

Fr. Brandon DeToma  
SMA Mass-Assumption of Mary  
8/15/2018

Good morning Saint Mary Academy! I would like to welcome you once again to this new school year and to the first school mass of the year. My name is Fr. Brandon and I am the new Associate Pastor for both St. Bernadette Church and Saint Mary Academy. I've been here for almost two months now and I am really, really excited to be your new priest.

So can you guys help me out...I was wondering what you guys did over the summer...someone raise their hand and tell me what was your favorite memory of the summer? It can be hanging outside, it could be learning how to swim, maybe learning how to go off the high dive?

### **GET EXAMPLES FROM THE CHILDREN...**

Today we honor a very special lady in our church...do you know what her name is? Raise your hand if you know her name. Her name is Mary. Does anyone remember who she was or what she did? Someone give me the downlow on Mary.

### **GET EXAMPLES FROM THE CHILDREN...**

At this Mass this morning we honor her, not only because of who she was and what she did but also for what her son did for her. As Catholic Christians, we believe that when

Mary died, her body and her soul was “assumed” into heaven. What that means is that Mary was raised from the Earth into Heaven. How cool is that? Everyone close your eyes for a moment. Think about a hot air balloon, imagine that balloon raising from the ground and soaring higher and higher all the way to heaven.

Why did Jesus take Mary’s body into heaven? Well one of the Popes declared in 1950 that it makes sense that her body should be raised to heaven and not be allowed to stay in the ground because Mary did not have any original sin. That is why we celebrate Mary and that is why today is called the Feast of the Assumption.

So you may be asking what does this day have to do with me? All that happened a long time ago. I think it is super important because it is a good example of how we should treat our own mother. Jesus allowed Mary to go to heaven in a special way to show his love and respect for her. This morning, on the second day of school, I’m going to give everyone some homework...including your teachers. I want everyone to do something really, really nice for your mom when you see her today. We all want to be like Jesus and he was nice to his mother so we too should be nice our mother. That is the whole point of today’s celebration. And if you mom asks you why you just did that kind act

for her...just smile at her and say “I’m trying to be like Jesus. I love you Mom.”