

National Liturgy Office

Parish Resources for the Feast of the Assumption 2020

The feast of the Assumption is Saturday 15 August. Parishes may find it appropriate to include some reflection / prayer / focus on the role of the Blessed Virgin in Sunday Masses for 16 August. You might find the resources below useful for Liturgy / homily / newsletter this weekend.

- **Joy Cowley's Magnificat Prayer** from her book *Veil Over the Light* p.157
Perhaps for printing in parish / school newsletter as a reflection. Copyright for this use is freely given.

Song of Mary

My soul sings in gratitude.
I'm dancing in the mystery of God.
The life of the Holy One is within me,
And I am blessed, so truly blessed.

This goes deeper than the human mind.
My heart is filled with awe
At Love whose only condition
Is that it be received.

It's a gift not for the proud
For they have no room for it.
The strong and self-sufficient
Do not have this awareness.
But those who know their emptiness
Can rejoice in God's fullness.

This is the Love we are made for,
The reason for our existence.
It fills our inmost heart space
And brings to birth in us
The Holy child of God.

- **ARCIC Document *Mary: Grace and Hope in Christ***

This joint statement of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission uses language that reflects what we hold in common with our Anglican sisters and brothers and transcends the controversies of the past. Link to the statement here: <https://iarccum.org/doc/?d=16>

- **Marian Prayers**

- There are number of traditional prayers which in the past were learnt by heart and prayed from the hearts of Catholics both in personal and communal prayer. As we celebrate the feast of the Assumption it is helpful to re-communicate the beauty of this tradition using such prayers as the Hail Mary, Rosary, Memorare, Hail Holy Queen.
- In your own parish / school you might invite different ethnic and language groups to sing a Marian hymn this weekend.
- Perhaps parishes might take this opportunity to sing Bishop Pompallier's *Mo Maria* hymn written in Aotearoa New Zealand in 1842.

Mo Maria

Mō Maria āianeī,
ō tātou waiata,
kia kaha rā tātou,
kia nui te aroha.

Chorus:

Mō Maria āianeī,
ō tātou waiata,
kia kaha rā tātou,
kia nui te aroha.

Meaning: For Mary now, our songs. Let us be strong, let there be great love.

Aroha ki te Atua,
aroha ki a Maria,
i te rangi, i te whenua
āke tonu, āke tonu.

Meaning: Love God, love Mary, in heaven and on earth, for ever and ever.

- **Prayer of the faithful**

As we celebrate the feast of the Assumption reflecting on Mary as the first disciple of Jesus open to the movement of the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer central to the lives of our ancestors: Hail Mary / Awe, e Maria ...