



## August 2015 Youth Newsletter

### Announcements:

Faith Formation Registrations are due as soon as possible!!!! Please stop and complete this process or call Lucy for details at 282-3321. Classes begin Wed Sept 9.

### God's Super Hero: St. Monica: Feast Day—August 27

St. Monica was born in Tagaste in northern Africa and she was the mother of St. Augustine. She was raised in a strong Christian family. Her faith was a great help to her when she was given over to marriage to a man named Patricius, who was a pagan (a person who does not believe in God). She had three sons.

Patricius admired his wife, but he made her suffer because he had a bad temper. Even so, Monica was a good wife and never complained about him to anyone. Instead she prayed for him fervently. God heard her prayer and Patricius finally agreed to become a Christian. He was baptized on his death bed.

St. Monica's joy over the holy way in which her husband died soon changed to great sorrow. She found out that her 19 year old son Augustine was living a bad, selfish life. He had turned away from God, his faith, turned toward a false religion, and formed wicked habits.

Monica prayed and cried and did much penance for her son. She begged priests to talk to him. Augustine was brilliant and very stubborn. He did not want to give up his sinful life, but Monica would not give up either.

She followed Augustine to Rome and later to Milan where he had become a teacher. She never stopped praying that Augustine would change his ways and come back to God.

What love and faith she had! After years of prayer and tears, her reward came when Augustine did repent and come back to his faith in God. He not only became a good Christian, as she had prayed for, Augustine also became a priest, a bishop, a great writer and a very famous saint.

St. Monica died in Ostia, outside of Rome, in the year 387, with her son Augustine at her bedside.

St. Monica is the patron saint of parents, mothers.

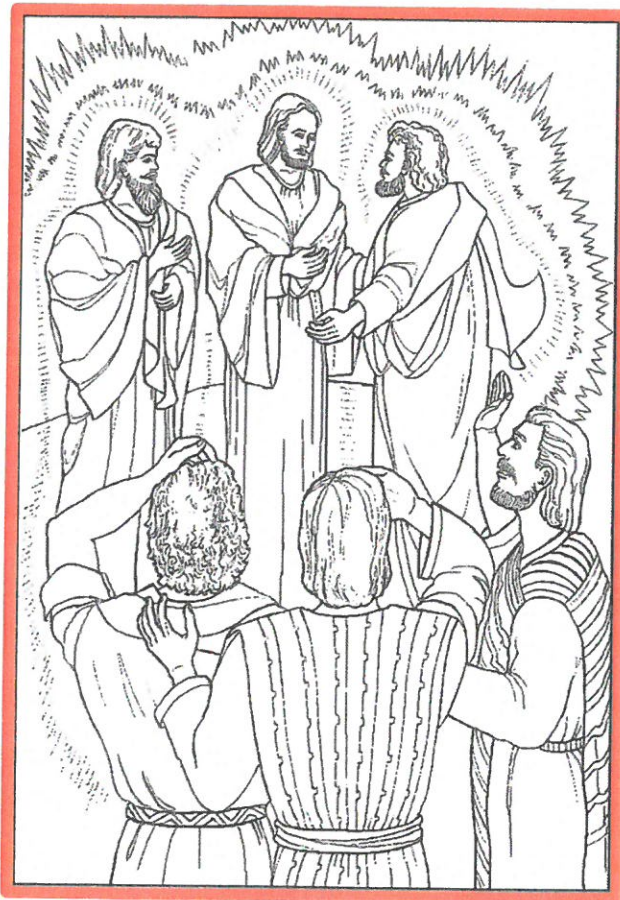


**The Transfiguration of our Lord:** August 6

The word transfiguration means to change. Here we see Jesus taking three of his close disciples Peter, James, and John, up on a high mountain by themselves. While they were there, Jesus allowed them to see something very special. He was transfigured, which meant he went through a change in form. Jesus changed to reveal his glory to his disciples. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as the light. For the disciples it must have been almost blinding for them to look upon him. Jesus, who was God in the human flesh, was allowing his glory as God to radiate from within in such a way that He changed on the outside to the majestic, shining, glorious King that He is. Jesus wanted his disciples to see this happen because He wanted to strengthen their faith in Him. He knew he was going to die and return to heaven so He wanted them to have this precious moment to remember and to look back on forever and to give them courage during the difficult times to come without Him. One day we will see Jesus in all His glory, just as the disciples did.

Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus and were talking with him. These two men were great men of the Old Testament who testified that Jesus would come as the Messiah, our Savior.

Color the picture:



**The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary:** August 15

On this feast of Mary we celebrate a special favor that God gave to Mary, our Mother.

The Assumption means that Mary was taken up into the glory of heaven not only with her soul, but also with her body. Jesus, the Son of God was born from Mary's pure womb. So when Mary died, God the Father and Jesus would not let the body of the Mother of God be spoiled. This was her reward for her love of God and her years of faithful prayers and suffering.

Now Mary is in heaven. She is the queen of heaven and earth. She is the mother of Jesus' Church and queen of apostles. Every time Mary asks Jesus to give us graces, he listens to her request.

Once Jesus returns, our bodies will be resurrected from the dead and we too can go to heaven with our bodies.

Our bodies will be perfect. They will not suffer illness anymore. They will be beautiful and splendid!

If we use our bodies now to do good, our bodies will share in our heavenly reward.

As we celebrate the feast of the Assumption, we can ask our Blessed Mother Mary to guide, protect, and care for us.

Color the picture

