

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 15 AUGUST 2021

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Year B



Can you see any statues or pictures of Mary in church?



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

A great sign appeared in heaven:
a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet,
and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who assumed the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the Mother
of your Son,
body and soul into heavenly glory,
grant, we pray,
that, always attentive to the things that are above,
we may merit to be sharers of her glory...



FIRST READING APOCALYPSE 11:19; 12:1-6. 10

This vision expresses Christian beliefs in code. The scene is painted of a huge battle taking place between good and evil. A woman in the skies is giving birth while a dragon is waiting to destroy her baby as soon

as it is born. Thankfully the baby boy, born to rule over all nations, is taken straight to God and his throne. Even in this time of danger God has been there from the start, creating a safe place for the woman and her baby.

We say these words or sing a hymn as the priest approaches the altar.

We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

A woman is central in the fight between good and evil in this vision.

The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by using these words.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Jesus shows us that good will always win over evil.



We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 44

On your right stands the queen,
in garments of gold.



SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-26

Jesus' death and resurrection show us that good can come out of evil. Love will always win and Jesus' resurrection gives us all life. Human beings have brought pain and suffering into the world by ignoring

what God wants for us. Jesus shows us the way back to God. Everyone who follows Jesus will enjoy life forever with him. Jesus has power even over death and is proof that good will always win over evil.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Mary has been taken up into heaven;
all the choirs of angels are rejoicing.
Alleluia!



DO YOU KNOW?

Mary's song of praise in today's Gospel is called the **Magnificat**, from the Latin in the first line. The Magnificat has a special place in our Church. It is said every evening as part of the **Divine Office**, the prayer of the Church.



THINK

The **Magnificat** is very like the song that Hannah sings when she finds out she is expecting Samuel. Both women are **thankful to God for their babies**. What makes you want to **sing and shout for joy**? You may have a favourite song that you listen to or sing to yourself when you are feeling really happy - or perhaps you could make one up.



GOSPEL LUKE 1:39-56

The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Luke.

As soon as Mary knows she is expecting a baby, she rushes to visit her cousin Elizabeth. Elizabeth is delighted to see Mary and she knows something very special is happening. Mary's baby is blessed and Mary herself is blessed because she has believed the promise

made by God. Mary's faith in God has brought her great happiness and she sings her own song of joy, praising God. God's saving power is coming into the world. Mary's baby will turn the world upside down. In God's kingdom everyone is equal and there will be no more hunger or injustice.

STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. What does the priest or deacon do to the book when he has finished reading the Gospel?



PRAY

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord."

Thank God for all the blessings in your life. Sing and shout for joy!



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray that we all will help to make God's kingdom real on earth. Help us to treat other people fairly and work to stop hunger in the world. Lord, hear my prayer.

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. Here is a prayer you could say privately.



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about a time this week when you were worried or anxious and then think about a time when you were happy and full of joy.

Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us. What can you give special thanks for today?

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for giving me hope that love and goodness will always be more powerful than evil. Help me to trust in your love. Amen.



ΙΧΘΥΣ

is the Greek word for "fish" and was used in the catacombs as a sign for early Christians. It is made up from the first letter of five Greek titles for the Lord:

- I (Jesus)
- X (Christos)
- Θ (Theou/God's)
- Υ (Uios/Son)
- Σ (Soter/Saviour)

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We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.

