

# The Eucharist

15 August 2021 ✦ THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



**W**e celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Mary today. All glory and honour we pay to Mary arise ultimately from the fact that she was chosen to be the Mother of God. The body that housed the Son of God could not be subjected to corruption. That is why the Church believes Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven. Mary's assumption is a symbol of our own destiny. Our final and eternal future is with God. Mary inspires and challenges us to place our faith and trust in her Son just as she did.

*Almighty God raised the sinless Virgin Mary, mother of his Son, body and soul into the glory of heaven.*



## THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

### Entrance Antiphon

*Vigil Mass:*

**Glorious things are spoken of you, O Mary, who today were exalted above the choirs of Angels into eternal triumph with Christ.**

*Mass during the Day:*

*(Cf. Apoc 12:1)*

**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.**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And with your spirit.**

### Penitential Act

Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

*A brief pause for silence follows.*

**I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,**

*And, striking their breast, they say:*

**through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

**Amen.**

**Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.**

### Gloria

**Gloria to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.**

**We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Collect

*Vigil Mass:*

O God, who, looking on the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary, raised her to this grace, that your Only Begotten Son was born of her according to the flesh and that she was crowned this day with surpassing glory, grant through her prayers, that, saved by the mystery of your redemption, we may merit to be exalted by you on high.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Mass during the Day:*

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.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### VIGIL MASS

**FIRST READING** (1 Chr 15:3-4.15-16;16:1-2)

A reading from the first book of Chronicles.

David gathered all Israel together in Jerusalem to bring the ark of God up to the place he had prepared for it. David called together the sons of Aaron and the sons of Levi. And the Levites carried the ark of God with the shafts on their shoulders, as Moses had ordered in accordance with the word of the Lord.

David then told the heads of the Levites to assign duties for their kinsmen as cantors, with their various instruments of music, harps and lyres and cymbals, to play joyful tunes. They brought the ark of God in and put it inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and they offered holocausts before God, and communion sacrifices. And when David had finished offering holocausts and communion sacrifices, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Ps 131:6-7.9-10.13-14)

**R** **Go up, Lord, to the place of your rest,  
you and the ark of your strength.**

1. At Ephrata we heard of the ark;  
we found it in the plains of Yearim.  
'Let us go to the place of his dwelling;  
let us go to kneel at his footstool.' **R**
2. Your priests shall be clothed with holiness:  
your faithful shall ring out their joy.  
For the sake of David your servant  
do not reject your anointed. **R**
3. For the Lord has chosen Zion;  
he has desired it for his dwelling:  
'This is my resting-place for ever,  
here have I chosen to live.' **R**

**SECOND READING** (1 Cor 15:54-57)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.  
When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Lk 11:28)

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
Happy are those  
who hear the word of God, and keep it.  
Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL

(Lk 11:27-28)



The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel  
according to Luke. **Glorify to you, O Lord.**

As Jesus was speaking, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said, 'Happy the womb that bore you and the breasts you sucked!' But he replied, 'Still happier those who hear the word of God and keep it!'

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### MASS DURING THE DAY

**FIRST READING** (Apoc 11:19; 12:1-6.10)

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened, and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it.

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready. Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (Ps 44:10-12.16)

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

1. The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.  
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.  
Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words:  
forget your own people and your father's house. **R**
2. So will the king desire your beauty:  
he is your lord, pay homage to him.  
They are escorted amid gladness and joy;  
they pass within the palace of the king. **R**

**SECOND READING** (1 Cor 15:20-26)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.  
Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all die in Adam, so all will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when

he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Mary has been taken up into heaven;  
all the choirs of angels are rejoicing.**

**Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL

(Lk 1:39-56)



The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? From the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.' And Mary said:

'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord  
and my spirit exults in God my saviour;  
because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.  
Yes, from this day forward all generations  
will call me blessed,

for the Almighty has done great things for me.  
Holy is his name,  
and his mercy reaches from age to age  
for those who fear him.

He has shown the power of his arm,  
he has routed the proud of heart.  
He has pulled down princes from their thrones  
and exalted the lowly.

The hungry he has filled with good things,  
the rich sent empty away.

He has come to the help of Israel his servant,  
mindful of his mercy

– according to the promise he made to our ancestors –  
of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for  
ever.'

Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### Profession of Faith

(Nicene Creed)

**I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,**

*At the words that follow, up to and including  
and became man, all bow.*

**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*The priest introduces the* Prayer of the Faithful.

## THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), ...

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good  
and the good of all his holy Church.**

### Prayer over the Offerings

*Vigil Mass:*

Receive, we pray, O Lord,  
the sacrifice of conciliation and praise,  
which we celebrate on the Assumption  
of the holy Mother of God,  
that it may lead us to your pardon  
and confirm us in perpetual thanksgiving.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Mass during the Day:*

May this oblation, our tribute of homage,  
rise up to you, O Lord,  
and, through the intercession  
of the most Blessed Virgin Mary,  
whom you assumed into heaven,  
may our hearts, aflame with the fire of love,  
constantly long for you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### Eucharistic Prayer

*(Preface: The Glory of Mary assumed into Heaven)*

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For today the Virgin Mother of God was assumed into heaven as the beginning and image of your Church's coming to perfection and a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people; rightly you would not allow her to see the corruption of the tomb, since from her own body she marvellously brought forth your incarnate Son, the Author of all life.

And so, in company with the choirs of Angels, we praise you, and with joy we proclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### **After the Consecration**

The Mystery of Faith.

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,  
we proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
until you come again.**

## THE COMMUNION RITE

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, ...

**For the kingdom,  
the power and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.**

Lord Jesus Christ, ...

**Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And with your spirit.**

*The priest may invite the people to exchange a sign of peace and Christian fellowship. As the priest breaks the consecrated Host the following is sung or said:*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.**

*Showing the Eucharist to the people, the priest says:*

Behold the Lamb of God,

behold him who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

### **Communion Antiphon**

*Vigil Mass:*

*(Cf. Lk 11:27)*

**Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary,  
which bore the Son of the eternal Father.**

*Mass during the Day:*

*(Lk 1:48-49)*

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

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Vigil Mass:*

Having partaken of this heavenly table, we beseech your mercy, Lord our God, that we, who honour the Assumption of the Mother of God, may be freed from every threat of harm. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*Mass during the Day:*

Having received the Sacrament of salvation, we ask you to grant, O Lord, that, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom you assumed into heaven, we may be brought to the glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

May God, who through the childbearing of the Blessed Virgin Mary

willed in his great kindness to redeem the human race, be pleased to enrich you with his blessing.

**Amen.**

May you know always and everywhere the protection of her,

through whom you have been found worthy to receive the author of life.

**Amen.**

May you, who have devoutly gathered on this day, carry away with you the gifts of spiritual joys and heavenly rewards.

**Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

**Amen.**

Go forth, the Mass is ended.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Personal Prayer**

Faith is a gift of God and the root of every good. O Mary, obtain for us too, a lively, firm and active faith – faith which saves and produces saints, faith in the Church, in the Gospel, in eternal life. May we meditate on the words of your blessed Son. May the Gospel be preached to everyone. Amen.