

Parish of Corpus Christi, Bolton

St John, the Evangelist, Bromley Cross, St Columba's, Tonge Moor
and St Brendan's, Harwood

15 August 2021

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Life Today the readings speak to us of signs, images that fill our imagination. These signs lead us to seek, beyond the words used, to a purer meaning which lifts our hearts and gives us a glimpse of the glory of God and the destiny that awaits those who follow Him. Here are two contrasting images of Our Lady; one of the Queen of Heaven and the other of a humble, caring and faithful friend. It is this great contrast which is, I feel, at the heart of our love for Mary. She is at once both; the Mother of God and the Mother of all, the public and the private image of the same person.

The Old Testament passage from Psalm 44 places speaks of a Queen robed in earthly splendour, “in gold of Ophir”, and protected against the world by her birth as the daughter of a King, this image is understandable in the time it was written for who would expect the Son of God to be born in a stable! John, in his book of Revelation, creates this very powerful image of Our Lady as a mother in childbirth who must protect her child from the dangers of the world. He gives us the dragon as a symbol of the evil and temptations of our world. He also gives us an image of God as the Father, protecting the child by saving him from evil and creating a place of safety for the mother.

Luke however has a different image; he sees Mary as a faithful friend, one who comes to those in need in compassion and love. She goes “quickly” to her cousin Elizabeth; her home is in the high country but this does not stop Mary. The child in Elizabeth’s womb recognises the child that Mary has conceived, and, in a moment of great insight, Elizabeth exclaims “Blessed is the fruit of thy womb”. Instead of the glorious imagery of the Psalms or Revelation; Luke places on Mary’s lips that great hymn of thanks, the Magnificat. This simple example of love reminds us that Mary is, above all, a reflection of the love of the Father for all his creation.

It must have been difficult for the early church to come to an understanding of the role that the mother of Jesus plays in the mission of Our Lord. This is a male dominated society, women were, more or less, chattels belonging to their menfolk. Mary, however, appears in the Gospels as an apostle, the first to recognise the Lord, she spends her life behind the scenes, rarely glimpsed yet ever present, a witness to the crucifixion of her beloved son it is into her arms that she receives Christ, the sacrificed son. Perhaps the greatest sign of all of Mary’s love for her precious child; a love that we are privileged to share. **David Frank**

Activities this Week

Sunday Cycle B; Weekday Cycle 1

Divine Office Week 4

Roman Missal page 920; Readings page 921

Apocalypse 11:19, 12:1-6,10; 1 Corinthians 15:20-27;

Luke 1:39-56

Sunday 15 August

8.10am BBC Radio 4 live broadcast from Salford Cathedral.

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

12.30pm Baptism (SJ)

Monday 16 August

7pm Mass (SJ)

Tuesday 17 August

9.30am Mass (SB)

Wednesday 18 August

9am Exposition & Adoration (SJ)

9.30am Mass (SJ)

Thursday 19 August

9.30am Mass (SB)

1.15pm Funeral Service for Jeanette Barlow (SB)

Friday 20 August - St Bernard

No Mass Today

Saturday 21 August

9.30am Mass (SJ) (This week only)

1pm Wedding Service of Mark Hustwit & Helen Hayward (SB)

5pm Mass (SB)

Sunday 22 August

9.30am Mass (SJ)

11am Mass (SB)

12.15pm Baptism (SB)

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Diocesan website: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk



We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends: Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Killeen, Fred & Joyce Heywood, Emily Martin, Terence Gillett, Pat Margiotta, Mary Bagg, Vernon Holt, Peter Riley, Frances Skemp, Kathleen Banks, Penelope Booth (poorly infant), Eileen Gartland

Lately Dead: Sharon Hart, Jeanette Barlow, Mary Josephine Wallwork, Tony Cliff, Alezandro Doloroso Jr, Linda Teti, Lynn Patrick, Lena Corbett

Anniversaries: Andrew Hayes, Denis O'Kane, Denis Coughlan, Robert Whaley Jozef Szwedzinski, Ellen & Charles Liston

May They Rest in Peace

Mass Intentions: Andrew Hayes, Sharon Hart, The Regan & Naylor families, Denis O'Kane, Denis Coughlan, Robert Whaley, Jozef Szwedzinski, Mary Whitton, Julian & Marek Szwedzinski, Liston & Rothwell families, Someone who is sick

Cycle of Prayer Part 5 (of 6): We pray especially for: A deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; those who suffer persecution; oppression and denial of human rights; Europe, seafarers, human life

Hope in the Future: Let us pray for the people of the parishes of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception, Haigh, and the Holy Family, New Springs, for Fr Kevin Foulkes, their parish priest, and for their parish primary schools. May they be blessed by the Almighty who, in raising Mary body and soul into glory, has done marvelous things

Offertory: We are always extremely grateful for all you do to help us financially. Donations can be made by posting through the presbytery letter box, by post or alternatively they can be made through Salford Diocese website, or by setting up a bank standing order. Thank you

Cheques: Please make all cheques payable to **Corpus Christi**. Thank you

Prayer Resource - For those at home the Liturgy Office has prepared "*The Lord's Day at Home*", to pray on your own or with your family Please [click here](#) to view the Mass sheet for Sunday 8th August (Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time).

Congratulations: To Elsie Joy Naylor and Harry Matthew McColl who were baptised at St Brendan's last Sunday. We pray that they and their families continue to grow in faith.

Reopening of Cathedral Centre Facilities: We are delighted to announce that Cathedral Centre Books has now reopened (8.30am-3.30pm Monday to Friday. Orders can be also placed via

<https://www.cathedralcentrebooks.com/>

or over the phone on 0161 817 2208.

The Cathedral Centre Café has also reopened and is open to the public 8.30am - 1.30pm Monday to Friday.

Taking Liturgy Seriously - Online study course from the Society of Saint Gregory

As part of its commitment to promote and support the liturgy of the Catholic Church, the Society of Saint Gregory will be offering a new modular study course, aimed at developing liturgical understanding. The course, which will be run in partnership with the London Jesuit Centre, starts in September and will take place via Zoom. Held over the course of one year, each module will comprise three sessions and provide a theological and historical overview, which will form the background for a deeper study of how we celebrate the liturgy today. Modules include The Paschal Mystery, Healing and Forgiveness, Initiation, Commitment and Ways of Prayer. Within each theme we will look at how we apply general principles of liturgy, how music and space affect the way we celebrate, and, above all, how we are enabling people to pray together. The course is aimed at all who wish to widen their understanding of the liturgy. Further information, including details of the course leaders and online booking, can be found [here](#). Or visit <https://www.ssg.org.uk/>

Caritas Cornerstone's Big Sleep Out 2021

To experience just a fraction of what it is like to sleep rough and to help those who live this reality every day, Caritas Cornerstone is inviting people to "boycott their bed" for one night this September.

The Big Sleep Out is returning this autumn with a special hybrid event, asking people to raise funds to support rough sleepers by sleeping outdoors overnight at Xaverian College, Manchester, from 7pm on Friday 17 September, or by "boycotting their bed" from their own home Due to the pandemic, last year's event was cancelled, and Caritas Cornerstone instead asked people to sleep somewhere other than their own bed. As a result, publicity and fundraising for the event was significantly affected, making this year's event even more needed to help continue its work supporting people who are street homeless, sofa-surfing, or without the security of a permanent home.

How to get involved:

1. Click [here](#) or visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/BigSleepOut2021> to set up your Just Giving page. This can be done whether you plan to be present on the night or at home boycotting your bed.

2. Click [here](#) or visit <https://cornerstonecds.org.uk/big-sleepout/> to register for the overnight event at Xaverian college. For further information, contact Rachel Taylor on 0161 817 2258, or email fundraising@caritassalford.org.uk.



Destitution Project: Thank you for all donations so far. We have been asked to help with the following list of shortages: 1 litre cartons of orange or apple juice, cartons of WHOLE milk,

Tins of sardines - preferably in oil, tins of fruit (they are almost out of these) - mango, pineapple and mandarin oranges are firm favourites but fruit cocktail also popular, packets of biscuits, boxes of tissues. Thank you, again, for all your kindness!

200 Club:

The August winners are:

£50 B Lynch (147)
£25 M McStay (179)



Readers For Next Weekend (21/22 August)		
SB (5pm)	SJ (9.30am)	SB (11am)
A Grundy	M Roe	K Denton

This Newsletter is sponsored by
HOWARTH'S FUNERAL SERVICE
 Peel House
 638 Blackburn Road, Astley Bridge, Bolton.
 BL1 7AL
 01204 309609



www.hfs.co.uk

Job Vacancies

Salford Diocese

PA/Senior Administrator - Chief Operating Officer's Office (replacement role)

Appointment Type: Full-time, permanent

Location: Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, Salford, M3 6DP

Salary: £26,000 - £28,000 per annum

Cemetery Worker at St Mary's Cemetery, Worsley

Appointment Type: Full-time, permanent

Location: St Mary's Cemetery, Wardley Hall Road, Worsley, Manchester, M28

Salary: £19,760-£20,074.97 per annum

For further information and how to apply please

see: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>

Caritas Diocese of Salford Vacancies

Following a recent review and restructure, the opportunity for two new senior manager posts has been created within Caritas Diocese of Salford to help deliver our strategy as we emerge from the pandemic to new and existing challenges for those experiencing poverty, discrimination and disadvantage. Each post will bring senior leadership and management experience to particular areas of our work. One post will focus on our diverse community and voluntary social action projects and the second on our homelessness and supported accommodation projects.

The vacancies are:

- Senior Manager, Homelessness & Supported Accommodation
- Senior Manager, Social Action Projects

For further information and how to apply please

see: <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/careers/>

External Vacancy

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is seeking eight Community Fundraisers to work with parishes, schools, special interest groups, and individual benefactors to raise awareness, generate prayer, and fundraise to support persecuted Christian communities around the world.

please visit <https://www.charismarecruitment.co.uk/job/community-fundraisers-aid-to-the-church-in-need> to find out more.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



This Sunday we celebrate the Feast Day of the Assumption of Our Lady when, according to our faith, the Holy Mother, “having completed her course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory”.

Although defined as an article of faith by Pope Pius XII, just over half a century ago, the Assumption of Our Lady into heaven has been accepted from back to the earliest of Christian times.

The Assumption signals the end of Mary’s earthly life and marks her return to heaven to be reunited with Jesus. While the bodies of both Jesus and Mary are now in heaven, there is a difference between the Assumption and the Resurrection. Where Jesus arose from the tomb and ascended into heaven by his own power, Mary’s body was taken up to heaven by the power of her Son.

The feast day of this holy and momentous event stems from the middle of the 5th Century when the Commemoration of the Mother of God was celebrated each year on 15 August in a shrine located near Jerusalem. More than 100 years later, the feast also commemorated the end of Mary’s sojourn on earth and was known as the “Dormition of Our Lady.”

When Pope Pius IX defined the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in 1854, it drew attention to the possibility of a dogmatic definition of the Assumption. Both are truths not found explicitly in the Bible which was when many petitioned the Apostolic See for an immediate definition.

Between 1849 and 1940 more than 2,500 petitions were received from bishops and superiors or religious orders across the world of which more than 73% came from the Catholic hierarchy. Finally on 1 November in the Holy Year 1950, the day after the closing of the International Marian Congress in Rome, Pope Pius XII solemnly defined the dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven.

This great event took place in St Peter’s Piazza in the presence of 40 Cardinals, 500 bishops, thousands of priests and more than a million of the faithful.

“Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory,” Pope Pius told the masses.

For many, the most telling verification of the Assumption can be found not only in learned theological studies or definitive doctrinal statements, but in the medium of Mary’s many apparitions which the Church has declared worthy of belief. Where these apparitions have appeared have become beloved Holy shrines visited by millions each year and include the Shrines of Our Lady at Lourdes and Fatima.