

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 15th August 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon beneath her feet, and a crown on her head of twelve stars.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord Jesus, you forgive us our sins: Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord Jesus, you feed us with your body and blood: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. May almighty God have mercy on us.... Amen.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father have mercy on us; For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.



OPENING PRAYER

Almighty ever-living God, who assumed the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the Mother of your Son, body and soul into heavenly glory, grant, we pray, that, always attentive to the things that are above, we may merit to be sharers of her glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ...

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Apocalypse 11:19;12: 1-6.10
A reading from the book of Apocalypse. The sanctuary of God in heaven opened, and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it. Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child

into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 44:10-12.16

R. On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.

1. The daughters of kings are among your loved ones. On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir. Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words: forget your own people and your father's house. (R)
2. So will the king desire your beauty: he is your Lord, pay homage to him. They are escorted amid gladness and joy; they pass within the palace of the king. (R)

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:20-26
A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Mary has been taken up into heaven: all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 1. 39-56 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child

leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

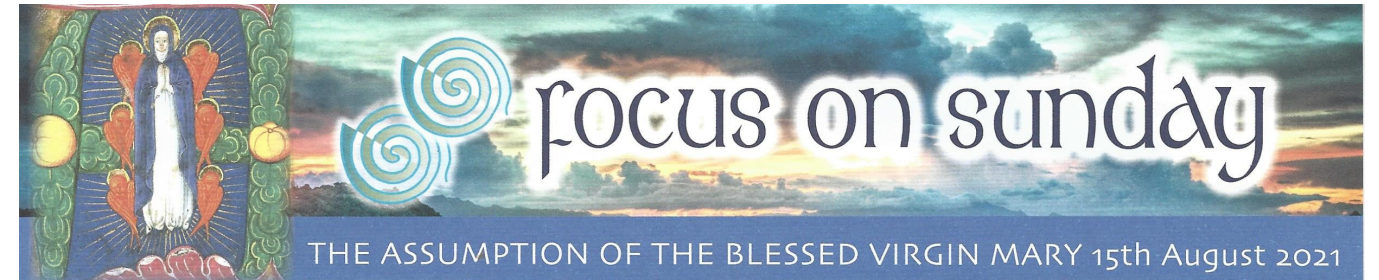
And Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy - according to the promise he made to our ancestors - of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, All bow for following three lines: and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.



focus on sunday

Mary the mother of Jesus - has conquered sin and death. She has been brought to heaven and we pray that when our time comes we may join her in her Son's kingdom.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters..... May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, our tribute of homage, rise up to you, O Lord, and, through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, whom you assumed into heaven, may our hearts, aflame with the fire of love, constantly long for you. Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received the Sacrament of salvation, we ask you to grant, O Lord, that, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom you assumed into heaven, we may be brought to the glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. May the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever. Amen. Go in peace. Thanks be to God.



One of the interesting aspects for me of the Brexit campaign was the impressive sight of pro EU demonstrators waving the EU flag - 12 stars on a field of blue. I am not sure how many were aware they were carrying an emblem based on veneration of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Arsène Heitz. A devout

Catholic, designed the first European Flag which was adopted by the Council of Europe.

There is no gospel account of the Assumption, which is why today's gospel tells the story of The Visitation and Mary's proclamation of the Magnificat.

The First Reading and psalm of the feast fired the imagination over centuries to bring the image of a woman clothed in the sun with the moon beneath her feet and a crown of 12 stars above her head. It is of the Assumption. Mary was the perfect combination of our humanity cooperating with the Divine - in her very body she became the first tabernacle. Like the prayer that bears her name "Hail Mary" it combines the words (Hail Mary, full of grace...) of the Angelic visitor to Nazareth and our human words (Holy Mary, Mother of God) in response. May we like her cooperate more fully with God's loving plan.

Fr Tom Cox PP, Shannonbridge. Adapted from Messenger August 2021.

Jesus' Story

Fr. Liam Hickey



Today's feast is about the glory of death. We wonder much about what happens after death. What will we be like, will we recognise each other? Jesus says little about the details of the afterlife except that he goes to prepare us a place, and we will enjoy eternal life. The feast of Mary's Assumption throws some light on the mystery of death. We believe that she is body and soul in heaven. This means that she is totally there, knowing God and her son fully. The focus of her earthly life was her son - not in a way of always talking about him, but of being totally faithful to him and his father.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, BALLYHAUNIS

PARISH NEWSLETTER 15th AUGUST 2021

Parish Priest: Fr. Stephen Farragher, 094-9630006 / 087-9210305

Email: ballyhaunisparish@gmail.com Parish Office: 094-9630006

PARISH WEBSITE: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie>

PARISH RADIO: 105.2FM Newsletter on line: Parish website & www.mcnmedia.tv

Web-cam: <http://www.ballyhaunisparish.ie> or www.mcnmedia.tv

Local Safeguarding Representative (LSR) Jacinta Flynn, (contact the parish office)

Emergency numbers:

Knock: 094-9388100

Fr. Feeney, Ballinlough: 094-9640155

Fr. McGuinness, Began: 094-9313937

ANNIVERSARY MASSES 16th - 22nd AUGUST 2021

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am. Saturday 7.30pm.

John Gerard Brady, Knox St. & Cavan
 Luke, May & Gerry Grealley, Birmingham & Drimbane
 Sarah Frances & Tom Halpenny, Barrack St. & Louth
 Frank & Damien Webb, Devlis
 Terence McHugh, Main St.
 Tony & Tom Moran, Hazelhill
 Mary & Michael Plunkett, Ballyhaunis
 Mary & Pat McHugh, Headford
 Sr. Marie Walsh & decd. Turloughmore, The Neale
 James & Bridget Costello & Mary Kate Cosgrove, Bohogue
 Patrick & Honor Nolan, Michael & Brigid Cunniffe

16th - 22nd AUGUST	READERS	MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST
Monday	Jarlath Fahey	Fionnuala Nolan, Mary Sykes
Tuesday	Tommy Caulfield	Margaret Tarpey, Teresa Healy
Wednesday	Martin Fitzmaurice	Margaret Byrne, Eileen Jordan
Friday	Christina Concannon	Kay Curley, Willie Broderick
Saturday 7.30pm.	Stella O'Neill	Justina Lyons, Paul Sykes
Sunday 10.00am.	Orla Phillips	Eileen Lynch, Marie Brennan
Sunday 12.00	Frank Browne	Gilmar Neves, Deirdre Browne

Offertory Collection

8th August 2021
 €1,340

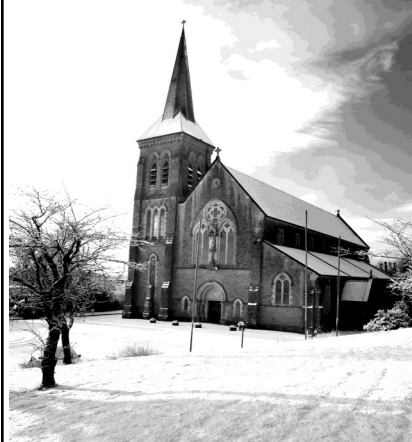
All weekday and weekend Masses, and the daily rosary at 9.00pm continue to be broadcast on parish radio 105.2FM and streamed on the parish webcam: <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-patricks-church-ballyhaunis> The 10 o'clock Mass will be broadcast on Mid West Radio on 15th & 29th August.

Copies of the Irish Catholic newspaper are available at the back of the church. Cost €2.50 please place the money in the coinbox of the nearby candelabra.

WEEKLY ENVELOPES: Sincere thanks to all who are returning their weekly contributions either by envelope or by direct debit. Envelopes can be returned at any of the daily Masses or otherwise can be dropped in the letter box of the Parochial House. If you wish to set up a direct debit, the account details are as follows: Ballyhaunis Parish Church. BIC: ULSB IE 2D IBAN: IE69 ULSB 9852 7005 5200 31

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER: Copies of the newsletter outlining events in the parish from January to July 2021 are available in the church porch. Please take one home.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - Ballyhaunis Conference: Help is available with Back to School and College expenses. Contact 086-2640969 or write to SVP at the Friary House.



MASSES:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 10.00am.

Saturday Evening Vigil: 7.30pm

Sunday: 10.00am. 12.00 noon

CONFESSIONS:

Before Saturday Vigil Mass

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday: 10.30am. - 1.00pm.

BAPTISMS

Saturdays & Sundays 11.00am.

Minimum of two weeks' notice required. Contact the parish office, 094-9630006, for updates due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions.



PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDELINES FOR ATTENDING MASS:

We ask that Mass-goers continue to observe the guidelines regarding physical distancing and hand sanitising in church. Please co-operate with the ushers and avoid confrontation. You are obliged to wear some form of face covering while in church - even if you have received the vaccine.

Please use the lighters for lighting candles as the hand sanitiser is highly flammable.

While the church building and ancillary buildings (toilets and sacristy) are sanitised before and after each Mass or ceremony, we want to stress that if you manifest any of the symptoms of Covid-19, if you have any underlying health issues, or feel that you might be endangering your health by entering a church building, then we encourage you to continue to join us on parish radio 105.2FM or on the parish webcam: www.ballyhaunisparish.ie/webcam

FREE ONLINE LIVING WELL PROGRAMME: This is a six week programme delivered in 2.5 hour weekly sessions where you will learn new skills to manage your health condition on a day to day basis. Programmes commence as follows: Thursday 9th September, Monday 13th September, Tuesday 21st September, Wednesday 29th September.

You must register in advance as places are limited to 10/12 participants. Please contact Liam Gildea on 087 349 0393 or by email at liam.gildea@mayocil.ie Please note you do not have to disclose your health condition on the programme.

FORÓIGE BALLYHAUNIS YOUTH SERVICE (BEY Project) Events Programme for August

Entrepreneurship Biz Camp - Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th August at 2.30pm. for 13 - 17 year olds.

Gardening Workshop - Saturday 21st August, 11.00 - 1.00pm. for 10 to 12 year olds, 1.30 to 3.30pm. for 13 - 17 year olds.

Contact Laura 086-7791878 or Paul 086-7791881 to register. All programmes adhere to Covid-19 Public Health Guidance.

LIVE MUSIC EVENT AT THE FRIARY:

Ballyhaunis Community Council is proud to be the local partner to host the Mayo County Council Local Live Performance Programming Scheme, which will see two nights of outdoor performances in Ballyhaunis on 27th & 28th August. Local artist Brian Flanagan will feature along with Co. Mayo folk artists Keith Plunkett, Seamus Fogarty and Train Room. More details to follow. Visit www.ballyhauniscc.ie

ACCORD CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CARE SERVICE CLG

is currently recruiting volunteers to train as marriage preparation programme facilitators. Contact Aisling on 01 505 3112 or by email to info@accord.ie The closing date for receipt of registration of interest forms to be included in selections for this year is Friday 27th August. Additional information is available on www.accord.ie

MARY'S MEALS; Members of Mary's Meals are undertaking their annual fundraising walk to Knock from various parts of the country. They are visiting Ballyhaunis this weekend and would welcome your support and prayers. Mary's Meals works to provide meals for the world's poorest children in their place of learning.

Malnutrition is an offense that violates human rights (contd.)

If we are to guarantee the fundamental right to an adequate standard of living and meet our commitments to achieve Zero Hunger, it is not enough to produce food. We need a new mindset and a new holistic approach and must plan food systems that protect the Earth and keep the dignity of the human person at the centre; that ensure enough food globally and promote dignified work locally; and that feed the world today, without compromising the future. It is essential to restore the centrality of the rural sector, on which the fulfilment of many basic human needs depends, and it is urgent that the agricultural sector regain a priority role in the political and economic decision-making process, aimed at outlining the framework of the post-pandemic "re-start" process that is being constructed.

In this process, small farmers and farming families must be considered as key actors. Their traditional knowledge should not be overlooked or ignored, while their direct participation allows them to better understand their priorities and real needs. It is important to facilitate the access of small farmers and family farming to the services necessary for the production, marketing and use of agricultural resources.

The family is an essential component of food systems because it is in the family that "we learn how to enjoy the fruits of the earth without abusing it. We also discover the most effective means for spreading lifestyles respectful of our personal and collective good". This recognition must be accompanied by policies and initiatives that fully meet the needs of rural women, promote youth employment, and improve the work of farmers in the poorest and most remote areas.

We are aware that individual, self-centred and conflicting - but powerful - economic interests prevent us from conceiving of a food system that responds to the values of the Common Good, solidarity and the "culture of encounter". If we want to maintain a fruitful multilateralism, then a food system based on responsibility, justice, peace and the unity of the human family is paramount.

A SYNODAL PATHWAY FOR THE CHURCH IN IRELAND

For a synodal Church: Communion, participation and mission.

Background to the Synodal Pathway

On 10 March 2021, the Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference announced a new Synodal Pathway for the Catholic Church in Ireland leading to the holding of a National Synodal Assembly within the next five years.

Since Pope Francis hosted the 2018 Ordinary General Assembly of Bishops in Rome, on the theme of *Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment*, bishops in Ireland have been giving active consideration to calling a National Synodal Assembly for the local Church here.

Conversations at local, regional and national level have informed the work of a dedicated subgroup of the Bishops' Conference which was established to further explore this idea. During their 2020 Winter General Meeting, bishops decided to proceed along a synodal pathway, and, since then, have been assisted and greatly encouraged by Cardinal Mario Grech and Sr Natalie Becquart, of the General Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops in Rome. Cardinal Grech and Sr Becquart addressed the Irish Bishops on the theme of synodality on 3 February 2021.

(To be continued next week)

