



Life Is a Game of Golf

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

When the British colonized India, they brought with them the game of golf.

A worse hazard than sand traps turned out to be monkeys. Wherever the ball landed, a monkey would run onto the fairway, pick it up, and drop it somewhere else—from the fairway into the rough, out of a sand trap onto the green, from the green back onto the fairway. The Brits tried everything to keep the monkeys off the course—fences, sirens, booming noises. Nothing worked. In the end, they ended up changing the rule book: play the ball where the monkey drops it.

The scriptures today tell of people who lived with an openness to wherever it was that God would take them. They played the ball wherever the monkey dropped it. It is the story of the Hebrews enslaved in Egypt when they were about to be led out into a God-knew-where desert. It is the story of aged Abraham and Sarah, called to travel to an alien land and then into parenthood in their old age. Faith is not trusting that God will always take us to where we want to be; it is trusting that wherever it is that God takes us will ultimately bring us into fuller life. So, watch and be ready to recognize the coming of God. It may be in times of darkness for you (as when the master comes late at night, says Luke's Gospel) or when you find yourself in an "alien land," a place in life you've never been before. ●

[Jesus said to his disciples,]
"For where your treasure is,
there also will your heart be."

LUKE 12:34



Reflect

What surprising places has God led me?

ST. BARBARA PARISH

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St. Thomas More Site
302 Chestnut Street
Dalzell IL



Holy Trinity Site
Parish Office
212 S Main Street
PO BOX 159
Cherry IL

Adoration Room at STM Site

Open Daily from 9 am-6 pm

Confession Info

Saturday morning, alternating
between STM Site & HT Site
in the Confessional between
10:30 am-11:15am

Emergency Number: 779-248-2164

Church Office Info

Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tran
Pastoral Assistant: Julie Hollinger
Parish Secretary: Melissa Pasillas Email: Melissahtc@outlook.com
Office Hours at HT: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm

CMGConnect
DIOCESE OF PEORIA



Reminder for all volunteers

Please complete your

Safe Environment Training that is required by the Diocese on the
website; <https://Peoria.CMGconnect.org>

St. Barbara Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of August 11, 2025

Monday	8/11			† No Mass
Tuesday	8/12	9:00 am	STM Site	† Richard Mariani
Wednesday	8/13	5:30 pm	HT Site	† Michael Campbell
Thursday	8/14	5:30 pm	HT Site	† Wes & Rita Hoscheid
Friday	8/15	9:00 am	STM Site	† For the Parishioners

St. Barbara Mass Intentions for the weekend of August 16-17, 2025

Saturday	8/16	4:00 pm	ST. Thomas More Site	† Toni Panizzi
Sunday	8/17	9:00 am	Holy Trinity Site	† For the Parishioners

*Holy Day of Obligation Thursday August 14 Evening Mass

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his Name." Luke 1:46-49

On August 15th we celebrate one of seventeen different memorials, feasts and solemnities in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary that are found on the Roman Liturgical Calendar. This celebration is one of the four great Solemnities by which our Blessed Mother is honored. Obviously, no other person other than our Lord is honored and celebrated with as much solemnity as the Mother of God.

The Solemnity of the Assumption honors the fact that when the Blessed Virgin Mary completed her life on earth, she was taken body and soul into Heaven to be with her resurrected Son so as to adore the Most Holy Trinity forever. It's an amazing fact to consider that she retains her body and soul, united as one in Heaven, in anticipation of that glorious day when the new Heavens and Earth will be created and when all the faithful will rise so as to live in a new bodily form forever with God.

Though this dogma of our faith had been held and believed by the faithful from the earliest times of our Church, especially since it was witnessed by those closest to our Blessed Mother at the time of her glorious Assumption, it wasn't until November 1, 1950, that Pope Pius XII solemnly proclaimed it to be so, raising this teaching of our faith to the level of a dogma, meaning, it must be held and believed by all. In part, the Holy Father declared, "...we pronounce, declare, and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma: that the Immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory."

The Gospel passage quoted above comes from the beginning of Mary's song of praise, her Magnificat, by which she not only gives the greatest glory to God but also reveals who she is. She is the one whom "all generations" will call "blessed." She is the one for whom "the Almighty has done great things." She is the one who will eternally proclaim "the greatness of the Lord" and whose spirit will forever rejoice in God her Savior. And she is that lowliest of servants whom God has raised up to the greatest glory.

Reflect, today, with the whole Church, upon the Most Glorious Ever-Virgin Mary who was conceived without sin, remained sinless throughout her life, and was taken body and soul into Heaven where she now adores the Most Holy Trinity and intercedes for you and for the whole Church. This is a Solemnity of great rejoicing! Share in this joy with the whole Church and with all the saints in Heaven! (Excerpted from catholic-daily-reflections.com)

Assumption Day Reminder :

Again, we like to remind all members of our Parish that this year Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, which will be this coming Friday, August 15th, is a holy day of obligation. Hence, all members are urged to do the best they can to attend Mass on that day. The Assumption Mass schedule is as follows:
Thursday, August 14th at HT 5:30pm and Friday, August 15th at STM 9am.

Word of Appreciation:

We would like to thank the following members who have donated their time for the church car show raffle. It was a great success! The name of the volunteers are Carol Lauer, Sheila Campbell, Barb Pinter, Moe Hermann, Otto & Fritz Pinter, Tony Keeney, and Jeff Pinter.

Latest Offering's

July 27th Weekend
St. Barbara Parish
Total Collections:
\$2,200.00

Next Confessions

Confession will be
Sat. August 16th
10:30am-11:15am
STM site in the
Confessional

Dear Padre,

Where did the Virgin Mary spend her last days on earth? Ephesus or Jerusalem?

Shortly before Jesus died on the cross, he entrusted his widowed mother to the protective care of John the Evangelist. (See John 19:26–27.) Accordingly, when John lived his final years in Ephesus, it is believed that Mary also spent her last days nearby in a modest stone dwelling, before being assumed body and soul into heaven “to be preserved from the corruption of the tomb” (Pope Pius XII, *Munificentissimus Deus*, 1950). Moreover, it is likely in Ephesus (present-day Turkey) where the tradition of Mary’s Assumption started.

Pope Benedict XIV (1740–1758) declared Ephesus was “where the Blessed Mother...proceeded from this life into heaven.” More recent popes, such as Paul VI in 1967 and John Paul II in 1979, prayed in this venerable home, known as Mother Mary’s House.

However, close to Gethsemane in Jerusalem is the Basilica of the Tomb of Mary from the fifth century. It is built around an ancient crypt where Mary’s body was believed to have been laid before it was assumed into heaven.

While both Ephesus and Jerusalem claim to be the location where the Virgin Mary spent her last years on earth, experts contend the latter is the older tradition and the more credible place. Even if Mary temporarily left Jerusalem, it is probable she returned to the land of her birth and resided there at the end of her earthly life. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org



MACTHIA / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*And at the end of our
life, [the Lord] will call us
to account for the goods
he has entrusted to us....
We have received so
much: life, faith, family,
relationships, work, but
also the places where we
live, our city, creation....
[A]re we guardians of all
that has been given to us?*

ANGELUS, ROME,
AUGUST 7, 2022



RICCARDO DE LUCA - UPDATE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Monday

August 11
St. Clare, Virgin
Dt 10:12–22
Mt 17:22–27

Tuesday

August 12
Weekday
Dt 31:1–8
Mt 18:1–5, 10, 12–14

Wednesday

August 13
Weekday
Dt 34:1–12
Mt 18:15–20

Thursday

August 14
St. Maximilian Kolbe,
Priest and Martyr
Jos 3:7–10a, 11, 13–17
Mt 18:21–19:1

Friday

August 15
The Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a,
10ab
1 Cor 15:20–27
Lk 1:39–56

Saturday

August 16
Weekday
Jos 24:14–29
Mt 19:13–15

Sunday

August 17
Twentieth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Jer 38:4–6, 8–10
Heb 12:1–4
Lk 12:49–53