

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Year A – 16th August 2020

Preparation

- If possible arrange candles, a crucifix and a Gospel or Sunday Missal on a table.
- If you have or can locate online a picture of Our Lady, or if you have a picture or statue of Our Lady have it available for this week's reflection.

Introduction

Today is a special day. It is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary- the day when Our Lady was taken up to Heaven body and Soul.

Penitential Act

Ask the children to think about how they have behaved in the past week. Ask them if they have always been kind and helpful to others, obedient to their parents, listened to their teachers etc.

Lead the children in singing the "Sorry Song".

We are sorry,
Truly sorry,
Heal us Lord,
In Your love,
Help us to do better, Help us to be kinder.

Forgive us,

Forgive us.

Gloria (Sung)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to His people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
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 the Father.

Amen

All stand to welcome the Gospel singing the **Gospel Acclamation:**

(Sing to the tune of 'If You're Happy and You Know It')

Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord,

As we listen to the story, let us praise him for his glory.

Alleluia, alleluia, praise the Lord.

Gospel

“A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke”.

Explain and demonstrate – make three crosses: one on your forehead, one on your lips and one on your heart (in this way we think God's word, speak God's word and keep God's word in our hearts) **as we say together “Glory to You, O Lord.”**

Luke 1:39-56, refer to:

<https://cafod.org.uk>Education>Children'sLiturgy>

Read the Gospel aloud to the children. At the end say: **“The Gospel of the Lord”**.

All reply: **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ**". Ask everyone to be seated.

Lead a Discussion on the Gospel

Ask the children if they can remember what is being celebrated today?

The Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, when Our Lady was taken up to Heaven both body and soul.

What made Mary so special that she was taken to Heaven both body and Soul?

Mary was born and remained pure and sinless (without the stain of original sin which we were all born with since Adam and Eve disobeyed God).

She is the Mother of Jesus. She did everything God asked her to and gave birth to the Saviour of the world.

In today's Gospel we hear that Mary went to visit someone, can you remember who?

She visited her cousin Elizabeth. Elizabeth was expecting a baby too- John the Baptist.

What did Elizabeth say to Mary? What prayer does this remind you of?

Elizabeth said the words which we now use for the first part of the prayer the "Hail Mary."

When Mary was visiting Elizabeth she gave praise to the Lord. Can you remember some of the things she said?

Mary said "I sing with praise the greatness of the Lord." Mary praises God for all the things he had done for her. She praises God for His love and mercy and especially for his love shown to the poor and humble.

Mary was poor and humble, not rich and proud and powerful.

Mary also praises God for feeding the hungry.

We are reminded that God has a special love for those that the world thinks unimportant: the poor, the humble, the hungry, the homeless and all those that the world may ignore are especially loved by God.

We can please God by showing love and kindness to the poor, sharing what we have and helping those in need as best we can.

Remember to think of those around you, to be kind and share and look after others this week.

Prayers of the Faithful (optional/ time dependent)

You may wish to prepare some of these yourselves or ask the children for their prayers. Here are some suggestions for today:

Dear God,

Thank you for your love and mercy.
Help us to always show your love to others through our words and actions.

Lord, in Your mercy.

All reply: **“Hear our prayer.”**

Closing Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, on this special Feast we thank you for the gift Our Lady. She is a perfect example to us by the way she answered your call in her life. May we always strive to live as she did. We turn to her to intercede for us as together we say;

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners now
and at the hour of our death.

Amen