



Vox Populi

22 August 2024

Today, we celebrate the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. As Queen, Mother Mary intercedes on our behalf from her heavenly throne.

Our Lady holds a royal status in Heaven, derived from her Son's kingship. This belief draws on biblical parallels from the Old Testament, where the king's mother often held a position of honour and influence in ancient Hebrew monarchy (1 Kings 2:19).

On 11 October 1954, four years after the proclamation of the Assumption, Pope Pius XII instituted the memorial of the Queenship of Mary with his encyclical letter, *Ad Caeli Reginam* (The Queen of Heaven).

Entrusted with the grace of God, Mary is our protectress, our refuge and our hope. Her affection is perfect and her motherly love unmatched.

We can turn to her, seek her prayers, and rely upon her intercession.

As we look forward to Deacon Hien Vu's Ordination into the Order of the Priesthood on Saturday, 24 August, at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara, let us ask our heavenly Mother to intercede and guide Hien on his journey of faith and service as we all celebrate this blessing in our Diocese