

Saint Francis Village Catholic Chapel

4125 St. Francis Village Rd., Crowley, TX 76036

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Father Ken Robinson, Chaplain

August 9, 2026

REFLECTIONS

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The 15th of August is the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Announced by Pope Pius XII on November 1, 1950, the Church declared "a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God . . . having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." This declaration was made only after a broad consultation with bishops, theologians and laity of the Catholic communion. However, what the Holy Father declared in 1950 was not new dogma or teaching, but one which with a long and venerable history in the experience of our Church.

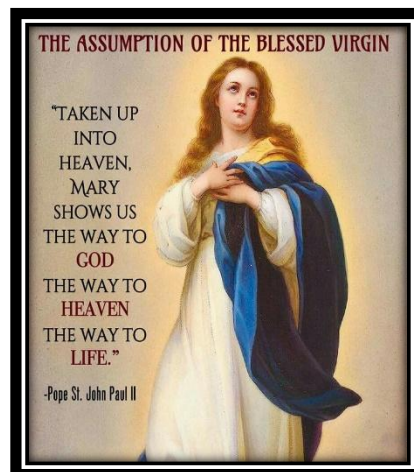
Although the theological inquiries of the early centuries were focused primarily on resolving questions about Christ - the Incarnation and the nature of Christ (how Christ is both human and divine), while addressing these questions the Church defined Mary as Mother of God, the "New Eve" and emphasized belief in the Immaculate Conception of Mary. Many of the early Church Fathers wrote or preached about Mary and her role in salvation history. Bishop Theoteknos of Livias noted: "For Christ took his immaculate flesh from the immaculate flesh of Mary, and if he had prepared a place in heaven for the Apostles, how much more for his mother. For even though her God-bearing body tasted death, it did not undergo corruption, but was preserved incorrupt and undefiled and taken into heaven with its pure and spotless soul." The early Church, (even today in the Orthodox Church) celebrated the *Dormition* or Sleeping of Mary, with the understanding that Mary died physically but was assumed into heaven body and soul.

Although the word 'assumption' does not appear in sacred scripture, Mary's role provides the foundation for belief in the Assumption. Mary was preserved free from Original Sin by the special favor of God (the dogma of the Immaculate Conception), hailed in scripture as "full of grace"

and "blessed among women." Christ is conceived through the Holy Spirit in the body of Mary so that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." Throughout her life, Mary presented Christ to others and stood by her Son, even at the foot of the Cross. She was with the Apostles gathered on Pentecost. Mary is thus the faithful servant of God who shared intimately in the birth, life, death and resurrected life of the Lord.

Mary serves as a model for Christians, demonstrating in her own life the fulfillment of the promises made regarding eternal life. Mary moves us by example to grow in God's grace, to be receptive to the divine will, to convert our lives through sacrifice and penance and to seek everlasting union with God. The documents of the Second Vatican Council declare Mary "first disciple." It is truly appropriate that we celebrate and emulate the model of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

From Father Ken



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

From the readings for this 19th Week in Ordinary Time (1 Kings and St. Matthew 14:22-33), we discover in the midst of our trials and tribulations the Lord is always there for us. Even in our doubt and worry He is always there for us. God's voice is often "a still, small voice," intimate and personal and it is through attentive listening that we recognize his presence. Just because God doesn't come to us in the form of something very dramatic like thunder and lightning, doesn't mean he is not there. He calms our frighten hearts with his divine presence. All that is required of us is to believe.



The Secular Franciscans will meet Sunday August 9th from 2:00 to 4:00 PM, beginning with prayer in the Chapel. All are welcome and invited to join with them.

Chapel Donations: *Teach us to give and not count the cost.* (St. Ignatius de Loyola)

SFV Catholic Chapel regular charitable donations have been detailed for you in recent bulletins. Throughout the year, special collections are taken up and forwarded to the Fort Worth Diocese for its distribution. Those Chapel donations are monies for:



Our Good Friday Collection supports Christians in the **Holy Land** through the ministries and programs entrusted by the Holy See, including charitable activities for the poorest of people.



Peter's Pence is a gesture of solidarity through which we can participate in the activity of the Pope as Pastor of the Universal Church for humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects as well as the support of the Holy See.



Seminarians – Chapel donations support the expenses of seminarians who study for the priesthood in the Diocese of Fort Worth. We are fortunate to have seen the fruits of our donations through the ordinations of many seminarians who stayed in the Village over the years.



Every month the Chapel makes a plea for food staples and monetary donations for SFV residents. During the year, financial donations are also given to the Diocese to support the Catholic Charities food pantry distributions in Fort Worth.

**Solemnity of the
Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**
Saturday August 15th
Mass at 9:00 AM
(not a Holy Day of Obligation)



Chapel Mass Schedule	
Monday - Friday	9:00 AM Mass
Wednesday August 12	9:00 AM Mass followed by Adoration
Friday August 14	9:00 AM Mass followed by Adoration Confessions: 10:15 AM to 11:00 AM
Saturday August 15	9:00 AM Mass Assumption of Mary 5:00 PM Vigil Mass
Sunday August 16	10:00 AM

In closing this week, please consider comments made by Bishop Mario Alberto Alvares, the new Bishop in Corpus Christi, Texas. He quotes Jesus saying: ***I am the living Bread that comes down from Heaven, he who eats this Bread will live forever.*** Bishop Mario says these sacred words invite each of us to enter more deeply into the mystery of the Eucharist, the greatest gift Christ left to his Church. Our participation in the Eucharist allows us to become one body in Christ. For Catholics this statement by Jesus is not poetic language or a metaphor. It is the real presence of Christ, which from the beginning was the center of what the Church believed. Christians risked persecution and death together believing Christ was present. It is truly an encounter with Christ, spiritual nourishment, unity with the Church and a foretaste of Heaven.

*May Christ's will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
God Give You Peace.
Mike Pierson*

Mass Intentions

August 9, 2026	SFV Catholic Chapel Community
August 10, 2026	Intentions of SFV Residents with August Birthdays
August 11, 2026	Intention of Chris Hessleer on his Birthday By Miriam Gore
August 12, 2026	Intention of Hoa (Ana) Phan on her Birthday By Isabella Moro
August 13, 2026	Repose of the Soul of Chip Nassor By Audrey Gomez
August 14, 2026	Repose of the Soul Richard Nieswiadomy By Mary & Glen Gillespie
August 15, 2026	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Mass 9:00 AM) <i>[not a Holy Day of Obligation]</i>
August 15, 2026	Repose of the Soul of Antoinette Childs By David and Kathy Skinner (5:00 PM Vigil Mass)