# RESPECT LIFE



Prayer Guide | AUGUST 2021

### **INTERCEDE**



# **PRAY**

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

## REFLECT

This month, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, marking her entrance into heavenly glory, both body and soul. Mary's Assumption into heaven reminds us that life on earth is a pilgrimage to our ultimate destination. We prepare in hope for our own passage into eternal life by the choices we make today.

Throughout her life, the Blessed Mother continually chose to go deeper into her relationship with God. She modeled how to value and respect His precious gift of human life from the moment of conception to its natural end. In the Annunciation, through her "yes," Mary bore witness to the humanity of unborn children as she conceived and carried the Christ child in her womb. After the Annunciation, having learned that her cousin Elizabeth was with child, she went in haste to her aid.

Our Blessed Mother shows us how the way we live today can prepare us, in hope, to also enter into heavenly glory at the end of our lives.

Are we open to God's precious gift of new life? How do we support expectant mothers and parents of young children? Do we prioritize love and care for loved ones who are ill or aging?

# ACT (choose one)

- Offer Pope Francis' "<u>Prayer to the Blessed Virgin</u> Mary."
- Whom do you know who could use a little extra care and support right now? Make some time for them this week.
- Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for this month's intention.

### ONE STEP FURTHER

While the end of our lives may seem far off, none of us know when God will call us home. Learn more about how we can prepare for our entrance into eternal life, or support a loved one through this transition, in "Catholic Considerations for Our Earthly Passing."