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13th August 2017

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf. Rev 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.

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. 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.

FIRST READING: Apocalypse 11:19,12:1-6,10

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it. Then came flashes of lightning, peals of thunder and an earthquake, and violent hail. 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, for her to be looked after in the twelve hundred and sixty days. 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, now that the persecutor, who accused our brothers day and night before our God, has been brought down.'

The word of the Lord Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 44:10-12,16

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

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.

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.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26

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 men die in Adam, so all men 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 to heaven; all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-56

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? For 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.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Lk 1: 48-49

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.

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Living the Word

Wisdom 12.13, 16-19

There is a wonderful acceptance by the author in these words - a recognition that God is loving to all his people, and that he has nothing to prove in terms of his righteousness. This is not to say that the author does not recognise that God proves his power on occasion, but here is a classic example of a believer who knows that God need not be put to the test. This passage also speaks so closely to us about the importance of repentance, and of the sacrament reconciliation. Through it we see the glorious mercy of God and are reminded of our hope in the life to come. But we're also warned that as we know God, we must honour him as the author does.

Elements of the Mass

Liturgical Language

Liturgical language includes those words which we use primarily in the worship of God. So for example most simply this would includes the words we use to speak of God (Father, Lord, Creator), the words we use for Jesus (Messiah, Son of God, Son of David), and the words we use for the Holy Spirit (Paraclete, Sustainer). These words, which might be used in normal conversation, take on a new meaning when placed together in the context of the liturgy, and they speak of God. In liturgical language we always refer to God as 'He', which expresses how God has revealed himself to us through Scripture and Tradition. We know there is deeper meaning but this is the vocabulary we are given, by God himself, to use. There are other words in the liturgy which we might find harder to understand. An example of this might be the word in the Creed, 'consubstantial'. This literally means 'of one substance' and speaks of the mystery of the Trinity, and that Jesus and the Holy Spirit are of one substance with God the Father. But if you find a word in the liturgy that you don't understand, don't be afraid to ask your priest to explain it to you. Liturgical language is there to help you worship God and to help us all to deepen our understanding of our faith.

PRAYERS

THE CHURCH:

For Bishops

For Christian Unity

For Monastic Communities

OUR NATION & THE WORLD:

For victims of War and Natural disasters For Oxfam For Water Aid

LOCAL COMMUNITY:

For Health Visitors For Care Workers

For the Saint Bartholomew Apostolic District

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From the Fathers

'Faith is a certain image of etemity; all things are present to it, things past and things to come are all so before the eyes of faith, that he in whose eye is enkindled beholds heaven as present, and sees how blessed a thing it is to die in God's favour and to be chimed to our grave with the music of a good conscience. Faith converses with the angels... every man that hath this grace is as certain that there are glories for him if he perseveres in duty.'

From Works, by Jeremy Taylor

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OPENING HYMN: 309

PSALM: 132. Memento, Domine

LORD, remember David: and all his trouble;

- 2. How he sware unto the Lord: and vowed a vow unto the Almighty God of Jacob;
- 3. I will not come within the tabernacle of mine house : nor climb up into my bed;
- 4. I will not suffer mine eyes to sleep, nor mine eye-lids to slumber: neither the temples of my head to take any rest:
- 5. Until I find out a place for the temple of the Lord : an habitation for the mighty God of Jacob.
- 6. Lo, we heard of the same at Ephrata: and found it in the wood.
- 7. We will go into his tabernacle: and fall low on our knees before his footstool.
- 8. Arise, O Lord, into thy resting-place: thou, and the ark of thy strength.
- 9. Let thy priests be clothed with righteousness: and let thy saints sing with joyfulness.
- 10. For thy servant David's sake: turn not away the presence of thine Anointed.
- 11. The Lord hath made a faithful oath unto David: and he shall not shrink from it;
- 12. Of the fruit of thy body: shall I set upon thy seat.
- 13. If thy children will keep my covenant, and my testimonies that I shall learn them: their children also shall sit upon thy seat for evermore.
- 14. For the Lord hath chosen Sion to be an habitation for himself: he hath longed for her.
- 15. This shall be my rest for ever: here will I dwell, for I have a delight therein.
- 16. I will bless her victuals with increase : and will satisfy her poor with bread.
- 17. I will deck her priests with health: and her saints shall rejoice and sing.
- 18. There shall I make the horn of David to flourish: I have ordained a lantern for mine Anointed.
- 19. As for his enemies, I shall clothe them with shame: but upon himself shall his crown flourish.

Please stand Bow Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. *Rise* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Song of Solomon 2:1-7

I am a rose* of Sharon, a lily of the valleys.

As a lily among brambles, so is my love among maidens. As an apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among young men. With great delight I sat in his shadow, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and his intention towards me was love. Sustain me with raisins, refresh me with apples; for I am faint with love. O that his left hand were under my head, and that his right hand embraced me! I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, by the gazelles or the wild does: do not stir up or awaken love until it is ready!

Here ends the first lesson.

SECOND READING: Acts 1:6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up. and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying. Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of* James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers. Here ends the second lesson.

nere enus ure secona lesso

COLLECT

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OFFICE HYMN: 310

HYMN: 311

Amen.

OFFERTORY HYMN: 7