

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Yr B) – 15th Aug 2021

Preparation

- If possible arrange candles, crucifix and Gospel/ Sunday Missal on a table.

Introduction

Today is a special feast day when we remember how Our Lady, was taken straight to Heaven at the end of her life here on earth.

As we gather at home today, we thank God for our families and for this time we spend together in prayer. We do this today, knowing that God is with us, helping us always especially when times are difficult.

Make the Sign of the Cross – a sign of the love God has for us. An adult lights the candles.

Penitential Act

Adults and children think about how you have behaved in the past week. Especially when our daily routines are different just now. Have you shown patience to those around you? Have you been kind and helpful even when you don't feel like it and it's difficult?

Lead the children in singing the "Sorry Song" – to the tune of Frère Jacques

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 (1)

Gospel of Luke 1:39-56

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,
we speak God's word and we keep God's word in our hearts as we say
together:

“Glory to You Oh Lord”

Use this link to read the Gospel if you don't have a Sunday Missal

<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”**

Lead a discussion on the Gospel

What happened in the Gospel today?

Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth who was also expecting a baby.

What happened when Elizabeth heard Mary's voice?

Elizabeth's baby inside her jumped for joy and she told Mary that of all women she was the "most blessed."

Who was Mary's baby?

That's right - Mary's baby was Jesus- the Son of God! This is why Elizabeth said Mary was blessed.

Discuss with the children that God made Mary special from the very beginning of her life. Explain that Mary was born sinless and remained this way – completely pure and holy throughout her life.

Ask the children in what ways was Mary good?

Mary always said "yes" to God. She said " yes" when the angel Gabriel sent by God asked her if she would be the Mother of Jesus.

She was a caring Mother and a good wife to Saint Joseph.

She was prayerful. She was kind and brave undertaking a long journey to visit Elizabeth when she herself was pregnant.

Mary did not have an easy life. She was not rich and she did not own lots of things.

Explain that every other person is born with “original sin” from the sin of Adam and Eve when they disobeyed God. This is cleansed from our soul when we are Baptised. Unlike Mary we all still have a tendency to sin and we can pray to Mary our Mother in Heaven to help us to be good and pleasing to Jesus.

Explain to the children that it’s because Mary was sinless that she did not suffer death as we do. The meaning of the Assumption is that Mary was taken up to Heaven body and soul at the end of her life.

Ask the children if they know what prayer comes from Elizabeth’s words to Mary in today’s Gospel.

That’s right- The Hail Mary!

Let’s pray together the Hail Mary:

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.

Prayers of the Faithful

Lord Jesus,

Thank you for giving us your Mother Mary to be our Mother in Heaven.
Help us to say “yes” to You and try to live good lives as Mary did.

Lord in Your Mercy -Hear our Prayer

Lord Jesus,

Help us to be prayerful as Mary was prayerful and to love You more every day.

Lord in Your Mercy -Hear our Prayer

We now pray together saying:

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.

Amen.

We can also say the following prayer as a Spiritual Communion:

Spiritual Communion (Prayer of St. Alphonsus Liguori)

My Jesus,
I believe You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive You Sacramentally,
Come at least spiritually into my soul,
I embrace You as if You were already come,
and I unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, Help us to love You as we should and to show Your love to
others- especially to those who are poor or sick or lonely. Amen.

References

1. The Complete Children's Liturgy Book. Katie Thomson, published by
Kevin Mayhew. P196.