



The Cathedral of
ST. EUGENE

2323 Montgomery Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
(707) 542-6984

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Frank Epperson, Rector
Rev. Alan Acevedo, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Jeffrey Keyes, In Residence
Deacon Mike Heinzelman
Deacon Gary Moore
Deacon Russ Bowden

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Email Comments/Suggestions to:
cathedralresponse@gmail.com

Parish Office Phone	542-6984
Parish Office Fax	542-1621
Religious Education	326-3408
Finance Council – Marty McCormick	526-1700
Choir Directress – Pam Zieminski	578-8848
School Office – Sharon Jeffrey	545-7252
Preschool Office – Sharry Caesare	528-9133
Homeschool Academy– Jessica Warner	206-5579

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Entrance is located at SW corner of Rectory

WEBSITES

Parish: www.steugenes.com
School: www.steugenesch.org

REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH

Our warmest welcome to all who worship in our community. If you are not registered in the parish, please complete a registration card. Cards are available at church entrances or at the parish office.

MARRIAGES & BAPTISMS

Please contact the office at least 12 months in advance for weddings and 3 months in advance for baptisms. Check the parish website for more information.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office when a parishioner is home bound or hospitalized to arrange for Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick.



MASS TIMES

Daily Mass: 6:45 and 8:00 a.m.
Saturday: 8:00a.m; 4:30 p.m. & Sp.6:30 p. m.
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.
12:00 noon and 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday Latin Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Latin Mass: 1:30 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Saturday or by appointment

PERPETUAL ADORATION

Perpetual Adoration is in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. To sign up for your hour with our Lord, call Annette (English) at: 542-3635 or Ceci (Spanish) at: 571-9673

Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament is held in the chapel every First Friday following 8:00 a.m. Mass. *During this time of Covid-19, Benediction is not being held.*

DEVOTIONS

Recitation of the Rosary is Monday – Saturday at 7:30 a.m. in the Cathedral

Chaplet of Divine Mercy is Saturday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass in the Cathedral

CATHEDRAL SHOPS

Cathedral Thrift Shop Hours: Tues & Wed. 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Cathedral Books & Gifts Hours: Wed-Sat 8:30-4:30 & Sun 8:30-1:30, Closed Mon/Tues - Phone: 542-0250

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY—AUGUST 15, 2021

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY AUGUST 15

Masses—Cathedral—7:30 am, 9:00 am, 10:30 am, 12:00, 1:30 pm (Latin) & 5:30 pm

MONDAY AUGUST 16

Morning Masses—Cathedral—6:45 & 8:00 am

TUESDAY AUGUST 17

Morning Masses—Cathedral—6:45 & 8:00 am
Women of the Word—Brinker Room—9:30 am
Latin Mass—Cathedral- 5:30 pm

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 18

Morning Masses—Cathedral—6:45 & 8:00 am
Bible Study—PLC (Hope Rm) - 6:00 pm

THURSDAY AUGUST 19

Morning Masses—Cathedral—6:45 & 8:00 am

FRIDAY AUGUST 20

Morning Masses—Cathedral—6:45 & 8:00 am

SATURDAY AUGUST 21

Morning Mass—Cathedral—8:00 am
Confession - Cathedral -3:00—4:30 pm
Mass—Cathedral -4:30 pm
Spanish Mass—Cathedral—6:30 pm

RCIA CLASSES TO BEGIN

~RCIA CLASSES TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER~

Our Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) classes will begin on September 12th. Classes will be held on Sundays, from 10:30 - 11:50 am until mid-May in the Becker Center Youth Room. RCIA mainly serves those who have a desire to enter the church or baptized Catholics who desire the sacrament of Confirmation. However, anyone who wishes to learn more about the Catholic faith is welcome to attend. Information/schedule/application "packets" will be available in the church vestibules, the Parish Office, and the St. Eugene's Gift Shop/Bookstore this weekend, August 7&8. Please return completed applications, baptismal certificate if applicable, and a \$20 fee, to the Parish Office, or bring those to the first RCIA class Sept. 12. Walk-ins are welcome on Sept. 12 -- applications will be provided at that time. If you have any questions, please call the Parish Office: 707-542-6984

Hearing Aid Users, Switch to T-Coil

ADMINISTRATION

For the Week of: 08/01/21

Sunday Donations Received:	\$14,797.
Collection Revenue Received for: No Second Collection	N/A

~CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS~

The month of August in our bookstore is dedicated to books! Our annual storewide book sale begins August 1 and continues through the entire month. All of our in-stock books (not including Bibles, Catechisms, or Missals) are 25% off! We have a wide selection of Catholic books: prayer-books, books on marriage and the family, books written by our popes, Spanish language books, books about the saints, books written by saints, and much, much more! Why do we do this once a year? Because we want to get the best Catholic books into the hands of Catholics! Why "in-stock" books only? Because we need to make room for more books! Ask our priests which books they recommend and odds are, we have those! We can only afford to do this once a year, so come on in and take advantage of great savings, while building your faith. The shop hours are: Wed-Sat from 8:30 am-4:30 pm & Sun 8:30 am-1:30 pm. We are closed Mon./Tues. Call us at 542-0250.

ST. EUGENE'S THRIFT SHOP

~COLLECTIBLE SALE~

The St. Eugene's Thrift Shop will be having their annual Collectible Sale on **September 17 & 18** in the Msgr. Becker Center. The sale will run from 9:00 am—3:00 pm on Friday and from 9:00 am—2:00 pm on Saturday. All proceeds go to help with the support of our Parish. See you there!

CYO BASKETBALL REGISTRATION

~REGISTER NOW~

Registration for St. Eugene's CYO Basketball is happening now! From now until September 3rd, boys and girls in third through eighth grades can participate. To register, please go to the following link: <https://steugenescyo.sportngin.com>

~ADORERS NEEDED~

We are happy to announce that our Perpetual Adoration Chapel is open once again! To sign up, please contact Annette Righetti at: 542-3635 (English) or Ceci at: 571-9673

The bulletin item deadline is Thursday @ 3:00pm for the Sunday after next bulletin. E-mail items to: office@steugenes.com.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	August 14
8:00 am	Virginia Welchon, deceased
4:30 pm	George Schirle, deceased
6:30 (Sp)	Faustino Ponce, deceased
Sunday	August 15
7:30 am	Living & Deceased members of the Carol Family
9:00 am	Dn. Russ Bowden, living
10:30 am	People of St. Eugene's
12:00 pm	Frank Epperson, Sr., deceased
1:30 pm	Frank Epperson, Jr., living
5:30 pm	Fr. Gerald Thomas, deceased
6:00 pm (Newman Ctr.)	Reyna Mota, deceased
Monday	August 16
6:45 am	Daniella Pelaez, living
8:00 am	ICF Members, living & deceased
Tuesday	August 17
6:45 am	John Bugbee, deceased
8:00 am	Fr. Jeffrey Keyes, living
5:30 pm (EF)	Michael Tran, living
Wednesday	August 18
6:45 am	Andy Skrypka, living
8:00 am	Damian McCullum, living
Thursday	August 19
6:45 am	Fred Wallace, deceased
8:00 am	Giampaoli Family, living & deceased
Friday	August 20
6:45 am	Mary Tran, living
8:00 am	Patrick Schudel, living
12:00 (Hospital)	Pablo Fernandez, deceased
Saturday	August 21
8:00 am	Volodya Skrypka & Brandon Cunningham, living
4:30 pm	Meghan McCurry, living
6:30 pm (Sp.)	Pablo Fernandez, deceased

IN NEED OF PRAYER

~PLEASE PRAY FOR~

Those who are ill need your support and prayers: Tristan Humble, Samuel Agius, Sandy Torti Wilcox, Marjorie Miles, Amelia Lansangan, Gail Brown, Leo Del Santo, Emeline Jane Smith, Rosalind Britto, Ken Davis, Rita Wyatt, Karen Mills, Eileen Carol, Nancy Amador, Patrick Welter, Cristeta Marrentes, Jesus Navarro, Michael Boland, Stephen Warner, Thomas Patrick, Aida Catapang, Bob Goldman, Pat Davenport, Joan Cosgrove, Paulita Castro, Jean L. Alfano, Theresa Pham, Rainey Olson, Michele Otten and Mary Gonzales.

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY

~VIRTUAL ST. JOSEPH SUMMIT~

A Catholic apostolate engaged in evangelism and the promotion of spirituality headquartered in the Diocese of Orange, California, will present a 72-hour [Saint Joseph Summit](http://www.saintjosephsummit.com) (www.saintjosephsummit.com) virtual conference September 30-October 3, 2021. Featured speakers include Fr. Donald Calloway, Dr. Scott Hahn, Chris Stefanick, Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone, filmmaker James Wahlberg, Fr. Mike Schmitz and Chastity Project founders Jason and Crystalina Evert, as well as dozens of other cardinals, bishops, priests, religious and lay leaders. Themed "Our Spiritual Father: Pilgrimage to the Heart of Saint Joseph", organizers anticipate drawing tens of thousands of participants worldwide. There is no cost to listen to presentations; register for free at the Saint Joseph Summit website. However, due to the large numbers of speakers and 72-hour time-period of presentations, organizers are encouraging the public to opt for the \$49.99 premium "passport" which allows for lifetime access to presentations as well as bonus content and a free digital copy of Fr. Calloway's new book *Consecration to Saint Joseph*.

~MEN'S RETREAT IN SOQUEL~

There will be a special Men's retreat offered at St. Clare's Retreat Center from August 27-29, by the Missionaries of the Holy Apostles. St. Clare's is nestled in the Santa Cruz Mountains in Soquel, CA. It offers the ideal setting for "time away" to renew and reinvigorate one's faith and prayer life. The retreat will be conducted by Fr. Skip Thompson, MSA. With a deep love for St. Joseph and the Holy Eucharist, Fr. Thompson has chosen a powerful theme for this late summer weekend: "St. Joseph, A Man for Critical Times - Protecting Faith, Family and Nation". All who attend this blessed weekend will receive a plenary indulgence in this year of St. Joseph. To register, please contact Sr. Mary Vincent or Sr. Chiara at : 831-423-8093 or register on-line at: www.stclaresretreat.org.

SOCIAL ACTIVITY

~KNIGHTS' ANNUAL BARBECUE~

The Knights of Columbus invite you to join them for their Annual Chicken BBQ on Sunday, August 22, between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. The menu includes 1/2 a chicken, Chili Beans & Caesar Salad for \$16.00. It will be held outside under the School Lunch Pavilion. Take-out meals will be available. Tickets are available in the Parish Office and the St. Eugene's Gift Shop/Bookstore located in the PLC.

SECOND COLLECTION INFORMATION

~THE ASSUMPTION~

This weekend, August 14 & 15, the Second Collection is for the Feast Day, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our Second Collection next weekend, August 21 & 22, will be for our Tuition Assistance Program.

MY CATHOLIC FAITH

THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

~FROM THE PASTOR~

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven, a Holy Day of Obligation, falls on a Sunday this year. Thus, we celebrate this great Feast today! A few weeks ago, I gave a homily in which I mentioned the 6 liturgical rites that we have in our Church. For example, the Latin Rite (western church), the Byzantine Rite, the West Syriac Rite (Maronites), etc. The following essay takes a look at how this feast is viewed and celebrated in both the Western and the Eastern Catholic Churches. I think you'll find it quite informative!

ASSUMPTION & DORMITION

~THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY~

"In the West, it's called the "Assumption." In the East, it's called the "Dormition." Under any name, Christians have been celebrating the great event for more than 1,900 years. On Aug. 15, Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Most years, in most dioceses, the date is a holy day of obligation. The Church in her wisdom wants us to understand how important Mary is in our devotional life – and practicing Catholics are required to attend Mass. But depending on your faith background, you may think of this feast in one of two ways. As a Western Catholic, you celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The longstanding belief of the Church that that Mary was taken up into heaven was declared infallibly by Pope Pius XII on Nov. 1, 1950. In his Apostolic constitution "*Munificentissimus Deus*" declaring the Assumption to be true, he said,

"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 to heavenly glory."

So, medieval paintings of Mary's Assumption into heaven often resemble paintings of Jesus' own Ascension – although the two are not the same. In the case of the Assumption, we believe that God transported Mary's body to heaven; while in the case of the Ascension, Jesus traveled heavenward while the crowd watched, and of His own volition. "

~THE DORMITION OF THE VIRGIN MARY~

"But if you worship in an Eastern [Rite] Church, you celebrate the Dormition of Mary, or the "Sleep" of Mary. Christians in those traditions believe that Mary actually died. Only after her death and burial, they would say, was she taken up from the tomb and drawn, body and soul, into heaven where she sits beside her Divine Son. The story is usually that all of the Apostles were gathered around her body. One variant is that she had been buried and the Apostle Thomas – yes, that doubting one, again – was not present for her death. The tomb was opened for him to view the body, but she was gone! So who's right?"

~WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED?~

" ... Actually, we don't know. The dogma of the "Assumption" does not explain just how it happened. In fact, the event of the Assumption is not mentioned at all in the Scriptures. But we believe that from the first moment of her conception, Mary was preserved from sin. That is, God preserved Mary from not just *actual* sin – the small and large sins which you and I commit – but also *original* sin, that taint of a sinful nature which we inherit from our parents Adam and Eve. This was in order that she could be the "Ark of the Covenant," the spotless vessel suitable to bear the Christ Child. The belief in Mary's bodily assumption appears in the writings of the early Church Fathers: 1.) Bishop St. Melito of Sardis (who died around A.D. 200) wrote in an apocryphal story called the *Transitus Mariae* (*The Passage of Mary*) that Mary died in the presence of the apostles in Jerusalem and then, her body just disappeared – or was buried, and then disappeared. 2.) St. John Damascene (who died in A.D. 749) recorded a story about the Assumption: "St. Juvenal, Bishop of Jerusalem, at the Council of Chalcedon (451), made known to the Emperor Marcian and Pulcheria, who wished to possess the body of the Mother of God, that Mary died in the presence of all the Apostles, but that her tomb, when opened, upon the request of St. Thomas, was found empty; wherefrom the Apostles concluded that the body was taken up to heaven." 3.) Byzantine Rite Catholics celebrate the Feast of the Dormition on Aug. 15. The feast was established by the Byzantine Emperor Mauritius (582-602) to celebrate our Lady's death and assumption. Some historians believe that the feast was already celebrated before that,

even before the Council of Ephesus in 431.

~THE CASE FOR THE ASSUMPTION~

“There is a certain logic to believing that Mary was assumed into heaven without ever undergoing the pain of death. She was sinless, and physical death is one of the punishments imposed by God as a consequence of sin. But on the other hand, I know she wasn’t preserved from *sorrow* (just think of her grief at the death of her beloved Son!), and she probably got her fair share of mosquito bites and sunburn and tired feet; so why not also bodily deterioration? One very good case for Mary’s assumption into heaven has been provided by science in the past few years, as scientists have become aware of (and have published academic papers about) *fetomaternal microchimerism*. Researchers have learned that there is an exchange of cells between the developing fetus and the pregnant woman, so that each contains some part of the other’s DNA. Even years after the child has been born and has grown to adulthood, a mother retains some of her child’s cells in her heart, in her brain, in her blood. In 2012, a study conducted in Seattle detected cells with the Y chromosome in multiple areas of the brains of dead women. So can a mother forget her child? Already we know that the Second Person of the Holy Trinity did not undergo decay – that Jesus returned to the Father. And we understand that he wanted to honor his mother, and that the sinless one was preserved from sin, and also from decay. Microchimerism gives us yet another way to understand Mary’s Assumption: As Jesus ascended into heaven, it seems fitting that his unique DNA should not remain on the earth to undergo decay. Does it matter whether Mary died before her body was taken into heaven, or whether she simply rose from the kitchen table in response to God’s call? Not really. What matters is that she is our mother. She loves us with a mother’s love; and we saw, at the wedding feast of Cana, how she has the ear of her Divine Son. She is able to intercede for us before the Throne of God. *Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, Now and at the hour of our death.*” By: Kathy Schiffer. For complete article, go to: <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/the-assumption-presumption-and-the-dormition-tradition>



MARY AS ARK OF THE COVENANT

~THE LIVING SHRINE~

The Virgin Mary is the living shrine of the Word of God, the Ark of the New and Eternal Covenant. In fact, St. Luke’s account of the Annunciation of the angel to Mary nicely incorporates the images of the tent of meeting with God in Sinai and of the temple of Zion. Just as the cloud covered the people of God marching in the desert (cf. Nm 10:34; Dt 33:12; Ps 91:4) and just as the same cloud, as a sign of the divine mystery present in the midst of Israel, hovered over the Ark of the Covenant (cf. Ex 40:35), so now the shadow of the Most High envelops and penetrates the tabernacle of the New Covenant that is the womb of Mary (cf. Lk 1:35).” (Pontifical Council for the Pastoral Care of Migrants and Itinerant People, *The Shrine: Memory, Presence and Prophecy of the Living God*)

~THE EARLY CHURCH~

“Even if someone rejects Catholic teaching regarding Mary, he cannot deny that Catholics have scriptural foundations for it. And it is a teaching that has been taught by Christians from ancient times. Here are a few representative quotations from the early Church—some written well before the New Testament books were officially compiled into the final New Testament canon:”

Athanasius of Alexandria (c. 296–373) was the main defender of the deity of Christ against the second-century heretics. He wrote: “O noble Virgin, truly you are greater than any other greatness. For who is your equal in greatness, O dwelling place of God the Word? To whom among all creatures shall I compare you, O Virgin? You are greater than them all O [Ark of the] Covenant, clothed with purity instead of gold! You are the ark in which is found the golden vessel containing the true manna, that is, the flesh in which divinity resides” (*Homily of the Papyrus of Turin*).

Gregory the Wonder Worker (c. 213–c. 270) wrote: “Let us chant the melody that has been taught us by the inspired harp of David, and say, ‘Arise, O Lord, into thy rest; thou, and the ark of thy sanctuary.’ For the Holy Virgin is in truth an ark, wrought with gold both within and without, that has received the whole treasury of the sanctuary” (Homily on the Annunciation to the Holy Virgin Mary). catholic.com/magazine/print-edition/mary-the-ark-of-the-new-covenant

MI FE CATOLICA

LA FESTIVIDAD DE LA ASUNCION

~ DEL PASTOR ~

La solemnidad de la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María al Cielo, un día santo de obligación, cae en Domingo este año. ¡Por eso, hoy celebramos esta gran Fiesta! Hace unas semanas pronuncié una homilía en la que mencioné los 6 ritos litúrgicos que tenemos en nuestra Iglesia. Por ejemplo, el Rito Latino (iglesia occidental), el Rito Bizantino, el Rito Siríaco Occidental (Maronitas), etc. El siguiente ensayo analiza cómo se ve y se celebra esta fiesta tanto en la Iglesia Católica Occidental como en la Oriental. ¡Creo que lo encontrará bastante informativo!

ASUNCIÓN Y DORMICIÓN

~ LA ASUNCIÓN DE LA VIRGEN MARÍA ~

"En Occidente, se llama la" Asunción ". En el este, se llama la "Dormición". Bajo cualquier nombre, los cristianos han estado celebrando el gran evento durante más de 1,900 años. El 15 de Agosto, los Católicos celebran la Solemnidad de la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María. La mayoría de los años, en la mayoría de las diócesis, la fecha es un día sagrado de obligación. La Iglesia, en su sabiduría, quiere que entendamos lo importante que es María en nuestra vida devocional, y los católicos practicantes están obligados a asistir a Misa. Pero dependiendo de su origen de fe, puede pensar en esta fiesta de dos maneras. Como católico occidental, celebras la Asunción de la Santísima Virgen María. La creencia mas antigua de la Iglesia es que María fue llevada al cielo fue declarada infaliblemente por el Papa Pío XII el 1 de Noviembre de 1950. En su constitución apostólica "*Munificentissimus Deus*" declarando que la Asunción es verdadera, dijo:

"Pronunciamos, declaramos y definimos como un dogma divinamente revelado que la Inmaculada Madre de Dios, la siempre Virgen María, habiendo completado el curso de su vida terrena, fue asumida en cuerpo y alma a la gloria celestial".

Entonces, las pinturas medievales de la Asunción de María al cielo a menudo se parecen a las pinturas de la propia Ascensión de Jesús, aunque las dos no son lo mismo. En el caso de la Asunción, creemos que Dios transportó el cuerpo de María al cielo; mientras que en el caso de la Ascensión, Jesús viajó hacia el cielo mientras la multitud miraba, y por Su propia voluntad. "

~ LA DORMICIÓN DE LA VIRGEN MARÍA ~

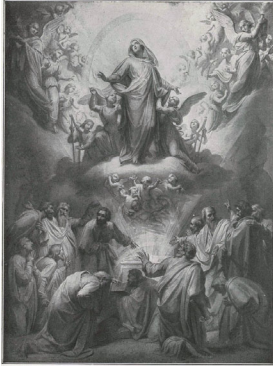
"Pero si adoras en una Iglesia [de rito] Oriental, celebras la Dormición de María, o el " Sueño "de María. Los cristianos de esas tradiciones creen que María realmente murió. Solo después de su muerte y entierro, dirían, fue sacada de la tumba y llevada, en cuerpo y alma, al cielo, donde se sienta junto a su Divino Hijo. La historia suele ser que todos los apóstoles estaban reunidos alrededor de su cuerpo. Una variante es que había sido enterrada y el apóstol Tomás, sí, ese que dudaba, de nuevo, no estuvo presente en su muerte. La tumba se abrió para que él viera el cuerpo, ¡pero ella se había ido! Entonces, ¿quién tiene razón?

~ ¿QUÉ SUCEDIÓ REALMENTE? ~

"... En realidad, no lo sabemos. El dogma de la "Asunción" no explica cómo sucedió. De hecho, el evento de la Asunción no se menciona en absoluto en las Escrituras. Pero creemos que desde el primer momento de su concepción, que María fue preservada del pecado. Es decir, Dios preservó a María no solo del pecado actual - los pecados pequeños y grandes que tú y yo cometemos - sino también del pecado original, esa mancha de naturaleza pecaminosa que heredamos de nuestros padres Adán y Eva. Esto fue para que ella pudiera ser el "Arca de la Alianza", la vasija inmaculada adecuada para llevar al Niño Jesús. La creencia en la asunción corporal de María aparece en los escritos de los primeros Padres de la Iglesia: 1.) El obispo San Melito de Sardis (que murió alrededor del año 200 d.C.) escribió en una historia apócrifa llamada *Transitus Mariae* (*El pasaje de María*) que María murió. en presencia de los apóstoles en Jerusalén y luego, su cuerpo simplemente desapareció - o fue enterrado, y luego desapareció. 2.) San Juan Damasceno (que murió en 749 d.C.) registró una historia sobre la Asunción: "*St. Juvenal, obispo de Jerusalén, en el Concilio de Calcedonia (451), dio a conocer al emperador Marciano y Pulqueria, que deseaban poseer el cuerpo de la Madre de Dios, que María había muerto en presencia de todos los Apóstoles, pero que su la tumba, cuando se abrió, a petición de Santo Tomás, se encontró vacía; de donde los Apóstoles concluyeron que el cuerpo fue llevado al cielo "*. 3.) Los católicos de rito bizantino celebran la fiesta de la Dormición el 15 de Agosto. La fiesta fue establecida por el emperador bizantino Mauricio (582-602) para celebrar la muerte y asunción de Nuestra Señora. Algunos historiadores creen que la fiesta ya se celebró antes de eso, incluso antes del Concilio de Éfeso en 431.

~ EL CASO DE LA ASUNCION ~

“Hay una cierta lógica en creer que María fue asunta al cielo sin sufrir jamás el dolor de la muerte. Ella no tenía pecado y la muerte física es uno de los castigos impuestos por Dios como consecuencia del pecado. Pero, por otro lado, sé



que no se salvó del dolor (¡solo piense en su dolor por la muerte de su amado Hijo!), Y probablemente recibió una buena cantidad de picaduras de mosquitos, quemaduras solares y pies cansados; entonces, ¿por qué no también el deterioro corporal? Un caso muy bueno para la asunción

de María al cielo lo ha proporcionado la ciencia en los últimos años, ya que los científicos se han dado cuenta (y han publicado artículos académicos sobre) el **microquimerismo fetomaterno**. Los investigadores han descubierto que existe un intercambio de células entre el feto en desarrollo y la mujer embarazada, de modo que cada una contiene una parte del ADN de la otra. Incluso años después de que el niño ha nacido y ha crecido hasta la edad adulta, una madre retiene algunas de las células de su hijo en su corazón, en su cerebro, en su sangre. En 2012, un estudio realizado en Seattle detectó células con el cromosoma Y en múltiples áreas del cerebro de mujeres muertas. Entonces, ¿puede una madre olvidar a su hijo? Ya sabemos que la Segunda Persona de la Santísima Trinidad no sufrió decadencia, que Jesús regresó al Padre. Y entendemos que quería honrar a su madre, y que el que no tenía pecado fue preservado del pecado y también de la decadencia. El microquimerismo nos da otra forma de entender la Asunción de María: cuando Jesús ascendió al cielo, parece apropiado que su ADN único no permanezca en la tierra para sufrir descomposición. ¿Importa si María murió antes de que su cuerpo fuera llevado al cielo, o si simplemente se levantó de la mesa de la cocina en respuesta al llamado de Dios? Realmente no. Lo que importa es que ella es nuestra madre. Ella nos ama con el amor de una madre; y vimos, en las bodas de Caná, cómo ella tiene el oído de su Divino Hijo. Ella puede interceder por nosotros ante el Trono de Dios. *Santa María, Madre de Dios, ruega por nosotros los pecadores, ahora y en la hora de nuestra muerte* ". Por: Kathy Schiffer. Para ver el artículo completo, vaya a: <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/the-assumption-presumption-and-the-dormition-tradition>

MARÍA COMO ARCA DE LA ALIANZA

~ EL SANTUARIO VIVO ~

La Virgen María es el santuario vivo de la Palabra de Dios, el Arca de la Nueva y Eterna Alianza. De hecho, el relato de San Lucas sobre la Anunciación del ángel a María incorpora muy bien las imágenes de la tienda del encuentro con Dios en el Sinaí y del templo de Sión. Así como la nube cubrió al pueblo de Dios que marchaba por el desierto (cf. Nm 10, 34; Dt 33, 12; Sal 91, 4) y como la misma nube, como signo del misterio divino presente en medio de Israel, flotaba sobre el Arca de la Alianza (cf. Ex 40,35), así ahora la sombra del Altísimo envuelve y penetra el tabernáculo de la Nueva Alianza que es el seno de María (cf. Lc 1,35). " (Pontificio Consejo para la Pastoral de los Emigrantes e Itinerantes, *El Santuario: memoria, presencia y profecía del Dios vivo*)

~ LA IGLESIA TEMPRANA ~

"Incluso si alguien rechaza la enseñanza católica con respecto a María, no puede negar que los católicos tienen fundamentos bíblicos para ello. Y es una enseñanza que ha sido enseñada por cristianos desde la antigüedad. Aquí hay algunas citas representativas de la Iglesia primitiva, algunas escritas mucho antes de que los libros del Nuevo Testamento se compilaran oficialmente en el canon final del Nuevo Testamento: "

Atanasio de Alejandría (c. 296–373) fue el principal defensor de la deidad de Cristo contra los herejes del siglo II. Escribió: "Oh noble Virgen, verdaderamente eres más grande que cualquier otra grandeza. Porque, ¿quién es tu igual en grandeza, oh morada de Dios el Verbo? ¿Con quién entre todas las criaturas te compararé, oh Virgen? Tú eres más grande que todos ellos ¡Oh [Arca de la] Alianza, vestida de pureza en lugar de oro! Tú eres el arca en la que se encuentra la vasija de oro que contiene el verdadero maná, es decir, la carne en la que reside la divinidad "(*Homilía del Papiro de Turín*).

Gregorio el Taumaturgo (c. 213 – c. 270) escribió: "Cantemos la melodía que nos ha enseñado el arpa inspirada de David, y digamos: 'Levántate, oh Señor, en tu reposo; tú, y el arca de tu santuario ". Porque la Santísima Virgen es en verdad un arca, forjada en oro por dentro y por fuera, que ha recibido todo el tesoro del santuario" (Homilía de la Anunciación a la Santísima Virgen María). catholic.com/magazine/print-edition/mary-the-ark-of-the-new-covenant

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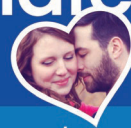
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