

“The Almighty has done great things for me.”

Early in July, a very, very sick 57-year-old man received a mechanical heart. What had been a few years of frustration, discouragement and depression were transformed into joy, enthusiasm and radiant smiles. Then, a couple of weeks ago this same man had cataracts removed from one eye. His wife shared how, following recuperation from surgery, her husband was walking in the halls of the hospital. He was pointing to posted signs and reading them out loud to no one in particular. And then would add: “I can see. I can see.” His wife shed tears of thanksgiving and gratitude. With new hope both husband and wife can exclaim: “The Almighty has done great things for me.”

In the Gospel today Mary is filled with awe, amazement and wonder. She’s in a state of ecstasy. She is filled with gratitude and thanksgiving for what God has done in her life. Thus her prayer: the Magnificat.

As we celebrate this Feast of the Assumption, God did another wonderful deed for Mary. At the end of her earthly life, God took Mary, body and soul, to heaven. Mary returned from Whom she had come. The Good News for us is: what God has done for Mary is a hint of what God will do for us at the end of our life.

This week take time to reflect upon what great things the Almighty has done for us. Consider writing them down. Feel whatever wells up from inside. Perhaps we’ll be moved to pray, to sing, or to recite the Magnificat. Then our prayer can include the words of Mary’s soul: “The Almighty has done great things for me.”