



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Week 4 Year B

Sunday 15th August

6pm* Bernard Smith +

9am: Awan Family (int)

11.30am: Julie Loh +

6pm: Mary Boland (int)

Monday 16

6.30pm: Anne Noone ann+

Tuesday 17

9.30am Morning prayer

10am: *Funeral Mass*

Hugh Battle +

Wednesday 18

NO MASS

Thursday 19

10am: Pat Meally (int)

Dan Meally ann +

Friday 20

9.30am Morning prayer

10am: *Funeral Mass:* Marie

Kiernan +

Saturday 21

6pm* Anita Hammond (int)

22nd: 21st in Ordinary

Time

9am: Awan Family

(thanksgiving)

11.30am: John Donovan +

6pm: Margaret Simons +

I suppose everybody is trying to give a sense to their lives. We can't live without aiming at something. There are many goals in our perspective but there is one which stands out in front of the others: the search for TRUTH. If we not are looking for truth we are deceiving ourselves.

The cult of saints, a pillar in our Catholic faith, doesn't prevent us from considering Jesus Christ as our only Saviour as long as we put them into perspective. In the Mass the preface of pastors run like this: You (God) give the Church this feast in honour of. You inspire us by their holy life, instruct us by their prayers and give us your protection in answer to their prayers. It is always God "through" the saints. There is a saint, whose feast we celebrated some days ago, who could inspire us, instruct us and get God's protection for us. This saint is being recently canonized, Jewess by birth, and a Carmelite nun, Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. She was an outstanding scholar, a philosopher, and later a nun and a martyr. What was she looking for? Truth. She couldn't find it till she encountered Jesus and when she got it, all her life was a desire to testify this treasure, the truth, which is Jesus, himself.

We've just seen the end of the Olympic Games in Tokyo. There was an aim in preparing, participating, programming and keeping people out of Covid. What was this aim? Looking for truth? Testing the best athletes in the world? Proving our human capacity for excellence? I would like to think that everybody were looking to find out that truth was really their purpose. But my optimism finds easily contradictions: people looking for glamour, acceptance, personal interests, economical interests are easily visible. Those fantastic synchronized swimmers I watched for a moment, eight of them, training 8 hours a day, six days a week! Only one team won and it was, more or less, just five minutes game on TV! Another athlete, swimmer, gold medal winner, 14 years old, acknowledged that she was competing to get some medicine for her mother. Lovely example of selflessness. a small girl and her mother, perhaps our own athletic effort should be now to come to church, to meet other parishioners, participate at the Eucharist, receive the body of Christ. It doesn't cost too much and it helps us and everybody else.

Today we celebrate the solemnity of "The Assumption of Our Lady". She did participate in the marathon of simplicity and obedience following the "prompting" of the Holy Spirit since her conception, He was her trainer. She was receiving the real TRUTH in the Annunciation and kept the mystery of her live without showing off. Nobody noticed who she was; just Mary of Nazareth. Today we celebrate her triumph because her son Jesus, has taken her with Him up to heaven, forever triumphant. As a Saint, and also our Mother, she has given us the real sense of our lives, the precise meaning of TRUTH. She is helping us to run the marathon of our lives in simplicity, in obedience, in cheerfulness, together with our brothers and sisters, as the Mother of the Church, to take us all one day where she is now, full of happiness and joy, in the presence of our heavenly Father. Amen.

Fr Miguel op

NOTICES

FUNERAL MASS: for Hugh Battle is on Tuesday 17th August at 10am. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers. May he rest in peace.

FUNERAL MASS: for Marie Kiernan is on Friday 20th August at 10am. Please pray for her family and friends. May she rest in peace.

MARANATHA 'Come Lord Jesus' Christian meditation and **ADORATION:** will resume in September.

MORNING PRAYER: Tuesdays and Fridays, 9.30am in Church. Doors will open from 9.20am onwards.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES: a gentle reminder that any children or young people enrolling for Parish Sacramental Programmes 2021-2022 must be attending Mass at least six months prior to the programmes starting. New to the parish? Please email the parish office with your household details.

INFORMATION on the programmes will be available from September 2021. Any questions, please email Anita at anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH OFFICE will be closed the week of 23rd August.

PARISH ENQUIRIES: you are welcome to email the parish on barnet@rcdow.org.uk or telephone 020 8449 3338 if you cannot email - please leave a message on the answering machine with a contact number if no reply - we will get back to you. Please note parish staff remain partly furloughed until September.

BOOKING OF MASSES: can be emailed to the parish office.

FACE MASKS: the Diocese strongly recommends we continue to wear face-masks whilst in church. Thank you.

HOPE CORNER COMMUNITY CENTRE: 'Prayer changes things'. Every wednesday 1pm-2pm at Hope Corner, Mays Lane. *Even if you have little or no faith - all will be welcome (poster in the porch).*

CHURCHES TOGETHER FOR CHIPPING BARNET: WORSHIP TOGETHER: Sunday 15th August: 6.30pm-7.15pm at St John the Baptist 'Evensong' and on Sunday 29th August: 6.30pm-7.15pm 'Songs of Praise'. All welcome!

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

****Please remember in your prayers the sick, their families and all who care for them, including:** Emanuele & Carlotta Brunelli, Linda & Stuart Atkinson, Pat Cosgrove, Maurice & Bernadette Hunt, Amparo Abalos, Roberto Lusignani, Elaine Brennan, Mark O'Brien, Rita Rawlings, Margaret Trehy, Joe Connolly, Mary Harris, Steven Hunt, Eric Power, Michael Keyes, Julie Lown, Eileen Robbins, John Chuter, Marlene Hollocks, Margaret Greaney.

*(**please note we are updating our prayer requests. You will see many names have been removed - if you wish for them to be placed back on the prayer list, please email the presbytery - thank you).*

Recently Died: Marie Kiernan

Parish Staff Contact Information

Anita Hammond - Pastoral Assistant/Catechetical Co-ordinator: anitahammond@rcdow.org.uk

Jonathan Stephens - Evangelisation Co-ordinator: jonathanstephens@rcdow.org.uk

Janet Nestor - Secretary: **Parish Office** - barnet@rcdow.org.uk (office is closed every Wednesday)