LETTER N° 1 ON THE LITURGY


Dear Sisters,

We are half-way through Lent, and as we prepare ourselves for the great feast of Easter, our hymns and our office, our reading and meditation as well as our silence lead us up to Jerusalem with Jesus. We ready our minds and our hearts, reciting the age-old prayers and inventing new ones inspired by current events and by the clamours and groans of our world. The atmosphere is of penance and purification. All this preparation, our efforts, our longings converge and are summed up and expressed in the Liturgy.

Lent and Easter are not isolated feasts; they are part of the Liturgical Year. Throughout the whole year our life is centered around the Liturgy. Just as we say our communities are apostolic and contemplative, so too we can say that they are liturgical. In fact, the liturgy quite literally brings the community together; it nourishes and colours both our contemplation and our apostolate.

Thus, the great Prayer of the Church is an essential element of the Assumption, integrating and structuring our daily life and our vocation as religious. Without the rhythm and liturgical structure of the days, weeks and seasons, our lifestyle would be different and we would no longer be religious of the Assumption. For us, the Liturgy is both a source and an expression of that adoration where, as M. Marie Eugenie said, our lives unfold and find their fulfillment.

In this Letter, I want to speak about the meaning and the place of the Liturgy in our lives. I would like to suggest that during this Paschal season or in the months ahead, you study and discuss this subject in your community.

THE GATE OF HEAVEN

At the heart of our christian and ecclesial life, the liturgy is our "entry" into the mystery of Christ. A mystery long hidden, revealed by God in the Incarnation, this mystery is Christ in us and we in Him. It is the mystery of our salvation and of the Kingdom, Christ in whom all things in heaven and on earth are reconciled. Through Him and in Him, we are in communion with God, and the full, deepest and most intimate meaning
THE INTEGRITY OF THE ASSUMPTION

From the editor...

In keeping with our mission to bring you the truth, we are pleased to announce the launch of our new series, "The Integrity of the Assumption." This series will explore the history, theology, and significance of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary—her bodily升天—on September 14th, a feast day celebrated by the Catholic Church. We believe it is important to examine these topics in depth, as they are central to our faith and have a profound impact on our beliefs and practices.

In this first installment, we will examine the historical context of the Assumption, including its origins and development over time. We will also consider the theological implications of this doctrine, including its role in understanding the nature of Mary and her relationship to God. Our ultimate goal is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the Assumption, one that is both informed by scholarship and accessible to all.

We hope you will join us on this journey and look forward to your feedback and questions. As always, we strive to be your source of truth and comfort, and we are grateful for your support.

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THE NATURE OF FAITH

In a world where truth can seem elusive, it is all the more important to nurture our faith and deepen our understanding of the teachings of our Church. We at Catholic News are committed to providing you with accurate and reliable information, and we hope to do so in a way that is both informative and engaging.

Our mission is to offer a platform where you can explore your faith and engage with the teachings of the Church. We believe that faith is not just a matter of belief, but a way of living our lives in accordance with the values that are central to our faith. We hope that our articles and features will help you to see the world through a different lens, and that they will inspire you to live your faith in a way that is meaningful and fulfilling.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to continuing our journey together.
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You see then the place of the Liturgy in the constellation of the essential elements of our Assumption spirituality. It is part of its basic structure and it shines in each part just as light is reflected and refracted in the facets of a diamond. The Liturgy and personal prayer, the community and the apostolate are complementary and inseparable in our Christian and religious experience. It is not surprising that Marie Eugenie could say: "Love and zeal for the Office are the signs by which one recognizes a religious of the Assumption". (25.6.1893)

CONCLUSION

I deeply desire to live this Easter with you. I want to share with you the Paschal experience of Christ in which all the situations we as Congregation and as sisters are immersed in today - personal or collective, dramatic or joyous, crushing or uplifting - are taken up by the Spirit in the Passover of Christ to the Kingdom and to the Father.

And may all these situations become a theological locus where we find the living Christ, the one who died and rose from the dead, who continues to die and rise in us. Is not this the dynamism of our prayer in the great Prayer of the Church?

Devotedly yours in Christ,

Sister Clare Teresa
Superior General.