

THE SOLEMNITY OF ASSUMPTION:15th August 2021:

The Solemnity of the Assumption technically concludes the earthly life story of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It holds for us great hope and promise of glorification after our earthly journey. The personality and participation of Mary has brought lots of controversies in religious circles, Catholics, Protestants, and Muslims. There is always confusion of **Assumption and Ascension, honoring and adoring Mary**. Jesus, as the third person of Trinity, ascended into heaven because of His **Divine power**. **Mary was assumed into heaven** in honor of being the mother of Jesus.

We cannot talk of Jesus in His humanity without talking of Mary. Mary participated in Jesus' life **before, during, and after**. She was part and parcel of Jesus life:

-She was with Him from the beginning.

-Beside him in all His joyful and sorrowful moments.

-She brought Him into the world. She took Him to Egypt for refuge.

-She brought him back to Nazareth and took care of him as he grew.

-She sought him in sorrow when He was lost. She feared for his safety and sanity as he grew up.

-She accompanied Him on Calvary until he died.

Mary shared deeply and closely in Jesus' life and holds a unique special place in the **history of our salvation**. She now **intercedes for humanity as she fully shares the resurrection in her Assumption**. "She is the first fruit of the resurrection," St. Paul is telling us, "The new Eve." ***"I am the handmaid of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your will"***. That is total submission to the will of God.

She was not selfish to share and do the will of God and this can be seen clearly by her **visitation to Elizabeth and sharing the good news**.

Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit after the greeting.

A cry of unrestrained **joy in praising God** erupted through Mary and she proclaimed the Magnificat. This is a radical song of **praise** and

greatness to Almighty God. ***“My soul proclaims-the greatness of the lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.”*** Can we today accompany our Mother Mary in echoing the same proclamation in our society and in our troubled world ?

-Can we together ask her intercession during this pandemic Delta wave which is still claiming many lives, worries, panic, and fear?

-May Mother Mary give more insight to scientists, doctors, care givers, nurses, and health workers who are spending sleepless nights in search of a cure and care of the affected and infected. Through her powerful intercession may the **hungry** and starved find **food and water** through the generosity of those who have. May she enlighten the desire to **repair our broken world of selfishness, corruption, injustices, and unfair political systems** which have caused much suffering to innocent people, especially children.

May Mary, Mother of Mercy, intercede for the dead through her ASSUMPTION that they may find mercy from our loving God.

May the Lord through the intercession of Mary soften our hearts with his grace, warm them with His Love and let His Word take root in our hearts and bear fruit in our lives as we do His will as Mary did. AMEN.