

## “All Generations Will Call Me Blessed”

**T**oday's readings help us see why Mary should be called blessed. The first reading depicts a woman as gloriously “clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet” (Revelation 12:1). This image is captured in well-known Marian statues. However, this woman is wailing “aloud in pain as she labored to give birth” (12:2). In fact, here and in the Gospel, women are depicted as pregnant.

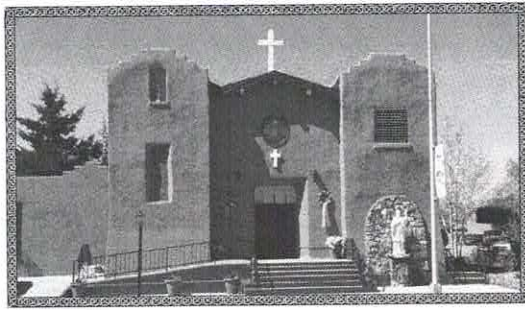
When a woman is in labor, she is both at her most vulnerable and her strongest. When giving birth she faces the real possibility of death. Yet, she places herself in such jeopardy to bring another to life. Her steely inner resolve is matched with remarkable physical strength when she is called upon to “Push!” The labor pains that precede birth became a striking metaphor, in both ancient Israel and the early Church, for the struggle experienced in bringing forth the reign of God (see Isaiah 21:3, Matthew 24:8, Mark 13:8, and Romans 8:22). Such suffering came to be known as “the birth pangs of the Messiah.”

Certainly, Mary is blessed because of her physical birthing of the Messiah. However, the Magnificat, her revolutionary prayer in the Gospel, describes the birthing of the reign of God when the powerful are brought down and the lowly uplifted, the hungry filled and the rich “sent away empty” (Luke 1:53). This is not a feast of a plastic statue but of a woman willing to give her life for the reign of God. She certainly deserves to be “clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet.”

*Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA*

### FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *Where does the Magnificat throw light on issues in our own society?*
- ★ *Pray for the courage you need to be faithful to your calling in life.*



# St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

115 N. First Street, Clayton, NM 88415

Office and Fax: (575) 374-8894 Email: sfxclayton@gmail.com

Rectory: (575) 374-8900 (After 9:00 PM-Emergency Only)

Missions: Des Moines, Folsom, Moses, NENM Detention Facility

[www.sfxclayton.org](http://www.sfxclayton.org)

## Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jason Pettigrew

Business Manager/Finance: Theresa Gard

Secretary: Laekyn Wagner

Religious Education: Rose Ramirez

Adult Religious Education: Rev. Jason Pettigrew

## Parish Office Hours (CCD Building)

Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9:00AM -1:00PM

Closed on Wed, Fri

## Sacrament of Baptism

(Classes and Parents Interview)

Contact Pastor

## Sacrament of Marriage

(Classes and Couple Interview)

Contact Fr. Jason -6 Months Prior

## Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

By appointment with the Pastor

## AUGUST 15TH

### St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

Weekend Mass: Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 10:30am

Daily Mass: Wednesday (Bilingual Mass) 12:10pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30pm Friday:12:10pm

Honor of Our Blessed Mother Mass 1st Saturday of the Month:10:30am

Confession: Saturday 4:00-5:00pm OR By Appointment

Adoration: Tuesday & Thursday 6pm to 7 pm

### Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00am (Oct 1 - May 31)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

### St. Joseph, Folsom

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00 am (Jun 1 - Sept 30)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

### NENM Detention Facility, Clayton (For Residents/Staff)

1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday's Mass 2:00PM

Confession: Sunday 1:30pm—2:00

### Nursing Home, Clayton

Every 4th Sunday 1:30 PM

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*This is my body, which will be given up for you.  
This is my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.  
It will be shed for you & for all... so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of me.*

*Masses will be offered August & September 2021  
+ All the Departed Parishioner's & Family Members  
SI All the Sponsors, Benefactors & Supporters of SFX Clayton  
SI Good Health & Well Being of all Parishioners & Families*

|               |                                                                       |                                                                                         |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat, Aug 14   | SI Britt Fisk                                                         | by Ross & Shelley Carter                                                                |
| Sun, Aug 15   | SI Britt Fisk<br>+Margaret Heringa<br>+Lillie Barreras                | by Ross & Shelley carter<br>by Loretta Butler<br>by Leo Ray & Lupe<br>Gonzales & Family |
| (OLOG)        | +Frank & Lorna Kelsey                                                 | by Grant & Marjorie Long                                                                |
| (OLOG)        | +Agustine & Filia Fernandez                                           | by Carlos & Bernie<br>Fernandez                                                         |
| (OLOG)        | +Joan Louis Horner Doherty                                            | by Tom Compton Family                                                                   |
| Tues, Aug 17  | +Clare Wood                                                           | by The Vaughn & Carter<br>Family                                                        |
| Thurs, Aug 19 | +Clare Wood                                                           | by The Vaughn & Carter<br>Family                                                        |
| Sat, Aug 21   | +Clare Wood<br>+Thomas Romero Jr.                                     | by Rosa Lee Britt<br>by Ross & Shelley Carter                                           |
| Sun, Aug 22   | +Margaret Heringa<br>(OLOG) +Frank & Lorna Kelsey<br>(OLOG) +Dora Alt | by Loretta Burlter<br>by Grant & Marjorie Long<br>by Carlos & Bernie<br>Fernandez       |
| Tues, Aug 24  | +Margaret Heringa                                                     | by Loretta Butler                                                                       |
| Sat, Aug 28   | +Thomas Romero Jr.<br>+Clare Wood                                     | by Ross & Shelley Carter<br>by Sammie & Chip Wood                                       |

**Weekly Collections Summary: July & August 2021**

|               | <u>SFX</u> | <u>OLOG</u> |
|---------------|------------|-------------|
| August 7-8    | \$2,808.45 | \$ 317.00   |
| July 31-Aug 1 | \$2,535.00 | \$ 721.00   |
| July 24-25    | \$1,602.00 | \$ 209.00   |
| July 17-18    | \$1,957.75 | \$ 425.00   |

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*Please visit the following very informative websites:*

- [www.archdiocesesantafe.org](http://www.archdiocesesantafe.org)
- [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)
- [v2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html](http://v2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html)
- [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)
- [www.catholic culture.org](http://www.catholic culture.org)

**TEXT UPDATES FROM THE CHURCH**

SFX Clayton uses FlockNote Communication! This allows us to send text and email notifications and announcements! To receive Messages, Text the word SFXClayton to the number 84576 to sign up! Then follow the instructions on your phone.

**Announcement**

Prayerfully Consider Donating Your Time:  
Volunteers Needed!  
Please Contact the Office if interested or for more information.

“The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us, ‘Conscience is a judgment of reason whereby the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act that he is going to perform, is in the process of performing or has already completed. In all he says and does, man is obliged to follow faithfully what he knows to be just and right’ (n. 1778). From this definition it emerges that the moral conscience, to be able to judge human conduct rightly, above all must be based on the solid foundation of truth, that is, it must be enlightened to know the true value of actions and the solid criteria for evaluation. Therefore, it must be able to distinguish good from evil, even where the social environment, pluralistic culture and superimposed interests do not help it do so” (Address to the Pontifical Academy for Life, February 24, 2007).

**Lectors for Masses**

- Sat, Aug 21-Effie Walker
- Sun, Aug 22-Raymond Saccoccia
- Sat, Aug 28-Ross Carter
- Sun, Aug 29- Chase Carter

All Ministry schedules are updated monthly and posted on the church website. If you need to know when you serve, check [www.sfxclayton.org](http://www.sfxclayton.org)!!

# Dear Padre,

## Why do Catholics believe in Mary's assumption into heaven?

**M**ary's assumption to heaven is a belief shared by Eastern Christians and Roman Catholics, although the explanations of this dogma have different emphases in the two traditions. While there is no biblical or historical record of this event, the first explanation of this doctrine is found in a document from the late 300s.

Mary's assumption was considered a pious opinion until 1950, when Pius XII defined it as dogma (an official Church teaching). The Pope made the declaration after bishops and he found overwhelming consensus throughout the Church.

The definition of Mary's assumption—body and soul—to heaven reaffirmed that God had not only created humans, but also redeemed and claimed them. Mary's assumption reminded the world of the goodness of God's creation and that Christ redeems us from the evil around us (and in us) and made us a new creation.

Perhaps the best explanation can be found in St. John Paul II's 2004 homily at Lourdes. "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be," he said, quoting John 14:3. He explained that Mary's assumption is the pledge that Christ's promise will be fulfilled. The Pope's words echo the teaching of bishops at the Second Vatican Council, which described this dogma as "a sign of sure hope and solace" (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church [*Lumen Gentium*], 68).

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THE ASSUMPTION OF THE VIRGIN MARY, PAVIA CATHEDRAL  
ADAM JAN FIGEL / SHUTTERSTOCK



### A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*Mary is assumed into heaven: small and humble, she is the first to receive the highest glory. She, a human creature, one of us, attains eternity in soul and body. And there she awaits us as a mother waits for her children to come home. Indeed, the people of God invoke her as the Gate of Heaven.*

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION, AUGUST 15, 2019

## Calendar

### Monday

AUGUST 16  
Weekday  
Jgs 2:11–19  
Mt 19:16–22

### Tuesday

AUGUST 17  
Weekday  
Jgs 6:11–24a  
Mt 19:23–30

### Wednesday

AUGUST 18  
Weekday  
Jgs 9:6–15  
Mt 20:1–16

### Thursday

AUGUST 19  
Weekday  
Jgs 11:29–39a  
Mt 22:1–14

### Friday

AUGUST 20  
St. Bernard, Abbot and  
Doctor of the Church  
Ru 1:1, 3–6, 14b–16, 22  
Mt 22:34–40

### Saturday

AUGUST 21  
St. Pius X, Pope  
Ru 2:1–3, 8–11; 4:13–17  
Mt 23:1–12

### Sunday

AUGUST 22  
Twenty-first Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Jos 24:1–2a, 15–17, 18b  
Eph 5:21–32 or  
Eph 5:2a, 25–32  
Jn 6:60–69

Do you have  
a question  
for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org)  
to send your question  
and to learn more  
about Dear Padre.

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