

## THE ASSUMPTION

When the Pope, on November 1, 1950, solemnly defined the dogma of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Assumption into Heaven, it caused a bit of surprise in some ways.

For example, some people could not even see any need for a solemn definition. After all, didn't the whole Catholic world already and long since believe in Mary's Assumption! There was no doubt in anybody's mind that Mary had been assumed, body and soul, into Heaven. The official definition by the Pope only confirmed and made official what the body of the faithful had long since taken for granted! So, according to them, the Papal definition was quite nice but, should we say, — superfluous!

Well, of course, there were good reasons for the definition. One reason, we imagine, was a personal message intended for each and every one of us.

A message for me! What message?

We'll come to that in a moment as soon as we note that the Holy Ghost could have inspired any of the Popes throughout the centuries to define this dogma officially. He didn't. He withheld it until the very middle of our present century. Why?

Probably because many of the "isms" (materialism, secularism, Fascism, Hitlerism, Communism) of our century are trying to persuade us that our only chance for happiness is in this present life, that after this present life there is nothing more — so be ruthless now in grabbing whatever you can get . . .

Right in the middle of this hellish propaganda is where we stand. Which one of us will say that we haven't been affected by it?

And right in the midst of it all the Holy Spirit, the Sanctifier, recalls our attention to the things of the spirit, to the fact that Mary, free from the taint of sin, was indeed transported into an actual Heaven.

It is a reminder to us that we too shall rise again but that we must meanwhile keep our own lives free from sin.

### My Day's Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You all my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all our associates, and for the intentions recommended for this month:

the spiritual training of Catholic youth;

that Catholicism in Indonesia may contribute toward national peace and prosperity.

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## OUR PARISH BULLETIN

Tenth Week after Pentecost

August 11 - 17, 1963

"He was a man of such moral and spiritual strength that he could afford to be gentle and kind."

It was a description that aptly fitted the man. Even his own family's attitude towards him was like "fear of the Lord", not a slavish fear, but respect for something majestic that made him so different. And yet, where awesome respect might have held them aloof, his gentleness and kindness overshadowed this and drew them with irresistible love to him.

He was only partly aware that he possessed these qualities for, through constant practice, they had become part of him. The constant practice had come about through his realization that he had been permitted to share God's own title of "Father, from whom all fatherhood in heaven and on earth receives its name".

As a result of this realization, he considered it his role as father of his family to reflect something of the qualities of the Father Who had lent him a share in His own Name.

But how best to reflect this? By his cooperating with Divine Providence, to provide for his family? Yes — but not only this! By his role of authority and law-maker? Yes — but more than this! By what characteristics does God the Father chiefly manifest Himself to His children?

Humanly, we would expect God to manifest Himself in His almighty power. But that is not God's way. He is a loving Father, and as today's Collect Prayer proclaims: "It is chiefly by forbearance and mercy that You manifest Your almighty power, O God."

And so, like dearly loved children clustered around our Father, we pursue our prayer:

"Be ever merciful to us so that, seeking the good things You have promised, we may come to a share in the blessings of Heaven."



Immaculate Conception Church

Rexton, N.B.

Rev. Herbert Grattan, Pastor

Mission Churches: South Branch with Sunday Mass at 9.30

Chapel Point with Sunday mass at 11.00

Weekday mass in Rexton at 7.30

Confessions every Saturday evening at 7.30

Baptisms: Sunday at 2.p.m.

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10th Sunday after Pentecost ..... August 11, 1963

There will be a meeting of South Branch C.W.L. at the Parish Hall in South Branch, on Tuesday evening at 8p.m.

Report for Turkey Supper at South Branch:

Meals.....\$253.00  
Home Cooking & Fancy Sale \$15.98  
Chips, Pop & Apples.....\$8.40  
Money collected for Turkey...\$62.00

Our sincere thanks to all who worked in any way for the success of this parish endeavor.

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Baby Clinic will be held in Richibucto on Thursday of this week from 10a.m. to 11.30a.m. and from 1.30p.m. to 3.30p.m.

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Have you ever had your prayerful thoughts shattered at Sunday Mass by the inevitable late-arriver? Florence Wedge attacks the problem of tardiness at Mass in "The triple D Menace" appearing in this week's Our Sunday Visitor.

Get your copy of Our Sunday Visitor at the back of the Church this morning, and after reading it, pass it along to a friend.

High Masses for the Week

Mon. Carroll Maloney ..... Sisters  
Tues. Ronald Murphy ..... Mrs McPherson & Mrs Krawchuk  
Wed. Hubert LaBlanc ..... The Mattinson family  
Thurs. James Maloney ..... Daughters  
Fri. George Hebert ..... John Vautour  
Sat. Mrs William Robichaud..... Mrs David Fournier

Server this week... Donald Thompson.

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Our Novena in preparation for the Feast of the Assumption continues on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Attendance at morning mass and novena exercises has been quite good; please make an effort to continue and let all parishioners attend mass on Thursday evening, and pray particularly for the needs of the Archdiocese and the success of the Council which will re-open in the Fall. On Thursday of this week, the Feast of the Assumption, the mass will be at 9.p.m.

Confessions Thursday evening at 8.p.m.

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Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord, that having received the saving Sacraments, through the merits and intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary assumed into Heaven, we may be led to the glory of the Resurrection, Through Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

(From Mass of Aug 15)

God Bless You.