

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

HOPE: BELIEVE, LIVE AND GIVE

MONTHLY THEME:
MARY, MOTHER OF HOPE

A HEART

Craving for the Lord

The apostle John had a vision of heaven and saw the Ark of the Covenant which was the central part of the worship for the Israelites. In Exodus, the Ark held the miraculous manna and also the tablets of the Ten Commandments. The ark signifies God's great presence and protection over Israel in the wilderness and in the Promised Land.



During the early centuries, the Fathers of the Church saw in the image of the Ark of the Covenant as representing the figure of a woman, that is our Blessed Mother. To them, Mary is the new Ark of the Covenant because she held within her womb, the new manna, the eternal high priest, and the Word of God, Jesus Christ. Mary has been enthroned in heaven as the Queen Mother of her son's kingdom and never stops to intercede for us.

Paul speaks of Christ's resurrection and of our own hope of future resurrection. By rising from the dead, Christ has conquered sin and death. Mary's Assumption into heaven, because of her role in the salvific act of her Son, helps us further understand the truth about the resurrection. Like Mary, we too will be with Christ at the end of time.

From the passage in Luke's Gospel, we get a glimpse into the heart of Mary. Mary arose and went with haste to meet her cousin Elizabeth. To get there was not easy. It meant that Mary had to trek uphill and there could also be many hidden dangers lying ahead. But Mary was filled and led by the Holy Spirit. When Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the child leaped in her womb. Through her obedience and dedication, **Mary brought God's promises to fulfillment by being a true instrument of God.**

In the 'Magnificat' Mary, with humility, magnifies God, praising Him for the many blessings He has bestowed upon her. Mary is a faithful, obedient servant of God and because of her continuous 'yes' to Him, we too are saved through her Son. Mary's heart craved for nothing but to please the Lord. Shouldn't our hearts be craving like Mary to love and serve the Lord?

Mother Mary, lead me to the heart of Jesus. ✦

SCRIPTURE QUOTE
TO MEMORISE:

"My soul
proclaims the
greatness of
the Lord..."

(Luke 1: 46)

SCRIPTURE
of the DAY

Rev. 11:19, 12:
1-6, 10;

Ps. 44: 10-12,
15-16;

1 Cor. 15:20-27;

Lk. 1:39-56.