



Liturgy Cycle C

The Assumption Of The Blessed Virgin Mary, 15th August

Introduction

Today the whole Church honours the humble maid of Nazareth through whom the world received its Saviour. We rejoice that she shares in the glory of her son in heaven. She is our Mother. From heaven she watches over us. She wants us to be obedient and loving children of the Father. But, alas, we often forget our dignity, and do our own will rather than the will of God.

First Reading (Rev 11: 19; 12: 1-6, 10)

As the Mother of the Redeemer, Mary was at the very heart of the struggle between good and evil, between God and Satan. However, God took special care of her.

Second Reading (1 Cor 15:20-26)

Christ is the new Adam who undoes all the harm done by the old Adam. (Mary is the new Eve, who by her obedience undoes the harm done by the first Eve.)

Gospel (Luke 1: 36-56)

Mary had no doubt about the importance of the role she had been given by God. However, she takes no credit for herself but gives all the glory to God.

Prayer Of The Faithful

Mary shares fully in her Son's victory over sin and death. We are still straining the state to which she has attained. Let us pray that we may persevere.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That all Christians may see heaven as their final goal and come to attain it through the prayers of Mary and the grace of her Son. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

For all in positions of power and authority: that they may not seek their own glory but serve those under them humbly as Mary served. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.



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For all mothers, but especially for those who have witnessed the tragic death of one or more of their children: that they may experience the power of Mary's intercession. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

That we may strive after holiness of life by seeking to do at all times, not our own will, but the will of God. Lord, hear us.

R: Lord, graciously hear us.

Communion Reflection

(The following is adapted from an all-old Hebrew prayer)

**For each of us life is a journey.
Birth is the beginning of this journey,
and death is not the end but the destination.**

**It is the journey that takes us
from youth to age,
from innocence to awareness,
from ignorance to knowledge,
from foolishness to wisdom,
from weakness to strength and often back again,
from offence to forgiveness,
from loneliness to friendship,
from pain to compassion,
from fear to faith,
from defeat to victory and from victory to defeat,
until, looking backward or ahead,
we see that victory does not lie at some high point along the way,
but in having made the journey, stage by stage.**

**Mary our mother,
you now share fully in the glory of your risen Son.
Guide us, who are still on the road of life,
until we too come to share that same glory.**