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August 2012

Pope Benedict XVI

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August 2012



Aug. 5 - On Food That Does Not Perish: "Jesus, the true bread of life, who satisfies our hunger for meaning, for truth, cannot be 'earned' by human work" – Translated conclusion of the Angelus address (Castel Gandolfo, Aug. 6, 2012, Zenit.org).

... May the Virgin Mary, on the day in which we remember the dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome, sustain us on our journey of faith.

Aug. 12 –On Man's Hunger for Jesus, the True Bread from Heaven: "This bread requires the hunger of the inner man." – Translated conclusion of the Angelus address (Castel Gandolfo, Aug. 12, 2012, Zenit.org).

... Invoking Most Holy Mary, let us ask her to guide us to an encounter with Jesus, so that our friendship with Him may be ever more intense; let us ask her to introduce us into the full communion of love with her Son, the true bread which came down from heaven, so that we may be renewed by Him in the intimate recesses of our being.

Aug. 15--Pope Benedict XVI's Angelus Address on Feast of the Assumption: "Mary's Assumption into Heaven Is the Mystery of the Passover of Christ Fully Realized in Her" -- Translation (Castel Gandolfo, Aug. 16, 2012, Zenit.org).

In the heart of the month of August the Church in the East and the West celebrates the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary Most Holy into heaven. In the Catholic Church, the dogma of the Assumption – as we know – was proclaimed during the Holy Year of 1950 by Venerable Pius XII. The celebration of this mystery of Mary, however, has roots in the faith and worship of the Church's first centuries, in that deep devotion to the Mother of God that progressively developed in the Christian community.

To read the entire article visit: [Mary's Assumption into Heaven..](#)

Aug. 15--Pope's Homily on Solemnity of the Assumption: "Mary Is the Dawn and Splendor of the Church Triumphant" – Translation (Castel Gandolfo, Aug. 16, 2012, Zenit.org).

On November 1, 1950, the Venerable Pope Pius XII proclaimed as dogma that the Virgin Mary "having ended the course of earthly life, was assumed into heavenly glory in soul and body." This truth of faith was known by the Tradition, affirmed by the Fathers of the Church, and it was above all a relevant of the veneration that the Church offered the Mother of Christ. Precisely this element of veneration was the moving force, so to speak, that determined the formulation of this dogma: the dogma appears as act of praise and exaltation with respect to the Holy Virgin. This also emerges text itself of the apostolic constitution, where it is stated that the dogma is proclaimed "to honor the Son, for the glorification of the Mother and to the joy of the whole Church." In this way what was already celebrated in the worship and devotion of the people of God as the highest and most stable glorification of Mary was expressed in dogmatic form: the act of the proclamation of her Assumption was presented almost as a liturgy of faith. And in the Gospel that we heard, Mary herself prophetically speaks some words that point in this direction: "From this day forth, all generations shall call me blessed" (Luke 1:48). It is a prophecy for the whole history of the Church. The "Magnificat," which we find in Luke's Gospel, indicates that the praise of the Holy Virgin, the Mother of God, intimately united to Christ her Son, regards the Church of all times and places. The evangelist's report of these words presupposes that the glorification of Mary was already present at that time and that he saw it as a duty and task of the Christian community for all generations. Mary's words tell us that it is a duty of the Church to recall Our Lady's greatness in faith. This solemnity is, then, an invitation to praise God and to look to Our Lady's greatness since we know who God is by gazing about the faces of those who are His

To read the entire article visit: [Mary is the Dawn and Splendor....](#)

Aug. 19--Pope: Orthodox Patriarch's Visit to Poland an 'Important

Event': Notes Kirill's Meetings with Catholic Bishops – Translated comments (Castel Gandolfo, Aug. 20, 2012, Zenit.org).

...I entrust its fruits to the kindness of Mary, imploring God's blessing...

Aug. 19--On the Meaning of the Multiplication of Loaves and Fish: "Let us allow ourselves once again to be astonished by Christ's words" – Translated conclusion of the Angelus address (Castel Gandolfo, Aug. 20, 2012, Zenit.org).

... May the Virgin Mary, who gave the world the Bread of life, teach us to always live in profound union with Him.

Aug. 20- Papal Message to Envoy for Laity Conference in Africa... If "we see the heart of African peoples, we discover a great wealth of spiritual resources" – Translated conclusion (Sep. 5, 2012, Zenit.org).

... Entrusting the Congress to the solicitous and maternal intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who, as the prayer of your Congress recites, is "Our Lady of Africa, Queen of Peace and Star of the New Evangelization..."

Aug. 22--On the Queenship of Mary: "She is queen precisely by loving us" – Translated address for the General Audience (Castel Gandolfo, Aug. 22, 2012, Zenit.org).

Today marks the liturgical memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, invoked under the title: "Queen." It is a feast of recent institution, even though it is ancient in its origin and devotion: It was established by the Venerable Pius XII in 1954, at the conclusion of the Marian Year; its date was set at May 31 (cf. Lett. Enc. *Ad caeli Reginam*, 11 Octobris 1954: AAS 46 [1954], 625-640). On this occasion, the Pope stated that Mary is Queen above every other creature on account of the elevation of her soul and the excellence of the gifts she received. She never ceases to bestow all the treasures of her love and care on humanity (cf. Speech in honor of Queen Mary, November 1, 1954). Now, following the post-conciliar reform of the liturgical calendar, it has been placed eight days after the Solemnity of the Assumption, in order to emphasize the close bond between Mary's queenship and her glorification in body and soul next to her Son. In the Second Vatican Council's *Constitution on the Church*, we read: "Mary was taken up body and soul

into heavenly glory, and exalted by the Lord as Queen of the universe, that she might be the more fully conformed to her Son" (*Lumen Gentium*, 59)...

To read the entire article visit: [Queenship of Mary](#)

Aug. 26 - On Believing in Jesus, Bread of Life: "In those words is foretold the paschal mystery of Jesus" – Translated conclusion (Castel Gandolfo, Aug. 27, 2012, Zenit.org).

...Let us pray to the Virgin Mary, who helps us to believe in Jesus, as St. Peter did, to be ever more sincere with him and with everyone.