

## The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

### A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10

*I saw a woman clothed with the sun and with the moon at her feet.*

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.'

**The word of the Lord.**

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 44:10-12. 16. R. v.10

*(R.) The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.*

### A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1 Cor 15:20-26

*As members of Christ all people will be raised, Christ first, and after him all who belong to him.*

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.

**The word of the Lord.**

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Mary is taken up to heaven, and the angels of God shout for joy. **Alleluia !**

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lk 1:39-56

*The Almighty has done great things for me; he has lifted up the lowly.*

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 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.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

### Communion Antiphon: Lk 1:48-49

All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

### Next week's readings:

**First Reading:** Jos 24: 1-2. 15-18

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 33: 2-3. 16-23.R. v9

**Second Reading:** Eph 5: 21-32

**Gospel :** Jn 6: 60– 69



# Parish of Belgrave

## The Catholic Church

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160  
 Phone: 97542141  
 Office Hours: 10am–2pm Tuesday to Friday  
 Internet: pol.org.au/belgrave  
 Email: belgrave@cam.org.au

*The Parish of St Thomas More and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: [www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention](http://www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention)*

### Our Parish Vision Statement:

*We are called to be a welcoming, compassionate community, empowered for our faith journey for active service.....*

CHURCH CENTRES		St. Joseph's Church Emerald Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads	Sacred Heart Church Gembrook Main Road	St. Thomas More Church Belgrave Reynolds Lane	St. Paul's Church Monbulk 59 Moores Road
MASS TIMES	WEEKEND	Vigil Mass 6.00pm	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am (on zoom)
	WEEKDAY	(on zoom)	(on zoom)	(on zoom)	

### The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary — 15th August, 2021

Today, the church celebrates the assumption of Mary, and we might wonder what this has to do with us. The answer is quite simple: Whatever God has done for Mary; God has done or will do for us. Mary was conceived without original sin, and in the waters of baptism, we are cleansed of original sin. Mary brought Christ into the world, in the anointing with chrism, we are commissioned to bring him into the world by what we say and do. And as Mary was assumed into heaven, a place in heaven awaits us.

In today's gospel, we hear Mary's great prayer of thanksgiving (Luke 1:46-47), a prayer we are invited to make our own: *Our souls proclaim the greatness of the Lord. Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.*

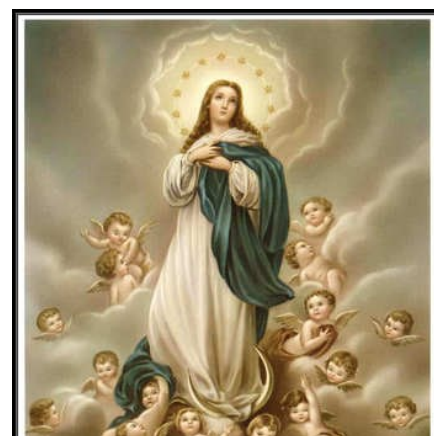
Many years ago, when I was a seminarian, I did some volunteer work at an inner-city parish in Chicago. The pastor emeritus had been retired there for many years. When he was pastor in the 1960s and 70s, the neighbourhood around the parish changed. It had once been a large Irish Catholic community, but as Black families began to move in, most of the long-time parishioners began to move out. The pastor strove to welcome the new members of the community and at the same time to encourage the parishioners to stay in the neighbourhood and welcome their new neighbours, too. While many of the white parishioners moved away, he stayed. And when he retired, he asked the new pastor if he could continue to stay.

I got to know him as a kind, old man—a man of God—who cared deeply for the people of God no matter their race, colour, or creed. When I was a deacon, I would sometimes assist him at Mass. His vision was going and he was sometimes forgetful, losing track of where he was in the celebration. After a while, he could no longer preside and rarely left his room, and on occasion I would bring him his meals and we would talk.

During one conversation, he told me that he wanted the Magnificat, the prayer of Mary, to be read at his funeral. He was afraid that whoever preached at his funeral would make him out to be a good and holy man, and he wanted none of that. What he wanted people to remember was what Mary wanted people to remember: "The Mighty one has done great things for me, and holy is his name" (Luke 1:49). Mary takes no credit for anything and instead points to what God has done for her. The old, dying priest wanted to be remembered for what God had done, not for what he had done.

Every evening, millions of people in the church pray the Magnificat. Every time I pray it, I am reminded to remember what Mary and that old, dying priest remembered: "The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name."

Fr. Dennis Chriszt, C.P.P.S.



Source: <https://uscatholic.org/articles/202108/a-reflection-for-the-feast-of-the-assumption/>

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## REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

**Recent deaths:** John Maganana. Many people across the world who have died due to corona virus and natural calamities.

**Anniversaries:** Henri Donker, Irene Bryne Mullan, Lorraine Furness, Dale Furnace, Michael Mulcahy, Howard Banks, Thomas Blunden, Jack Maher, Gerrit Donker, Alan Newman, Bartelo Pepi, Anne Baruday, Maureen Sale, Josephine Miller, Hannah Bedford-Lee.

### Prayer for the deceased:

Lord open wide the doors of your Mercy to all those who have passed away in the parish of St. Thomas More, Belgrave. In your compassion grant eternal bliss to all of them.

**Prayers for the Sick:** We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Deanne Atkinson, Damien Van der Linden, Fiona, Margaret Gilhooly, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene and Kevin Ryan, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster. Pat McCarrick, Joan Newman, Justin, Joy Goodie, Tom Fergus, Leo and Josie Walsh, Father Noel MacKay, B. O'Connor, Linda Bullivant, Maureen & Peter Lyons, Laurie Fitton, Ingyin Collins, David Bourke, Eileen Banyard, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Margaret & Fiona Gilhooly, Maureen, Patricia Gilchrist, Stephen Mc., Cheryl McInnes, Kate Arnott, Julian Neesham, Robert Drake, Helen Hermann, Lyn Blackman, Joan Munday, Fa Perisipi, John Reid, Dieter Farmer, Margaret Sheanon, Dianne Zidek, Mark Pickthall, Terry Schubert, Neil Weatherill, Margaret Herbert, Rob Zwagerman, Joshua McQuade, Jim & Ed Hodapp, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.

As of now all the Liturgical Celebrations stand suspended until we receive further information from Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Parish office is closed. Weekdays and weekend masses available on zoom only. Monday to Saturday 9.00am

Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm and Sunday 9.00am

### Topic: Father Cruz' Holy Mass on Zoom

#### Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=SOYwS3FiQndpMlZ0STY0TFRRYXJGQT09)

[pwd=SOYwS3FiQndpMlZ0STY0TFRRYXJGQT09](https://zoom.us/j/7504645976?pwd=SOYwS3FiQndpMlZ0STY0TFRRYXJGQT09)

Meeting ID: 750 464 5976..

Passcode: 7mJTww

**FR. CRUZ WILL BE CELEBRATING MASS VIA ZOOM every day.**

**Fr. Anthony Cruz**



## **#42 UPDATE: GENERAL LITURGICAL GUIDELINES**

**COVID-19 Implications for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Information Updated: 5 August 2021, 5.00pm**

**As of 8.00pm, Thursday 5 August 2021, the following 'snap lockdown' measures will be applied across Victoria, and will extend for seven days or until otherwise notified.**

**Face masks must be worn inside and outdoors: everywhere except your own home.**

### **• There will be 5 Reasons to leave home:**

- shopping for necessary goods and services (one person per household, once per day, a support person can accompany if required; within 5km);
- caregiving or compassionate reasons;
- authorised work or permitted education, or work interstate (if you can work from home, you must work from home);
- exercise (up to two hour two hours, with one other person or members of your household; within 5km);
- receive a vaccination.

• Private and public gatherings will not be permitted: Single person bubbles will be allowed.

• PRAYER and RELIGIOUS CEREMONIES: No in-person gatherings permitted. Livestreaming and Broadcast is permitted with a total of 5 people present including technicians.

• **FUNERALS:** (indoor and outdoor): Permitted with no more than 10 people (and those necessary to conduct the funeral). Children under 12 months old are not counted towards this cap.

• **WEDDINGS:** (indoor and outdoor): Not permitted unless end of life or for deportation reasons. Involves only 5 persons (including the two persons being married, celebrant, two witnesses).

• **AGED CARE:** No visitors are permitted into aged care or other residential facility settings, except for end-of-life reasons.

• **HOSPITALS:** No visitors are permitted into health care settings, except for end-of-life reasons, as a support partner for birth, or a parent to accompany a child.



## Sacrament of First Holy Reconciliation

St. Paul's School Church, Monbulk

**(To be rescheduled)**

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

25th August at 3.30pm

Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook

**(To be rescheduled)**



## Sacrament of Confirmation

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

4th September at 12pm

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

4th September at 2pm



## First Holy Eucharist

St. Thomas More Church, Belgrave

22<sup>nd</sup> August at 2pm

St. Paul's Church, Monbulk

7<sup>th</sup> October 6pm

Sacred Heart Church, Gembrook

24<sup>th</sup> October at 9am



## Prayers of the Faithful 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> August

**Celebrant:** We give thanks today for Mary's life of faith. With her unbounded trust in God's power and goodness, let us pray for all our needs.

**Reader: Our response is: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray for our Church throughout the world. May we be like Mary, treasuring God's words and deeds in our hearts and drawing wisdom from them for our daily lives. Together we pray...

**Response: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray for all leaders of the Church, that they may exercise authority with the wisdom of the Spirit and the love of Christ in their hearts. Together we pray...

**Response: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray for our Parish in the Dandenong Ranges. May we imitate the trusting and loving qualities of Mary, in our daily lives as we seek to live out Christ's Mission. Together we pray...

**Response: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray for young people in our community. As their education and preparation for the future have been held back by the Covid pandemic, make us acutely aware of their need for support and help us to discern the best ways to help them. Together we pray...

**Response: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray for children in our Parish who are preparing for the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. May they continue their prayerful preparations, in spite of postponements during lockdown. Together we pray...

**Response: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray for all who are vulnerable to illness and hardship at this present time: The homeless, the unemployed, the refugees, the single parents, the physically and spiritually frail. May national decision makers act with compassion to reduce their suffering. Together we pray...

**Response: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray in silence for those intentions closest to our own hearts.....Together we pray...

**Response: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Celebrant:** Heavenly Father, You invite us all to the table of life, where all are family, and no-one is stranger. Help us to be faithful channels of your Peace and Love throughout the week ahead. We make our prayers through Christ our Lord, Amen.

### ***A Message from Social Justice Group***

Covid and the rain may have kept us indoors but that is the best place to knit. The knitters of the parish have maintained their knitting efforts throughout the pandemic and recently Marilyn Huber, was able to make connection with the Refugee Centre to pass on more than 15 blankets to people who have sought refuge in our safe country. Our usual organisation has not been accepting blankets because of Covid risks, but this did not daunt the redoubtable Marilyn!

In addition to the blankets that went to the refugees from overseas, some locals needed blankets after the storms and these were passed on through emergency agencies. The only criteria for receiving a blanket is need. And there is more comfort in a home made blanket than just the physical warmth.

If you are frustrated by being confined to home and you can knit, crochet or sew, then remember that there are many who need what we can make. If knitting squares, remember that the size is 20cm x20cm and garter stitch is warmest. If you can complete a blanket or garment yourself, that is better, but if you can contribute knitted squares to a blanket, drop them in at the church and they can be put together with others and passed on to someone who needs it. For further details, contact Helen Smith on 0416008628 or a member of the Social Justice Group.

Thanks .....

***Helen Smith***