

Introduction:

Today we celebrate the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, a sign of hope and glory for all who follow Christ. Mary, taken body and soul into heaven, reminds us that heaven is our true home. We also mark **India's Independence Day**, a time to give thanks for our freedom and renew our commitment to justice, peace, and human dignity. Mary's Magnificat calls us to uplift the poor and live as responsible citizens and people of faith. During this Eucharist, we pray for the grace to serve faithfully in Church and society.

Readings:

First reading: 1Chr 15: 3-4,15-16;16:1-2
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 132: 6-7,9-10,13-14
Second reading: 1Cor 15: 54b-57
Gospel: Lk 11: 27-28

Prayers of the Faithful:

Celebrant: As we celebrate the glorious Assumption of Mary and the gift of our nation's independence, let us turn to God in confidence, saying: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For our Pope, Leo XIV, Bishops, Priests, Religious and Laity: that, like Mary, we may walk in holiness, humility, and hope, drawing all nations toward Christ. *Let us pray to the Lord:*

For our beloved nation, India: that all her citizens may work together to uphold freedom, justice, peace, and the dignity of every human life. *Let us pray to the Lord:*

For leaders in government and public life: that they may be inspired by the example of Mary's care for the lowly and the poor, and lead with wisdom, integrity, and compassion. *Let us pray to the Lord:*

For all Christians: that, inspired by the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may lift our hearts beyond earthly riches and set our gaze on the eternal treasures of heaven our true home. *Let us pray to the Lord:*

For all gathered here: that we may live in the freedom of the children of God, guided by the Spirit, and bearing witness to the love of Christ in our communities and may our departed loved ones, rest in peace. *Let us pray to the Lord:*

Celebrant: Loving Father, You lifted up the lowly Virgin Mary to share fully in Your Son's glory. Hear our prayers on this day of grace for the Church and our nation. Through Mary's intercession, may we always live in freedom — not as an excuse for self-indulgence, but as a call to serve one another in love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**