

August 15th: Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gospel text (Lk 1:39-56): Mary... entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb..."

Heaven has a heart (Assumption of Our Lady)

EDITORIAL TEAM evangeli.net (based on texts by Benedict XVI)

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today, the prophetic (and inspired) words of St. Mary are again fulfilled: She is blessed among all women. By the power of the Holy Spirit, She was taken up physically to be beside the Son, in the glory of God the Father.

There is even room in God for the body. Heaven is no longer a very remote sphere unknown to us. We have a mother in Heaven. And the Mother of God, the Mother of the Son of God, is our Mother. Heaven is open. Heaven has a heart. Mary, with God, is Queen of Heaven and Earth. Precisely because she is "in" God and "with" God, She is very close to each one of us. When she lived on this Earth she could only be close to a few people. Mary now shares in this closeness of God with each one of us.

—Jesus, my final Dwelling is Heaven. From there, Mary encourages us with her example to abide by the will of the Father while not letting ourselves be seduced by the misleading fascination of the transient.