

## **Saturday, August 13 St. Pontian; St. Hippolytus**

5:00 p.m. *Blessings for Families of St. Theodore Church*  
by Father Zenek

## **Sunday, August 14**

8:00 a.m. *Annette Saraceni*  
by Beth and Tom Connolly

10:30 a.m. *Luis Silva Mateus*  
by Jack and Son

## **Monday, Aug. 15 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

6:30 p.m. *Francisco Moniz*  
by Daisy R. Moniz

## **Tuesday, August 16 St. Stephen of Hungary**

8:45 a.m. *Altar Rosary Society*

## **Wednesday, August 17**

8:45 a.m. *Special Intentions*  
by Bernadette and Andrew Ryan

## **Thursday, August 18**

8:45 a.m. *Elizabeth, Thomas, and Louis DeBari*  
by Angela Gross

## **Friday, August 19 No Mass St. John Eudes**

## **Saturday, August 20 St. Bernard**

5:00 p.m. *Intentions of the Bitecola and Burger Families*  
by Margaret Bitecola

## **Sunday, August 21**

8:00 a.m. *Raymond John Russian, Sr.*  
by Bob and Debbie Smolar

10:30 a.m. *Anthony Sobolewski*  
by The Jaworski Family



The official teaching on Mary's Assumption is very recent. It is as recent as 1950. The Pope declared infallibly that "when the course of her earthly life was finished Mary was taken up, body and soul, into the glory of heaven". But, the commemoration of the Solemnity itself dates back to the 6th

Century. In fact, the Orthodox Churches celebrate it as the Dormition—the Sleeping of Mary. Essentially, Mary, the "Theotokos", the Bearer of Christ who was conceived without Original Sin would undergo a process of death which would be different from those who have been afflicted by Original Sin. Mary, after her earthly life, entered heaven without the "pains or struggles" associated with death.

The term "body and soul" reminds us of Christ in the Eucharist. When we receive Holy Communion, we do not just receive a "piece of Christ" but the whole of Christ. Mary's Assumption is therefore a reminder that we are not just some kind of entrapped spirits in bodies. Such a philosophy of "entrapped spirits in bodies" has far-reaching consequences. An example of this would be the disregard of the physical world. When we disregard the physical world, redemption or salvation would no longer be "of" the world [matter] but would rather be an

"escape" from the world. Thus, Mary's Assumption into heaven makes it clear to us that "creation" (meaning the world) is central to the idea of Christ's redemption or salvation. In fact, St Paul in Romans 8:22, speaks of creation (or world) as groaning as it waits for salvation. It follows that if the world or matter is not something to be forsaken but because it has been "saved" or "redeemed" by Christ, it makes sense that the body is treated with great respect when someone has died. We do come across this fanciful idea that after cremation, the ashes can be scattered in the open. Behind this "scattering" hides this sense of "freedom" from the constraints of the world. Well, redemption does not begin when we leave the body, it begins with the body.

We can say that the Assumption is really an "Iconic" celebration because Mary can be called the "representative" of the Church—the icon of who we are. Listen to what the Preface of the Assumption says, "Today the Virgin Mother of God was taken up into heaven to be the beginning and the pattern of the Church in its perfection and a sign of hope and comfort for your people on their pilgrim way". In fact, the Preface of the Ascension says: Christ, the mediator between God and man, judge of the world and Lord of all, has passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope. Christ is the beginning, the head of the Church; where he has gone, we hope to follow. So, where Christ is, there the Church will be; where Christ is, there Mary will be and where Christ is; there we will be if we follow him. Assumption is a reminder of our heavenly destiny.

As we come to share Mary's triumphant entry into the glory of Christ, we may begin to re-engage our faith in a way which sees us moving away from "have to" to "want to", a conversion from obligation to love.

## **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass - Monday August 15 at 6:30 P.M.**



Our Charity Bake/Golabki Sale was a great success. Thank you parishioners! Your generosity has given us a great start to our new outreach project of helping parish families in need. A special thank you goes to those who donated bake goods and also to those who helped serve.

We would be remiss if we didn't express our gratitude to Brother Marek for his exceptional culinary skills and the long hours he put in preparing the Golabki. Dziękujemy brat!

## Catechists Needed:

Our Religious Education Program is in need of two religious education teachers for the upcoming school year. If you are willing and able to help our children on their faith journey, please contact Father Zenek or Lisa Sforza. Your spiritual reward awaits you!

## Saint Theodore Church 2011 – 2012 Religious Education September

Saturday August 27 - Religious Education Teachers' Meeting - 4:00 p.m. in the Parish Center

**Sunday September 11 - Family Mass at 12 Noon— mandatory for ALL FAMILIES (opening day)**

### **Please Reregister your Child!**

**95 for one child; \$180 for two, \$220 for three or more children. Sacraments Fee \$50 (Grades 2 & 8). For more information and forms go to <http://sttheodorenj.com> or call 908 689-8318**



A missionary priest has been invited to our church to share with us the problems encountered by the people of South Sudan during their long, violent history and to show us how the missionaries are playing a vital, leading role in building peace and advocating for justice. Father Peter will be at St. Theodore on Aug. 20 & 21. His mission needs our help to keep hope alive so they can provide shelter, food, medical care and education to the orphans, widows and elderly, while proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. **Thank you Father Peter for sharing with us the work of your missionaries. May God bless you, your fellow missionaries, and the people of South Sudan!**

**St. Theodore Church  
WE APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROSITY!  
Last week \$2,671; Last Year \$2,631.  
Charity Fundraiser \$1,402. THANK YOU  
PARISHIONERS FOR YOUR KINDNESS!**

On July 20 the **Moms/Ladies Club** met in the Parish



Center. Nine women (a range of ages) gathered and had an awesome time. A few worked on their photo albums, some knitted and crochet, some did cross stitch and one quilled (paper filigree). The time went by so quickly that it was past 9 pm before any of us noticed. **Our next get together will be August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center.** Hope to see you there!

*The Altar Rosary Society invites all parishioners to join them at The Blue Army Shrine Rosary Garden, Washington NJ, on Sunday, August 14th at 12 noon for the recitation of the Rosary.*

**Please pray for:** Very Rev. J. William Mickiewicz, Chris, Keira, Anna & John Saksa, Theresa, Stephen, Alice O'Donnell, Bobby Gross, Lillian Shaffer, Bridget, Erin Stanton, Katlyn Faulkner, Barbara Zack, Anthony Vitale Jr., Bobby Greco, Carmine Marmo, Frances Fiumefreddo, Eleanor D., Jay Mildrum, Mary, Paul, Enrico Staiano, Corado Pasquini, Angelina Colacchia, Emir Kane, Charlie, Gracie Witte, James Matthew Marks, Billy, Ardis. **Call the office to add or remove a name.**

### **Have You Taken Control of Your Health Today?**

Life Line Screening will be at St Theodore Church on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 offering five safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health and live longer for yourself, your family, and your community, call to register at 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners). You can learn your risk of having stroke or vascular disease, prices range from \$129 to \$159. There is no time like the present to take action!

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