sat	4:00 pm	†Radich Family-Deceased
Sun	9:15 am	†Souls in Purgatory, esp. Falcone And Johnson Family
Tue	6:00 pm	†Elsie French

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before and after daily Mass, and by Appointment

1st Friday Adoration – 8:30am- 6:00pm

at Holy Spirit in St. Patrick's Chapel

Adoration at Christ the King – Tuesday 5:30pm-6pm

