

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME (ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY); YEAR B

**READINGS;** 1<sup>st</sup> Rev. 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10, 2<sup>nd</sup> 1Cor. 15:20-27, Gospel Lk. 1: 39-56

**Introduction;** today the church celebrates one of the basic teachings in faith about our blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Mother and the mother of the Church. She is the proto-type of the church on earth and in the heaven. This day marks in a very special way her participation in the journey of salvation from birth to death. From the foot of the cross to the glory of heaven; from her fiat (Yes) to the reception of the fruits of salvation and redemption. Let us all rejoice with our mother Mary for we are assured through her intercession that, one day we shall be with her in the heavenly kingdom.

**Reflection;** in today's readings, especially the first one, tells us of the long awaited solution to the problem of enmity between the woman and the dragon. The drama began from the Garden of Eden and today the scene has shifted to the heavenly premises. John writes about what he sees happening in the struggle and fight between the woman about to give birth and the dragon waiting for the child. The dragon is defeated. This is the picture of the defeat of sin, suffering and death that happened with our Lord Jesus Christ. We are celebrating the victory brought to the entire human history of salvation in and through the Woman (Blessed Virgin Mary).

**In the second reading,** St. Paul joins his voice to that of Mary when he writes that; the Christ who once came in lowly weakness as a child will return in glory to destroy every ruler and authority and power, in heaven and on earth, including Satan and the death that he wields. The earthly rulers mentioned in the gospel, are a representation of the forces that oppose the goodness of God for mankind, they are all defeated and Christ will reign forever for His kingdom has no end.

**As we celebrate this great** solemnity of the assumption, we are celebrating our own destination after the life that we live now here on earth. Our Blessed Mother has gone before us to participate fully and share the fruits of her labor on the mystery of salvation. When we have our mother in heaven praying and waiting for us, we should be encouraged and do all things in faith and hope that one day we may meet her where she has gone body and soul.

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** into heaven is one of the milestones in the faith of the Church about unity of the churches within the Catholic Church. That is the migrant church and the triumphant church in heaven. Our mother Mary was assumed into heaven because she was free from original sin and so free from corruption of the body. Her body was prevented from corruption in the tomb because she was not corrupted by original sin. We shall be subjected to the corruption of the tomb but we are assured of our glorification with Christ, who rose from the dead as the first born from the dead. We pray through the intercession of our mother Mary that one day we may see her face in the heavenly kingdom. Amen