

16<sup>th</sup> August 2020

## **PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, MENDLESHAM**

### **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

*Please keep silence from 9.25 to prepare for Mass*

**THEME:** Mary, the pattern and model of the Church was taken up into Heaven to share God's glory. We who are left as the Pilgrim Church today celebrate her feast and we look forward with hope to that day of our own Assumption – when we share in the resurrection of the Lord.

#### **Blessing of 'Easter' Candles for the Departed.**

#### **PENITENTIAL RITE**

Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord, for not expressing Christ in our parish, place of work and our homes. Lord have mercy  
People: LORD HAVE MERCY  
Celebrant: Forgive us, Lord for not rejoicing enough in God our Saviour. Christ have mercy  
People: CHRIST HAVE MERCY  
Celebrant: Forgive us for not seeing the relevance of Mary's assumption in our lives. Lord have mercy  
People: LORD HAVE MERCY

Celebrant proclaims God's forgiveness

#### **Gloria**

**OPENING PRAYER: Let us pray that we will join Mary, the mother of the Lord, in the glory of heaven. All powerful and ever living God, you raised the sinless Virgin Mary, mother of your Son, body and soul to the glory of Heaven. May we see Heaven as our final goal and come to share her glory.**

#### **LITURGY OF THE WORD OF GOD**

**First Reading – Revelation 11v 19; 12v 1-6, 10** This powerful vision spanning heaven and earth promises that God will not let evil triumph over his people. God opposes the power of evil with a woman and her son. We can see in it an image of the victory over death Mary which has been given in her Assumption.

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it.

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.

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.'

#### **Responsorial Psalm Psalm 44**

® **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. ®

We pray for peace in the world, particularly in areas of unrest and  
**for Second Reading – I Corinthians 15v 20-26** Christ is the first to rise from the dead and through Him each one of us will also be raised to life.

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.

**Alleluia, alleluia! Mary has been taken up into Heaven, all the choirs of angels are rejoicing. Alleluia!**

**Gospel - Luke 1 v 39-56** We hear two hymns in our Gospel today: Elizabeth praises Mary as the Mother of the Lord, and Mary praises God for the wonders of salvation. 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.

**HOLY BAPTISM - PAULA BENNEWORTH**

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL**

Celebrant: Mary's Assumption is her resurrection with Christ. Seeing God's love so effective in her, we know that we can ask Him to give us what we need.

**Reader:** We pray that the whole Church will mirror the faithfulness of Mary, saying with her: Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to your word.

Let us pray for Paula baptised today. May we welcome her and may she grow in faith and love and so become a light to the world.

Let us pray for Paula, Shane and Graham making their first Holy Communion today. May they come to appreciate your gift more deeply and never take the Mass for granted.

We pray that in the search for Christian unity, Our Lady will not be a stumbling block, but a sign of hope; we pray especially the Shrine at Walsingham and our Cell of the Assumption and our branch of the Society of Mary

We pray for our Parish Church and for those who use it to pray, visit and rest

Let us pray for Thomas and Emma, soon to be married; that the Lord may keep them faithful and true to each other.

We pray for the bereaved, for those who are terminally ill and for all whose work brings them close to the mystery of death.

Let us pray for those who are afraid of death; may the power of Christ's victory as revealed in the Assumption of Mary bring them hope.

Let us pray for the sick and housebound and those who care for them. We pray especially for our house communicants, Hazel Lockwood, Margaret Maundrell, Billy and Margaret Carter. We pray too for Nicola Berry, Bill Foster, Joan Hill, John Downie & Clarice Bentley and give thanks for the improvement to Mick Pugh.

Father, you exalted the Virgin Mary & crowned her Queen of Heaven; may the dead enter your Kingdom and rejoice with your saints for ever. We pray for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time:- for John French, George Finbow, Owen Lambert Russell Brundish, Fredrick Markham, Louise Weston, Violet Elliott, Lilian Spalding, Joyce Scott, Val Hunt, Constance Wright, Malta Lockwood, Frances Brasier and Betty Saunders.

We pray with Mary whose feast we celebrate, - **Hail Mary full of grace the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among 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.**

SILENCE

All: All merciful God, hear our prayers. The Blessed Virgin Mary is your gift to your church and a model of faithful love. May we always follow her example of faithful commitment. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sanctus Agnus Dei  
Lord's Prayer

Post Communion Prayer & Visit to the Shrine of Our Lady for the Angelus.

Please picnic in the south Churchyard and welcome our communicant members.

This week- Divine Office Psalter week 4

**Mon:** 9.30am Requiem Mass  
(2 Macabees 12 v. 43-45; Luke 23 v. 44-46, 50, 52-53)  
Int: Departed friends and benefactors of our church

**Tues: St. Helen**  
9.30am Mass (Ezech. 28 v. 1-10; Matt. 19 v. 23-30)  
Int: All pilgrims

**Wed:** 8.00am Mass (Ezech. 34 v. 1-11; Matt. 20 v. 1-16)  
Int: All Unemployed

**Thurs: St Bernard**  
9.30am Mass (Ezech. 36 v. 23-28; Matt. 22 v. 1-14)  
Int: Peace of the world

**Fri: St. Pius X**  
9.30am Mass (Ezech. 37 v. 1-4; Matt. 22 v. 34-40)  
Int: Christian Renewal

**Sat:** Blessed Virgin Mary Mother and Queen  
9.30am (Is, 9 v. 1-6; Luke 1 v. 26-38)  
Int: Walsingham

**Next Sunday:** 21<sup>st</sup> of year A  
9.30 Parish Mass & Address  
(Isaiah 22 v. 19-23; Romans 11 v 33-36; Matt 16 v 13-20)  
P.C.C. Meeting after Mass

Thought for the week;

Mary said "DO WHAT HE TELLS YOU"

Mary is our model who never tires of holding Jesus.

NOTICES:

1. On 30<sup>th</sup> August Bishop Norman will be at Parish Mass to confirm Paula, Shane and Graham.