

August 12, 2018: The Glory of the Assumption

Dear Parishioners,

Where has the summer gone!? It's time to start thinking about back to school. In many of the schools that I worked at in CA they actually started mid to late August. August is marked by a beautiful feast of Our Lady, her Assumption into Heaven. This is the 4th Glorious Mystery of the Rosary. Please join us this Wednesday, August 15th at 9AM or 7PM to celebrate this very special feast of Our Lady. We will have music at both Masses.

Sr. Ruth Burrows, OCD, a Carmelite from England, has a nice reflection on Mary that I include in this letter:

The Glory of the Assumption

“Mary became Mother of all people at the moment she became Mother of Christ. By her intimate participation in his life, Passion, and Death, she became co-redemptrix. Yet not until her Assumption could she exercise fully her function of Queen, Mother, and Mediatrix. Freed from the shackles of mortality she sees, knows, loves, protects, cares for each and all her children in a way we cannot comprehend.

We must never dissociate the two epochs: the earthly and the heavenly. Jesus is what he is because of his life on earth, because he fulfilled to the last iota the Father's will. So also Mary is what she is because of her life on earth. The glory, the holiness, which now shines resplendent in heaven was forged here below. Her body, now set at the right hand of her Son, immersed in the divine, was formed as is ours, from the dust, was nourished and grew to maturity by feeding on the bread and fruits of the earth, and by breathing the air we breathe. Her soul, as is ours, was perfected by the Holy Spirit—perfected by all she received through her senses, every event of her life, every joy that came her way, every sorrow.

Mary is true woman, blessed among women, fairest of womankind. Apart from the graces of her divine Maternity and Immaculate Conception, she was as we are; her supernatural life was like to ours. She lived by faith. She grew in grace and in the knowledge of God, grew in experience and in love, was ever learning. The simplicity, the ordinariness, the “earthiness” of her life would seem to be incongruous with the glory she now enjoys: drawing water from a well, spinning, eating, sleeping...and heavenly bliss, communion with the Trinity! Something material has been taken up to the Holy of Holies, the sanctuary of the divinity inaccessible to creatures!

Is it not rather more pertinent to say that Divinity has come down to earth, made his sanctuary in earth—earth has become heaven—the very dwelling place of God.

If we could see things as they really are I think we would see everything suffused with the divine. Perhaps that is one of the profoundest lessons of the Assumption, and one which we all need to learn.”

In Christ,

Father Vincent