



Ordinariate and Parish Church MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

*a Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Southwark
in the Pastoral Care of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham*



ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY

16th August 2020

In the gospel reading today, we hear Mary say 'The Almighty has done great things for me'. The Resurrection of Christ is the guarantee that in him God has given us the power to conquer sin and death. Our Lady is assumed into glory through the power of her Son and we pray that one day, like her, the fulfilment of glory will be ours. We are all destined for heaven where Mary is now with her glorified Son. Her assumption gives glory to God the Father who has done great things for her.



Sunday Mass at 11am with a congregation continues and is live-streamed. We are using FaceBook, but move to YouTube next term.

Track & Trace requires that we keep a record of who enters the church building. The paper record is kept locked away, and will be destroyed after 21 days.

Sign up to attend, on-line. It makes it easier if you are registered with the parish. All our systems now use *MyChurchSuite*. If you are registered you can log-in.

Volunteering as stewards, readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion is all done now through *MyChurchSuite*. You can go via a browser, but it's easier to download the App from the *App Store* or *Google Play*.

Face covering are now required in all Churches. Please bring your own, although some can be provided. Be considerate for the common good.

When you arrive for Mass, if you attend physically, there are the now familiar procedures. Thank you to all those who have complied.

Take full part in the Mass wherever you take part.

Financial giving. Thank you to all those who continue to give financially. *See the website.*

The Assumption of Our Lady is celebrated today. Normally the 15th Aug, but being a Saturday we get to celebrate it on Sunday!

Mass Schedules are different in August. The 1.05pm weekday Mass is aimed at city workers. As most have still not returned, we may have to re-think timings of Mass once term begins again. Thoughts to FrC

Next term we hope to have Mass during the week and on Sunday 8.30am. The regulations might be different by then, but atm we still need stewards. Will you sign up?

Stewards are required whenever the Church is open. If we open more often, an additional task will be to 'sanitise' the church after each Mass on Sundays and weekday.

Catholic History Walks have recommenced. The first is this Wed 19th, 6pm from MPB - London Bridge, St Olaf, the Viking battles and the birthplace of St John Henry Newman. The next is Wed 26th Aug, 6pm, St Elizabeth's, Richmond - Richmond Palace, Henry VIII, and to St John Henry Newman's childhood home. *See website.*

Summer reading or listening - want some easy reading or listening? For this *Year of the Word*, try 'The Father who keeps his promises' by Scott Hahn.

Keep an eye on friends and neighbours. Some might still be afraid.





The Glorious Assumption of Our Lady

On 1 November 1950, Venerable Pope Pius XII proclaimed as Dogma that the Virgin Mary “having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory”. But why is Mary glorified by her Assumption into Heaven? St Luke, sees the roots of the exaltation and praise of Mary in Elizabeth’s words: “Blessed is she who believed” (Lk 1:45). And the *Magnificat*, this canticle to God, alive and active in history is a hymn of faith and love, which springs from the heart of the Virgin.

Today’s Gospel passage recalls the presence of God in history and in the unfolding of events; in particular, there is a reference to the Second Book of Samuel (6:1-15), in which David moves the Holy Ark of the Covenant. The comparison is clear to the Evangelist: Mary expecting the birth of her Son Jesus is the Holy Ark that contains the presence of God, a presence that is a source of consolation, of total joy. John, in fact, leaps in Elizabeth’s womb, just as David danced before the Ark. Mary is the “visit” of God that creates joy. Zechariah, in his song of praise says explicitly: “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people”. The house of Zechariah experienced the visit of God by the unexpected birth of John the Baptist, but above all by the presence of Mary, who bore within her womb the Son of God.

But now let us ask ourselves: how does the Assumption of Mary help our journey? The first answer is: in the Assumption we see that in God there is room for man, God himself is the house with many rooms of which Jesus speaks (cf. Jn 14:2); God is man’s home, in God there is God’s space. And Mary, by unit-

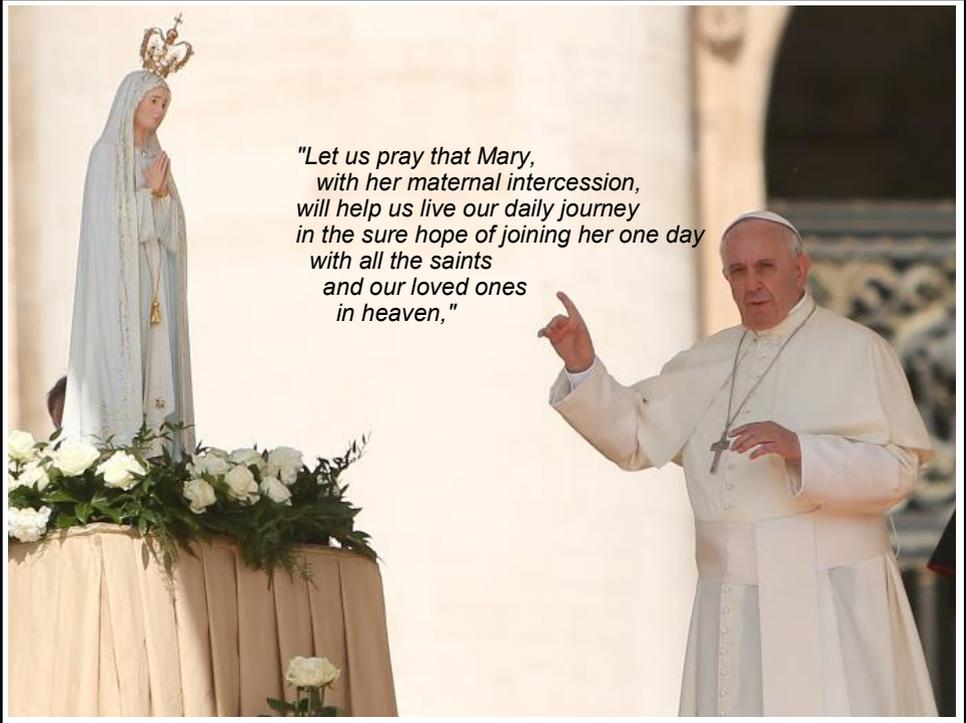
ing herself, united to God, does not distance herself from us. She does not go to an unknown galaxy, but whoever approaches God comes closer, for God is close to us all; and Mary, united to God, shares in the presence of God, is so close to us, to each one of us.

There is a beautiful passage from St Gregory the Great on St Benedict that we can apply to Mary too. St Gregory the Great says that the heart of St Benedict expanded so much that all creation could enter it. This is even truer of Mary: Mary, totally united to God, has a heart so big that all creation can enter this heart, and the *ex-votos* in every part of the earth show it. Mary is close, she can hear us, she can help us, she is close to everyone of us. In God there is room for man and God is close, and Mary, united to God, is very close; she has a heart as great as the heart of God.

And so, faith and hope and love are combined. Today there is much discussion on a better world to be awaited: it would be our hope. If and when this better world comes, we do not know, I do not know. What is certain is that a world which distances itself from God does not become better but worse. Only God’s presence can guarantee a good world. Let us leave it at that.

What is there to say then? A great heart, the presence of God in the world, room for God within us and room for us in God, hope, being expected: this is the symphony of this Feast, the instruction that meditating on this Solemnity gives us. Mary is the dawn and the splendour of the Church triumphant; she is the consolation and the hope of people still on the journey.

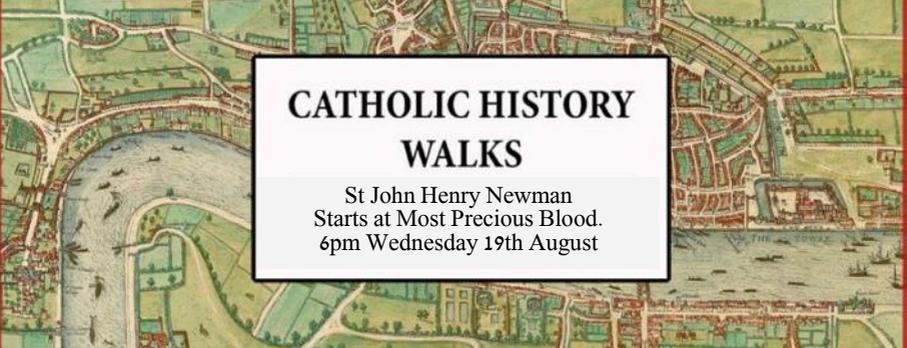
Let us entrust ourselves to her Motherly intercession, that she may obtain that he strengthen our faith in eternal life; may she help us to live the best way the time that God has given us with hope. May it be a Christian hope, that is not only nostalgia for Heaven, but a living and active desire for God who is here in the world, a desire for God that makes us tireless pilgrims, nourishing in us the courage and the power of faith, which at the same time is the courage and the power of love. Amen.



"Let us pray that Mary, with her maternal intercession, will help us live our daily journey in the sure hope of joining her one day with all the saints and our loved ones in heaven,"



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CATHOLIC HISTORY WALKS

St John Henry Newman
Starts at Most Precious Blood.
6pm Wednesday 19th August

This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
This Sunday <i>Assumption of Our Lady</i>	11.00am	Parishioners
Mon 17th <i>feria</i>		
Tues 18th <i>feria</i>		
Wed 19th <i>(St John Eudes)</i>		
Thur 20th <i>St Bernard</i>		
Fri 21st <i>Pope St Pius X</i>		
Sat 22nd <i>Queenship of Mary</i>		
Next Sunday <i>1st Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	11.00am	Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Isaiah 22:19-23 Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20

Sacrament of Confession. By appointment

Evensong 4.00pm, Sunday & Benediction, *suspended for August*
6.30pm, Thursday *suspended for August*

Last week: £905.00 Standing Orders and On-line payments

Safeguarding. The parish is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding Officers: Kate Pope, Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 0800 0935063

Holy Father's Intention for August: *The Maritime World.* We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

The Ordinariate weekly intercessions: The Oxford Group & Mgr Andrew Burnham, Frs Paul Berett, John Hunwicke, Stephen Lambert, Daniel Lloyd and Michael Ward.

For your prayers:

In formation: for Ministry, Br Philip OP (Jeff Gerlomes)

Those to be married Katya to Henry

Those who are Sick: Dora, Mary, Mark, David, Rebecca, George, David, Betty,
Fr Charles, David

And for all those with Coronavirus

Coronavirus: The medical profession, doctors, nurses, first responders, support-staff, research scientists, those who make big-impact decision,

Recently Departed: Bill East *priest* Isaac Scharbach, John Bourlet

Find us on: Facebook: "preciousbloodSE1" Twitter: @preciousblood1

Fr Christopher Pearson OLW *Parish Priest*

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