

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus Christ!

As a child it was very difficult to see the “Back to School” signs in the stores. It meant that school was right around the corner. This year, we prepare for a new school with many new faces, including a new principal, Mrs. Linda Joyner. We are all very excited to welcome our new teachers and meld together as a parish and school community. Catholic Education is so very important, not only for our parish, for the broader community. Catholic Schools form our young people in academics and faith. We consistently hear back from students who are now in high school how prepared they felt for high school academics. We are also very proud when these students are still serving at Mass, participating in formation events, and doing outreach. This is proof of the wonderful foundation built because of Catholic education. How blessed we are to not only have a Catholic school but to have one of the best. We have a school that is growing and flourishing with a beautiful parent community who know the importance of academic excellence and strong faith. My friends, please pray for our teachers, staff, and students as they prepare to begin a new school year at the end of this month. We are one family who support and love each other in the name of Jesus.

This is also the month of our Patronal Feast, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Because this is a solemnity in the Church Universal, we cannot move the day to the nearest weekend. So, Thursday, August 15 we will have Mass at 8:15 a.m., 12:10 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. The following weekend we will honor our Patronal Feast by offering flowers to Mary. The Spiritual Life and Worship Commission will be hosting hospitality that weekend to showcase their good work and celebrate our Patronal Feast. Why is this solemnity so important? Mary’s Assumption opens a graced path for our sanctification on earth, giving us hope that we will follow where Mary has gone. You see, Mary always points the way to Jesus. With having ascended into heaven she, through the Assumption, points the way to heaven, to Jesus. How fitting for the simple girl who said yes to the message from an angel, continued to say yes throughout her life, and now sits as Queen of Heaven and Earth. What a joy for us to claim her as our patroness and seek her protection and love!

Finally, I wish to say that our parish festival was a success! I was able to walk the grounds all three days and there was a beautiful spirit among the festival goers. The storms on Saturday night and having to move Mass indoors on Sunday morning was unfortunate but it was still a wonderful weekend. It will be some weeks before we have final numbers as we await various bills. However, it looks to be a successful festival. So many people deserve our gratitude starting with our Co-Chairs, Dave Lownik and Bobby Coleman. They, along with the entire festival committee and volunteers, made the festival possible. Thank you so very much! Of course, thank you to all who attended and supported our parish.

Our Lady of the Assumption...pray for us!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Aaron R. Laskiewicz
Pastor