

✠ **The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Year A, 16th August 2026, Divine Office: Wk. 4**

'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour'

On this Marian feast day, we celebrate Our Lady, assumed into glory through the saving power of her Son.

At the heart of today's liturgy is the joy of that beautiful moment of Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth (**Gospel)**. These two women, who had no expectation of pregnancy, both carry babies who will in time bring about the kingdom of God on earth. Mary's prayer of gratitude for this great blessing prefigures the Beatitudes that her Son, Jesus, will both proclaim and live.

The **First Reading** is part of the revelation to St John. In his vision, a crowned woman gives birth to a son. This child is taken up to God's throne, and the salvation of Christ is proclaimed to the nations.

The **Psalm** is entitled a 'song of love', and for the Christian it poetically describes the love of God for his people. It invites us to listen, and to turn our hearts towards God.

In the **Second Reading**, we return to the theme of the salvation of Christ, also proclaimed in John's revelation. In Christ all shall be made alive.

In both of our opening readings, there is an air of triumphalism about God overcoming evil in the world. By contrast, Mary's visit to Elizabeth in the Gospel reveals how our salvation is brought about through humility and simplicity of heart. The powerful will be brought low and the weak and humble will be raised up.

Let us pray for a joyful spirit of gratitude for God's saving love, so that we, too, can proclaim with Mary, '*My soul magnifies the Lord*.'

Order of Mass: Page 5. Readings, Page 178. **1st** Rev. 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab.
Ps 45(44):10. 11. 12. 16. ℟. 10b.
2nd Cor. 15:20-27. **Gospel** Luke. 1:39-56. **EP: III** page 27

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Spiritans Mission Appeal - We welcome to our Parish the Spiritans (Holy Ghost Fathers) next weekend - 22nd/23rd August on their Mission Appeal. Their apostolate is among the poor, in parishes, prisons, schools and refugee communities. To read more about the Spiritans see poster on the noticeboard. Please support their missionary work during second collections to be taken next weekend.

Sun 16 Aug	**✠ The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**	**8:30am**	Philomena Kelly RIP
	Holy Rosary Prayer ***By the Lady Chapel***	***9:30-9:55am***	
		10:00am*	Marie Browne RIP Ann
Fri 21 Aug	**Saint Pius X, Pope**	**10:00am**	John Daymond and All Holy Souls RIP
Sat 22 Aug	**Sunday Vigil**	**5:00pm**	Kath and Jack McAsey RIP Ann
Sun 23 Aug	**✠ Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**	**8:30am**	Michael Armstrong RIP Ann
	Holy Rosary Prayer ***By the Lady Chapel***	***9:30-9:55am***	
		10:00am*	Pat and Moira Saunders and All Holy Souls RIP

✠ Holy Day of Obligation * Livestream Mass

~~**First Friday Devotions** with Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – 10am-3:30pm.~~
~~**Saturdays** - 9:00am – Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (and confession alongside) with Benediction at 9:45am.~~
~~*Confessions can also be arranged outside of these times, please contact Fr Joseph*~~

Parishes Celebrations / Dates for your Diaries:

24th Sep	Seniors' Light Lunch, after 12pm Mass in Parish Hall
11th Oct	Sunday Lunch 12pm
21st Nov	Churches Together Prayer Breakfast

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from the side of Christ, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within Thy wounds hide me
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee
From the malignant enemy defend me
At the hour of my death call me
And bid me come unto Thee
That I may praise Thee with Thy Angels
And Thy Saints forever and ever. Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Make our hearts like unto thine.

Recently Deceased and Anniversaries:
Olive Cozens, Teresa Tipper, Doreen Smyth, Maxine Burdon, Bill Readman, Justina Nnadi, Jean Giffen, Roseleen Rice, Michael Roberts, Giovannina Mistretta, Chris Holmes, Kay James, Anne-Marie Clarke, John O'Neill (Potten End), Grace O'Reilly, Hugh Deane, Patricia Rice, Sue McQuinn, Bridie Morahan, Krys Evans, Michael Kennedy, Keith Gay.
May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp
is lit this week for all affected by the devastating wildfires and extreme heat around the world.