

Dear Friends,

Praised be Jesus Christ!

First, I would like to thank everyone who attended, volunteered, and supported our parish festival last month. As you know, it takes many people and a lot of hours to ensure the success of our festival. We were disappointed to have to close early on Friday evening due to severe weather. However, Saturday and Sunday were beautiful days, and it was so awesome to see our community coming together for fun, games, music, and good food. Sunday also saw our first outdoor Festival Mass. Over 500 people attended and it was a beautiful morning of prayer. So, to Dave Lownik, Bobby Coleman, and the entire Festival Committee thank you so very much!

As we transition into August, Packers Training Camp is underway, the Wisconsin State Fair is happening, we're starting to pay a little more attention to the MLB standings, and it is back to school time. There is a lot happening this month! This month is also home to our Patronal Feast, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This great solemnity reveals to us our destiny – eternal life with Jesus. Because of Mary's "yes", her faith, and the crucial role she played in salvation history, the Lord deemed it necessary that she would not taste death. She fell into a deep sleep and was assumed body and soul into heaven. This is yet one more way that Mary guides us, her spiritual children. We, too, can follow Mary by saying "yes" to God daily, by our faith (as imperfect as it may be), and through the role we play in preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ. We have the tools necessary for the mission. By the grace of our baptism, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the sacramental life of the Church, God has prepared and equipped us to build the Kingdom of God here on earth. When our time on this earth draws to close, may we, like Mary, take our prepared place in heaven.

Finally, we need your help. Due to a technical error with our calendar, we no longer have a record of the daily Mass Intentions from Monday August 4th through the end of the year. This includes Holy Days and holidays. If you requested a Mass Intention for any date that falls during this time period, *especially for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses*, please contact Janice TreuteLaar, Administrative Assistant in the Parish Office, at 414-425-2174, ext. 220 or treutelaarj@stmaryhc.org so that we can re-enter the Mass intention on the calendar.

If there are any dates for which we are unable to recover the specific name for the intention, please be assured that the priest celebrant will still offer that Mass for the intention that was originally scheduled. As long as that is the intent in the priest's heart as he celebrates Mass, the intention is fulfilled and graces are received. However, we are confident that with your help we can re-enter all of the intentions. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Rev. Aaron R. Laskiewicz

Pastor