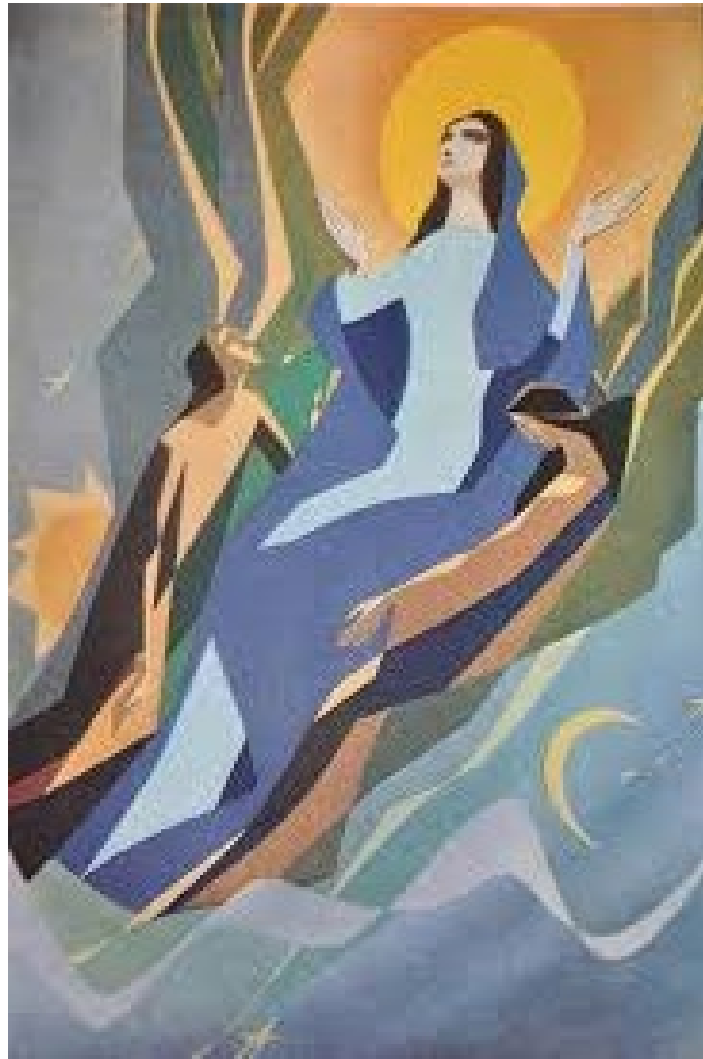




*Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents  
Whose Children of Any Age Have Died by Any Cause,  
No Matter How Long Ago*

**Your Emmaus Ministry  
Remote Retreat Guide  
August 15, 2020  
9:30am EDT  
(or a convenient time for you)**

**MARY'S ASSUMPTION  
OUR HOPE**



*"By contemplating Mary in heavenly glory, we understand that the earth is not the definitive homeland for us either, and that if we live with our gaze fixed on eternal goods we will one day share in this same glory and the earth will become more beautiful.*

*Consequently, we must not lose our serenity and peace even amid the thousands of daily difficulties. The luminous sign of Our Lady taken up into Heaven shines out even more brightly when sad shadows of suffering and violence seem to loom on the horizon."*

~Pope Benedict XVI

**Preparation:**

Ahead of time, we recommend you find a quiet place in your home where you can immerse yourself in this retreat. Have your child's Emmaus Memorial Candle (or other candle) available along with a lighter or matches.

Take several deep breaths to cleanse your thoughts and open yourself to wherever the Holy Spirit is calling you today several minutes before the retreat is scheduled to begin.

At 9:30am EDT open your email and join other fellow Emmaus Parent Companions in getting away from the rest of the world, at least for a time, to focus on God and on your precious child.

**CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER** (Light your candle)

We begin... In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen

Lord, you are the Light of the World. *Help us feel your presence in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us the gift of our children. *Help us feel their presence in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us the hope of eternal life. *Help us confirm that hope in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us love. *Help us to know that, as much as we love our children, you love them even more.*

We ask you this through Christ, Our Lord  
Amen.

**OPENING SONG: [Salve Regina, Hail Holy Queen](#)**

**PRAYER OF THOSE MAKING A RETREAT**

Loving Spirit of Wisdom,  
Guide my thoughts and my memories.

In the light of your love,  
May I see what is important for me to remember,  
What is important for me to hold to my heart,  
And what I need to simply let go of in peace.

I trust you to be my guide,  
Even when the path seems unclear to me.

We pray this in the name of Your Son, the Healer,  
Our Lord, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**1 COR 15:50-58**

For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality.

And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

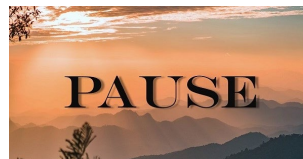
The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.



#### REFLECTION #1:

##### [Mary: the Assumption](#)

by Dr. Edward Sri, Ascension  
Presents



Take a moment to pause... breathe... savor what you have received from the Reflection #1.

Clear your mind before focusing on Reflection #2.

REFLECTION #2: [Mary's Assumption Whets Our Appetites](#) by Bishop Robert Barron

#### PRAYER

##### And Mary said...

My soul proclaim the greatness of the Lord:  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed;  
the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, and has scattered  
the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
the promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children forever."

CLOSING SONG: [Ave Maria](#) by Andrea Bocelli

#### CLOSING BLESSING

Let us end our time of retreat...united with Brother John Maganzini, OFM and  
the Franciscan Friars at Saint Anthony Shrine in Boston, MA, by blessing one another.

Raise your right hand and, together, let us pray...

## **Holy Mary, Mother of God, in Honor of Your Assumption...**

May we know how small earth becomes when viewed from heaven.

May we realize that death is the triumphant gate through which we shall pass to your Son and to our children

May we know that someday our bodies shall rejoin our souls in the unending bliss of heaven.

From this earth, over which we tread as pilgrims, may we look to you for help.

Pray for us, O Queen Assumed into Heaven, that we may be made worthy of the promise of eternal life.

In the name of the Father, Your Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
Amen.



### **FOR FURTHER REFLECTION...**

**[The Passage of Mary.](#)** The resurrection of the body as fulfilled in Mary.

**[Full of Grace.](#)** A movie offering an unprecedented look at Mary of Nazareth during her last earthly days as she helps the factious early Church regain their original encounter with her son, Jesus Christ.

**[Why Catholics Call Mary Mother](#)** by Fr. Mike Schmitz

**[Assumption Images](#)**

You will receive a new Emmaus Remote Retreat email next Friday.

Please join your fellow  
Emmaus Parent Companions  
again next Saturday at 9:30am EDT

Until then, may God bless you and keep you.  
Sending many warm, virtual hugs

For past Remote Retreats, see [here](#).

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## REMINDER

We have concluded our  
Emmaus Ministry LIVE Virtual Gathering Series.  
If you were not able to join us for our Reflections  
--or would like to see them again--  
you can access these inspiring talks [here](#).



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