

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

*How does the Assumption of
Our Blessed Mother help our journey?*

“But now let us ask ourselves: how does the Assumption of Mary help our journey? The first answer is: in the Assumption we see that in God there is room for man, God himself is the house with many rooms of which Jesus speaks (cf. Jn 14:2); God is man’s home, in God there is God’s space. And Mary, by uniting herself, united to God, does not distance herself from us. She does not go to an unknown galaxy, but whoever approaches God comes closer, for God is close to us all; and Mary, united to God, shares in the presence of God, is so close to us, to each one of us.

There is a beautiful passage from St Gregory the Great on St. Benedict that we can apply to Mary too. St. Gregory the Great says that the heart of St. Benedict expanded so much that all creation could enter it. This is even truer of Mary: Mary, totally united to God, has a heart so big that all creation can enter this heart, and the ex-votos in every part of the earth show it. Mary is close, she can hear us, she can help us, she is close to everyone of us. In God there is room for man and God is close, and Mary, united to God, is very close; she has a heart as great as the heart of God.

But there is also another aspect: in God not only is there room for man; in man there is room for God. This too we see in Mary, the Holy Ark who bears the presence of God. In us there is space for God and this presence of God in us, so important for bringing light to the world with all its sadness, with its problems. This presence is realized in the faith: in the faith we open the doors of our existence so that God may enter us, so that God can be the power that gives life and a path to our existence. In us there is room, let us open ourselves like Mary opened herself, saying: “Let your will be done, I am the servant of the Lord”. By opening ourselves to God, we lose nothing. On the contrary, our life becomes rich and great.

—From the Homily of Pope Benedict XVI,
August 15, 2012



*Let us rejoice in the Lord and
celebrate this feast in honor of
the Virgin Mary, at whose
assumption the angels rejoice,
giving praise to the Son of God!*

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14
5:30pm (Vigil)

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15
7am, 8am (Archbishop Wilton
Gregory, celebrant), 12:10pm,
5:30pm, and 7pm
(en español)

**Please note that there will be
no 11am Mass or Confessions
on August 15.**

“The Most Blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven, where she already shares in the glory of her Son’s Resurrection, anticipating the resurrection of all members of his Body.”

—*Catechism of the Catholic
Church* 974.