



15 AUGUST 2026
The Assumption of the Bl. Virgin Mary
(Independence Day)



Introduction:

Today we celebrate two joyful occasions: The Independence Day of our nation and the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We thank God for the gift of freedom and remember with gratitude all who sacrificed for our nation's peace and unity. As we honour Mary's Assumption into heaven, we rejoice in the fulfilment of God's promise and the hope of eternal life. As the Patroness of India, may she continue to intercede for our nation and inspire us to be faithful **disciples and responsible citizens**.

Readings

First Reading: Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
Responsorial Psalm: Ps 45: 10, 11, 12, 16
Second Reading: 1 Cor 15:20-27
Gospel: Lk 1:39-56

Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: Gathered as one family in Christ and inspired by the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary, let us confidently present our prayers to our loving Father.

Response: *Lord, hear our prayer.*

- For the Church: that, following the example of Mary, she may faithfully proclaim the Gospel and become a sign of hope, unity, and compassion for all people, we pray to the Lord.
- For our nation, India: that God may bless our country with peace, justice, integrity, and harmony, and guide all leaders to serve the people with wisdom, honesty, and selfless dedication, we pray to the Lord.
- For all who safeguard our freedom: especially our armed forces, police personnel, healthcare workers, and all who serve the nation; that God may protect and strengthen them in their noble mission, we pray to the Lord.
- For those who suffer from poverty, injustice, discrimination, or violence: that they may experience God's healing love through the care and solidarity of society, we pray to the Lord.
- For our parish community: that inspired by Mary's complete trust in God, we may become instruments of peace, reconciliation, and generous service in our families and neighbourhoods, we pray to the Lord.
- For our personal needs and intentions: *(pause in silence)* We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of our nation and for the freedom we enjoy. Lord, we thank you for the Blessed Virgin Mary, assumed into heavenly glory—a radiant sign of hope and comfort for your pilgrim people. As we return to our daily lives, help us to be faithful Christians and responsible citizens. Through Mary's intercession, bless our nation with peace, unity, and justice, and lead us always in the ways of your Son. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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