



A Newsletter from the Missions Office/Pontifical Mission Societies in the United States  
Catholic Diocese of Columbus, Ohio



AUGUST 2022

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# The Assumption

## OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

On August 15, 2022 the Catholic Church celebrates the beautiful Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Assumption into Heaven. It's one of the most ancient feasts of Mary and commemorates her death and her assumption, body and soul, into heaven.

We believe that after her glorious death, Blessed Mother carried by angels into heaven where she was proclaimed as the Queen Mother of the Universe and advocate of sinners. The centuries old faith in the Assumption of Mary was proclaimed a dogma of faith in 1950 by Pius XII. The Pope's proclamation was that when her earthly life was over Mary was assumed body and soul to heaven.

Blessed Mother bore Jesus in her womb for nine months. As we read in the Bible, "She gave birth to a son, a male child, destined to rule all the nations with an iron rod. Her child was caught up to God and his

throne "(Rev12:5). God became man in Mary's womb. Since Jesus truly is the all-holy God, the Second Person of the Trinity.

Blessed Mother was specially chosen by God, as a pure vessel, a holy temple, and the ark of the covenant. Thus, it is fitting that God would prepare Mary as an immaculate dwelling place, full of grace and not stained by sin, for the God-man.

Catechism of the Catholic Church teach us that "Finally the Immaculate Virgin, preserved free from all stain of original sin, when the course of her earthly life was finished, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen over all things, so that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of lords and conqueror of sin and death"(CCC966). This teaching has a pivotal place in our faith and honoring Blessed mother,

who conceived without original sin. It highlights the specialty of her birth, life, glorious death, assumption and her Queen ship.

Blessed Mother, who is guiding and helping us to reach heaven through her maternal love and protection. Blessed Mother is our beautiful heavenly Mother and Powerful heavenly Mother as well. She splendid with Sun, Moon and stars and with a crown. Blessed Mother is the brightest of all, beautiful of all, and splendor in awe. We read in the Bible: "A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. (Rev12: 1). God adorned her with celestial bodies. She is our trusted Mother, who is alive all the time and prompts us to follow Christ, the Savior of our life.

To monthly mission donors: Thank you for your support!

On behalf of Most Rev. Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus and Monsignor Kieran Harrington, the National Director of the Pontifical Missions in the United States, I would like to thank you for your prayers, sacrifices and financial assistance.

# Upcoming Collection for the Church in Latin America!



The Collection for the Church in Latin America has been a concrete expression of unity and solidarity between Catholics in the United States and those in Latin America and the

Caribbean. Through their contributions, Catholics from across the United States have supported the formation of priests and religious, the training of catechists and other pastoral ministers, the education of children and young people, and relief efforts in the wake of natural disasters. Parishioner support of the Church's efforts in the region through participation in the collection results in both spiritual and material care.

In Haiti, for instance, the Diocese of Jacmel formed more than 600 youths from its 31 parishes in reading, praying, and living the Gospel over the course of a 21-day program. This same spirit of outreach was also at work across Haiti during the COVID-19 outbreak when the Haitian Episcopal Conference initiated a communication and pastoral ministry formation campaign to inform people, especially those in remote or marginalized areas, about the nature of the coronavirus pandemic and how to stop its spread.

On behalf of those who benefit from the Collection for the Church in Latin America, thank you! May our merciful and loving God, through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, bless us always.

## Moral Story / Food for Eternal Life

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**MESSAGE:** The story tells humorously that we need food for our body to live. But as Christians, we need another kind of food for our souls.

And this food is the Body of Christ offered to us at Mass in Holy Communion. More than that, Jesus promises ETERNAL life to whoever receives this food. "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood HAS life everlasting and I shall raise him up on the last day" (Jn 6,5. 1- 55).

### POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTIONS:

#### AUGUST

We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

#### SEPTEMBER

We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.



Sr. Zephрина Mary, FIH, *Missions Director*



Kimberly S. Colston, *Program Coordinator*