

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA-SAINTE LUCY AND SAINT GILES PARISH

*You have approached Mount Zion
and the city of the living God.
— Hebrews 12:22a*

AUGUST 28, 2022 • Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA - ST. LUCY CHURCH
38 NORTH AUSTIN BOULEVARD, OAK PARK

DAILY MASSES THIS WEEK: Tuesday and Wednesday at 8:30 am
WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday at 5:00 pm (Confession prior to Mass, 4:00 to 4:30 pm); and Sunday at 9:00 am

ST. GILES CHURCH
1045 COLUMBIAN AVENUE, OAK PARK

DAILY MASSES THIS WEEK: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 am; Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30 am;
Saturday at 8:00 am (Confession following Mass, 8:30 am to 9:00 am)
WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday at 4:30 pm and Sunday at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Fr. Carl's Corner



I want to thank and commend our Unification Team for the thoughtful work they have done and are doing. Making time for our *Mass & Meets* and organizing a process for members of the community to meet and share thoughts and values as we work toward naming our new community has been encouraging and inspiring. Please plan on attending any one of the sessions planned. **We need and want your input.** Here is some food for thought as we work through this time of transition.

Consider, what really makes us human? Our intellect? Our emotions? The fact that we have opposable thumbs?

Think back with me to the story of Ezekiel, the prophet. God summons the young prophet to survey a vast plain of dry bones. God tells Ezekiel to speak to them, and the dry bones will come alive. And, at Ezekiel's word, the bones become human before his eyes. (Ezekiel 37:1-4)

But what brings the bones to life and makes them human is the breath of God's spirit. It is the same spirit of God that gives life to our bones and skin and muscles. It is love – a love that finds its completeness in God – that makes us more than just a walking assemblage of skin and bones.

I share this to remind us all, while we have unique church buildings and certain values and practices that our communities hold, the most important reality to consider – is each other! We must never forget it is the spirit of God that gives us life! In our conversations, practices, decisions to be made, it is the breath of God that gives us life and we must see and honor that in each other.

When we feel "lifeless," when we are going through a "dry" patch of isolation or hopelessness, may we remember the "breath" of God in the caring and compassion of community, family and friends. And as we go through the process of unification and naming, which will have its challenges, may we remember to be a prophet of God's spirit in our midst by our generosity, care and respect for each other. By remembering who we are, alive with the breath of God within us, may we help lift up those who feel weighed down by uncertainty and fear.

Perhaps our prayer might be,

From the four winds come, O Spirit of God, and breathe into each of us
compassion, courage and wisdom to build a new reality,
St. Catherine, St. Lucy, St. Giles, a community
where others see your kingdom alive and at work in us.

Finally, something you should know. As of July 1 when we officially were joined together as one new community, our parish finance committees and parish councils ceased to exist! That is because our parishes as we were known have changed and we are joined canonically as one. That means we will be forming a new finance committee and parish council in the months to come.

I value the members of these committees and may at time turn to them for guidance and wisdom. Currently, our Operations Director, Matt Brophy, our parish staff and the Unification Team will help me to stay the course as we continue the process of merging together. Working on administration and bookkeeping, finances, ministries, Mass times, and the naming of our community are some of the areas that we will be focusing on in the months ahead. Stay tuned!

May God bless your week ahead. Be safe and well.

With you a Christian and for you a priest.

Fr. Carl

Spiritual Life & Worship

We Pray For . . .

Those who are hospitalized or homebound, including: Steven Acevedo, Patrick Ahearn, Coletta Ali, Jane Baker, Phyllis Baker, Danita Bowie, Herbert Breidenbach, Elida Briones, Pete Buckingham, Phil Calabrese, Tiffany Church, Ray Cimms, Steve Cizmar, Lucille Dalbis, Andrea Dickson, Wanda Farmer, Mike Fenske, Katherine Fisher, Carol Frank, Mary Ellen Frank, Jim Gallagher, Earl Gallermo, Grace Gryzlo Goodmanson, Deacon John Henricks, Bill Holmes, Phillip Jones, Rosie Julion, Donna Kanapes, Patrick King, Marie Koko, Paul Koko, Hardie Kressler, Kathleen Kroker, Kimberly Lester, Jake Lofgren, Gabriela Machado, Jim Madden, Virginia Madden, Carlotta Madonia, Mary Mamolella, Patricia McDonald, Sr. Louise Noesen, Matt O'Connell, Phyllis Pappas; Amelia Patterson, Bob Quane, Maureen Sansone, Mary and Paul Schleitwiler, Colleen Rowley Schramm, Regina Schwarz, Carole Sheehan, Nina Stanley, Sarah Such, Joann Taylor, Sean Varner, LaNedra Vaughn, Shirley Venerable, Meg Welch, Nancy Wesclitz.

(Names will be periodically removed from this listing in the bulletin and also from the list of recurring intersessions spoken at weekend Masses. Others have received a Prayer Shawl representing the prayers for healing by the Parish community. Please contact the parish office to include someone on this prayer list or to request inclusion in the weekend Mass intercessions, or to request a Prayer Shawl.)

And for those of our family members and parishioners who have died, especially Matthew Allan Fitzgerald, brother of Chris Fitzgerald.

WEDDING BANNS

- II Kathleen Planek and Joseph Mau
- III Giana Bruno and Michael Pietro

Another Chance to Get to Know Each Other: August 27-28

We encourage all parishioners to explore the St. Giles Church and campus this weekend. Make new friends at our last August Mass & Meet. After each Mass there will be light refreshments and a chance to mix and mingle with parishioners you may not have seen for awhile -- and those you haven't yet met.

Unification Mass & Meet

St. Giles Church, Columbian & Greenfield
Saturday, Aug 27 - 4:30 pm
Sunday, Aug 28 - 8:00 & 10:30 am

St. Giles Courtyard

Sunday, Aug 28 - 5:00 p.m., Family Mass*

*Please note time and location change this Sunday

ST. GILES CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, August 29

The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

6:30 — † The Deceased of the Parish

Tuesday, August 30

8:30 — † Elizabeth Groff

† The Sangster-Gazzolo Family

† Gary Parker

Wednesday, August 31

6:30 — † Marilyn Hammer

† Owen Petrzelka

Thursday, September 1

8:30 — † Rosemary Whiston

† Dee LeFevour

Friday, September 2

6:30 — † Owen Petrzelka

Saturday, September 3

Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

8:00 — † Mary Tapling

2:30 — Wedding: Giana Bruno and Michael Pietro

*4:30 — † George Keller

† Katherine and William Sargent

† Robert Groff

Sunday, September 4

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 — † Camille Sarrouf

† Owen Petrzelka

10:30 — † Richard Goss

† Tom Hannafin

† Linda Maiorano

**This Mass will be live-streamed from the St. Giles website, stgilesparish.org.*

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA-ST. LUCY CHURCH MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, August 30

8:30 — † Jeanette Cannon

by Rachel Faulman

Wednesday, August 31

8:30 — † Luke Podraza

by Elaine and Jim Podraza

Saturday, September 3

Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

5:00 — † Bruce Kusenda

by Brenda Fotjk

Sunday, September 4

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

*9:00 — † Luke Podraza

by Elaine and Jim Podraza

† Eddy Jean

by The Vincent Family

**This Mass will be live-streamed. Please email parish@stcatherinestlucy.org to request the link to the live-stream.*

SAVE THESE DATES! "Listen and Be Heard"

In September, we will come together to share our values, hopes, and spirit in two all-parish meetings. Mark your calendars for the date that is best for you:

Saturday, September 10, in-person, 10:00-11:30 am,
Maguire Hall, the gym at St. Catherine-St. Lucy Campus,
two lots available for parking.

Wednesday, September 14, virtual, 7:00-8:30 pm,
Link will be sent shortly before the meeting.

Religious Education of Children

Religious Education Program 2022-23 Registration ends soon!

If you haven't already registered your children for Religious Education, today is a very good day to do so. The first week of Religious Education classes is September 10-15. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the religious education office at religioused@stgilesparish.org or 708-383-3430, x. 101.

Returning Families should have received an email with a link to register.

New Families please use the link on our parish website.



Important Dates - This Weekend!

Family Religious Education Welcome and Introduction

Sunday, August 28, 2022
9:00 - 10:15 am
McDonough Hall

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Parent Meeting

Sunday, August 28, 2022
1:00 - 2:00 pm
St. Giles Church

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Open House

Sunday, August 28, 2022
2:00 - 3:00 pm
CGS Atriums in Parish Center
and Gleeson Building

Confirmation Parent Meeting

Sunday, August 28, 2022
2:30 - 3:30 pm
McDonough Hall

A Call for Catechists

With Religious Education Registration now open, the St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Religious Education Team is working hard to get ready! In order to offer excellent religious education for the children of our parish, we need catechists!

There are opportunities to share your faith with our children (3 years – 8th grade) on Saturday and Sunday mornings, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday later afternoon and evenings.

If you are a catechist or assistant already, thank you! If not, please consider this important ministry.

For more information, contact Marci at mmadary@stgilesparish.org or 708-383-3430 ext. 404.

Altar Servers Needed

Would you like to participate more fully at Mass? We are in need of both youth and adult altar servers. Please contact Alex Ryan 708-383-3430, ext. 403, or reach out to Maudette Carr at Mass if you are interested. At this time, we will be training anyone 8th grade or older. Training for 6th and 7th graders will begin in the fall.

Lifelong Formation

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) in English

Have you or someone you know thought about officially joining the Catholic Church? Have you decided you want to become Catholic but are not sure where to start? The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is a process to guide you in your discernment as well as a pathway to become Catholic.



On Monday, September 12, there will be a gathering for anyone interested in RCIA or those who would like to begin the process. We will meet in the St. Giles Parish Center, 1025 Columbian Avenue, at 7:00 pm.

For more details, contact Marci Madary at 708-383-3430 ext.404 or mmadary@stgilesparish.org

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children and Teens (RCIC) in English

Do you know a person between the ages of 14 and 19 who hasn't completed their sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist)? If so, please contact Marci Madary at 708-383-3430 ext.404 or mmadary@stgilesparish.org. We would like to have classes to prepare young people to receive these sacraments and need to assess interest and need.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) in Spanish Quiere Recibir los Sacramentos?

¿Qué es RICA o Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos?

Las clases de RICA son parte de la catequesis que ofrece nuestra parroquia y está orientada a aquellas personas adultas de 18 años en adelante que desean aprender más acerca de la Iglesia Católica Romana y ser miembros en plena comunión con la Iglesia. En este bonito caminar aprendemos a ver como la iglesia ve a la persona en su semejanza e imagen de Dios, qué importancia tiene la vida cristiana para nuestra comunidad, usamos el catecismo de la iglesia, la Biblia y folletos. Los temas que estudiamos son muy variados, algunos de ellos son:

- ¿QUÉ ES LA IGLESIA?
- PERSONA DE JESÚS
- HISTORIA DE LA IGLESIA
- COSTUMBRES Y ORACIÓN
- LITURGIA, MISA
- LA BIBLIA, MAGISTERIO Y TRADICIÓN
- LOS SACRAMENTOS Y SACRAMENTALES
- MARÍA Y LOS SANTOS
- EL CREDO
- EL REZO DEL SEÑOR Y SUS PETICIONES

Este camino de Fe termina su jornada en la Vigilia Pascual - Sábado Santo- celebración muy solemne en la cual no sabemos si es el cielo que baja o es la Iglesia que sube. La iglesia te espera, no faltes! Si usted es bautizado/a y no ha hecho la primera comunión ni confirmación le invitamos a la oportunidad de continuar aprendiendo más sobre su fe.

Por favor contacto Mateo en la oficina parroquial al 708.383.3430 extensión 102 o por correo electrónico mbrophy@stgilesparish.org.

The Lifelong Learning and Adult Faith Formation Committee for Oak Park Parishes is pleased to announce the following series.

INTERPRETING THE FOUR GOSPELS Peter O'Leary

In a letter to his patron Can Grande della Scala, the great poet Dante identified four ways of interpreting scripture: the literal, the moral, the allegorical, and the mystical (or anagogical). Dante intended for his patron to use these same approaches to understand the masterpiece, Dante's *Commedia*, that Can Grande had sponsored. But these approaches have persisted as illuminating ways for readers and scholars alike to read scripture.

"Interpreting the Four Gospels" will consist of four lectures, one apiece on each of the four gospels in their chronological order, matched with one apiece of Dante's four interpretive approaches. Each lecture will present one of the gospels in its context, considering when it was written and for whom, along with examples of the interpretive approach in action.

These lectures are meant to be informative and fun, and to open up your sense of how you can read the gospels. No expertise or special training is expected, only your curiosity.

Here is the schedule for the lectures:

Monday, September 26, 2022
The Gospel of Mark and literal reading

Tuesday, September 27, 2022
The Gospel of Matthew and moral reading

Monday, October 24, 2022
The Gospel of Luke and allegorical reading

Tuesday, October 25, 2022
The Gospel of John and mystical reading

Please mark your calendar for these dates. The place for each lecture will be announced 2 weeks in advance for your planning. So we may get an idea of numbers in attendance, please email llaffc@ascensionoakpark.com to let us know of your interest.

Dr. Peter O'Leary is an alumnus of the University of Chicago. (AB'90 (English), AM'94, PhD'99 Divinity School). A Catechist and member of Ascension-St. Edmund Parish in Oak Park, O'Leary teaches at U. Chicago and the School of the Art Institute. Peter has published five books of poetry and five chapbooks. His latest book, *The Hidden Eyes of Things*, is a book length poem through the Cultural Society and completes a trilogy. This is Peter's third offering to adult learners in our local parish setting.

THE SENIOR CORNER

Welcome Seniors to a fun-filled summer picnic to be held on Thursday, September 15, 12:00 to 3:00 pm in McDonough Hall on the St. Giles Campus, at the north west corner of Greenfield and Columbian. It is easily accessible via an outside ramp and an elevator to the second floor.

Grilled hot dogs and beverages will be provided. If you would like to bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert to share, we ask that the item(s) be individually wrapped or pre-packaged.

Admission is free to all Seniors. So join us for an afternoon of fun, good conversation, the renewing of old friendships and making new ones. Of course, a picnic means games. There will be a few. Hopefully some of the ones that are planned will peak your interest.

Looking forward to seeing you on September 15! If you need a ride, please call Madonna Sloan at 773-921-4246.

In order to prepare the right amount of food, place a call to Barb Schulz at 773-622-2121 by Monday, September 12, to let her know you will be coming.

Our Parish Weekly Stewardship For Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

8/21/22 Weekend

	SC-SL Site	St. Giles Site	Total
Envelopes	\$1,380.00	\$15,223.00	\$16,603.00
Loose	\$427.00	\$867.00	\$1,294.00
Electronic*	\$703.07	\$10,321.75	\$11,024.82
Total Giving	\$2,510.07	\$26,411.75	\$28,921.82

*(8/17-8/23/22)

Thank you to all who continue to support St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy and St. Giles Parish. It is appreciated and critical to maintain and operate all that we do. Those wishing to make their donations online through GiveCentral can find the link and easy-to-follow-instructions on the church websites,

www.stgilesparish.org,

OR

www.stcatherinestlucy.org.

Contact Sharon at the Parish Center, 708-383-3430 Ext. 420, with any questions or for assistance. We could not be here without you!



Faith & Fellowship

"Baby Steps"

Two members of the St. Giles Family Mass Community and four Faith & Fellowship Catechists met for a conversation about how F&F could best be part of the unification process. The suggestion that we attend the Potluck/Picnic as a group was discarded as having too many unfamiliar people in too unfamiliar a setting. All agreed that the key would be in the creation of *relationships* in a way that felt *safe* and *comfortable*. We finally decided to have a small ice-cream social in September for F&F and Family Mass folks. People from both groups would organize and host, and we would have the get-together at St. Catherine-St. Lucy. A few of us were a little disappointed to be moving so gradually, but the consensus was that it would be best to go slow. Or as one of us said, *baby steps*.

St. Giles Bridge



Interested in playing Bridge?

Join the St. Giles Bridge League which runs September-June (3rd Monday of the month or 1st Friday of the month at 7:00 pm). Sign up NOW to join the league for the 2022-23 season, or anytime to be added to the Sub List.

For Monday Night Party Bridge, contact Shena Keith or Derek Briggs at stgilesbridge@shaker.com or 773-412-9502. For Friday Night Duplicate Bridge, contact Mary Darnall at mary_darnall@sbcglobal.net or 708-567-4526.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97-102; Mk 6:17-29

Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-14; Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11

Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40;

Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145:17-21; Lk 6:1-5

Sunday: Wis 9:13-18b; Ps 90:3-6, 12-17;

Phlm 9-10, 12-17; Lk 14:25-33

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

GriefShare is a special weekly seminar and support group designed to help you rebuild your life after losing a loved one. Our group is led by caring people who have experienced grief and want to help you through the difficult days ahead.

We know it hurts, and we want to help.

Contact Us Today

Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Beginning September 20
St. Giles Parish, McDonough Hall
1101 Columbian Avenue, Oak Park
Contact Geri Tapling, 708-223-4912
griefshare@stgilesparish.org

GRIEF  SHARE[®]

Parish Life

Grieving the death of a spouse?

Or do you know someone who is?

LOSS OF A SPOUSE

The daily emotions and challenges can seem to hard to bear. Find help at Loss of a Spouse seminar

Sunday, Sept. 11, 12:30 - 2:30 PM
Grace Lutheran Church
7300 West Division, River Forest

GRIEF SHARE[®]
griefshare.org/loss

To register call 708 366 6900 or email
gracechurch@gracriverforest.org
Co-sponsored by St. Giles Church



The Preserve at Oak Meadows

When:
Monday, September 12

Registration at 11:00 am
Shotgun start at 1:00 pm
Dinner served following event

Where:
The Preserve at Oak Meadows
900 North Wood Dale Road
Addison, IL 60101

Contact:
Greg Larson
773.818.3578
greglarson2010@gmail.com

SPONSORS & VOLUNTEERS
We are actively seeking sponsors and volunteers to make this event spectacular. Find out more at the Registration link on the St. Giles website, stgilesparish.org, or use the QR code here:



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!! *At the 78th St. Giles Golf Outing you will...*

- Learn new words when the group in front of you misses a putt
- Win awesome prizes with on the course contests
- Enjoy a delicious lunch and dinner with the Giles community
- Fight over infamous raffle prizes: Not everyone can win, right, Cocco?
- Support a St Giles graduate's continued Catholic education.

Or you could suffer through another Monday status meeting at work and hearing how the young guys are so hung over from watching the Bears blow the first game against the 49ers... see you on the range!

Join the St Giles Men's Society for great golf, on-course contests, and community. Event is a 4-man scramble, let the best crew win!

This event is **NOT** exclusive to St. Giles parishioners.

PLEASE Bring your friends, neighbors, associates, and clients for a fun-filled day on the golf course.

**St. Giles Parish 13th Annual Rummage Sale
September 23-24, 2022**



Come help us make this the BEST RUMMAGE SALE EVER!

We need your help to do this, we are seeking volunteers for the St. Giles Rummage Sale!

Help is needed:

September 19, 20, 21, and 22:

Can you give an hour or more to help with drop off, sorting of items and setting up?

Need service hours? Bring your form and we are happy to sign off that you donated your time!

September 23 and 24:

Can you help with the sale? Assistance is needed with refreshing tables and shelves, helping to take items down in the elevator, and assisting with the sale as needed.

<p><i>Drop Off Dates and Set Up Hours:</i></p> <p>Monday, Sept. 19 10:00 am to 6:00 pm</p> <p>Tuesday, Sept. 20 11:00 am to 7:00 pm</p> <p>Wednesday, Sept. 21 11:00 am to 7:00pm</p> <p>Thursday, Sept. 22 10:00am to 5:00pm</p> <p>McDonough Hall</p> <p><i>*REMINDER: We cannot accept cribs, expired car seats, recalled baby items, large furniture or exercise equipment, construction materials, non-working electronics, large TVs (only flat screen TVs will be accepted) or household paint/chemicals.</i></p>	<p><i>Sale Dates and Times:</i></p> <p>Friday, Sept. 23 2pm to 6pm</p> <p>Saturday, Sept. 24 10am to 1:30 pm with bag sale from 2 - 3 pm</p>
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Questions or to Volunteer, Contact the Coordinators:

Marlene Panebianco at 708-848-3828 or Marlene117@att.net

Carol Rossi at 773-237-5804 or cg12345b@yahoo.com

Clear out your attics, closets, cabinets, drawers, basements, and garages; somebody else can use what you no longer need!

Meet our Unification Team

Contact information for the entire Team is listed below. Please reach out to them with your questions and concerns as we move forward in our Unification process.



Name: **Pat Carew**
 Contact: **847-530 8413**
pat@enerstar.net
 Affiliation: St. Giles

Name: **Kathy Flanagan**
 Contact: **312-659-2789**
kathymflan@aol.com
 Affiliation: St. Giles



Name: **Ginny Jones**
 Contact: **773-379-8423**
v.m.jones@hotmail.com
 Affiliation: St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy

Name: **Miles Jackson**
 Contact: **708-445-0299**
miles.jackson@gmail.com
 Affiliation: St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy



Name: **Mark Laboe**
 Contact: **773-294-6797**
markjlaboe@gmail.com
 Affiliation: St. Giles

Name: **Andrea Legatzke**
 Contact: **708-205-0218**
alegatzke@sbcglobal.net
 Affiliation: St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy



Name: **LaTrice Porter-Thomas**
 Contact: **708-989-1429**
lporter3@yahoo.com
 Affiliation: St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy

Name: **Ed Siderewicz**
 Contact: **312-560-7154**
edsiderewicz@gmail.com
 Affiliation: St. Giles



Name: **Renee M. Smith-Quinn**
 Contact: **708-284-5632**
rsmithquinn@aol.com
 Affiliation: St. Catherine of Siena - St. Lucy

Name: **Sharon Zinkula**
 Contact: **708-203-3402**
sazinkula@comcast.net
 Affiliation: St. Giles



Food For Thought

Mary's Divine Destiny

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, because he has regarded the lowliness of his handmaid. Henceforth, all generations shall call me blessed, because he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ...He has put down the mighty from their thrones, and has exalted the lowly..." (Luke 1:46-52)

The transformation of all who are embodied into Christ by Baptism is celebrated in the Assumption of Mary, the first human to have claimed the destiny to us also dedicated: Eternal life in God.

Her "Yes" to the angel Gabriel opens time to eternity, history to divine destiny.

The Spirit of the already present promise in the story of Eve becomes flesh in Jesus, with our birth cause to rejoice.

Rebirth by grace, immeasurable and Immortal, a story of hope, initiates the same journey from "Yes" to our share in the paschal mystery of Jesus. We consent to love's challenges, and to new life access, completing our journey.

Luke gives us a strong impression of the character and strength of Mary. She responded to Gabriel she has no husband. He said: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you; the power of the Most High will overshadow you."

Mary, in obedient faith: "Let it be done according to your word." (Luke 1:35, 38)

Mary endured many emotional peaks and valleys, beginning with threat of divorce from Joseph.

An angel reassured him.

Other stress included: long trip to Bethlehem; Birth in a stable; warmth from farm animals' breath; Herod's plan to kill the baby; Hurried escape to Egypt; The Holy Family finally settled in Nazareth.

Mary had much to ponder.

Through her son Jesus, Mary had led the way to the glory in God that awaits us all. Her Assumption assures us that we too will be born to glory in the passages we make each day by faith. "My Spirit rejoices."

"Now have salvation and power come, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Anointed One." (Revelation 12:10ab)

Tom Lynch. 8/28/22

Sources: NCR, P. Marrin; "Who's Who In Bible," Reader's Digest, 1971; Luke 1:39-56.

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