

The Parish of St Dunstan and St Jude

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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Sunday 15th August 2021

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Sat 14 th	<i>St Maximilian Mary Kolbe</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Wayne John Turner (RIP) Pro Populo
		11.30am-1.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm 5.30pm	Confessions Confessions Vigil Mass	
Sun 15 th	SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Bernadette Johnson (RIP)
		10.30am	Holy Mass	Catherine and John Brophy
		12noon	Holy Mass	Martin and Louise Doherty
		6.30pm	Holy Mass	Thomas Varghese
Mon 16 th	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Walsh family (Ints)
Tues 17 th	<i>Feria</i>	10.00am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Mary Moy (Ints.)
		7.00pm	Holy Mass	Michaëlle and James Cook (Ints.)
Wed 18 th	<i>Feria</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Mary Maloney (RIP)
		6.00pm	<i>Vigil and Reception</i>	Noel Anderson (RIP)
Thurs 19 th	<i>Feria</i>	11.00am	Funeral Service	Noel Anderson (RIP)
		NO EVENING MASS		
Fri 20 th	<i>St Bernard</i>	9.30am	Holy Mass	Anthony and Peggy Morrissy (RIP)
		7.00pm	Latin EF Mass	Pat Hardiman (RIP)
Sat 21 st	<i>St Pius X</i>	11.00am	Holy Mass	Bill McGown Pro Populo
		11.30am-1.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		11.30am-12.30pm 4.45-5.15pm 5.30pm	Confessions Confessions Vigil Mass	Kathleen and Peter Brand (RIP)
Sun 22 nd	TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY	9.15am (<i>St Jude's</i>)	Holy Mass	Mary Dunleavy (RIP)
		10.30am	Holy Mass	Margaret and family
		12 noon	Holy Mass	Tony Mooney (RIP)
		6.30pm	Holy Mass	Sister Hilary (Ints.)

Today is the beautiful summer feast of Our Lady's Assumption. This was defined as a dogma by Pope Pius XII. The word *dogma* seems to carry a rather negative connotation in speech these days – often being interpreted as an arrogant opinion! But the true meaning of dogma, coming from a Greek word meaning 'to seem good', is an authoritative teaching – a teaching whose truth and authenticity can be trusted. This is the way Holy Church uses this word. A defined dogma then is a teaching binding on all faithful Christians for it is revealed truth.

In St Paul's letter to the Philippians he writes: 'I am confident in this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion.' (Phil 1:6). God the Father began his good work in Mary in her Immaculate Conception, being graced, as she was, from the first moment of her life. Mary's life was one of the trusting disciple, where even when it was tested most at the cross she stood by her Son. In Mary's assumption, her entrance into heavenly glory, God's work begun in her was brought to completion.

The dogma of the Assumption also speaks to us of our hope of heaven.

Our world is one presently gripped with the fear of death. For those with no faith in the God we worship this fear is real because it means our ultimate extinction. But the feast of the Assumption is a celebration about our destiny too. That whatever in this world may assail us, we are confident in the love God has for us. As today's preface to the canon of the Mass says: the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is *a sign of sure hope and comfort to your pilgrim people* – that where Our Lady Mary is now – we hope one day to follow.

Finally, Our Lady is assumed into heaven, not only to share the beauty and glory of heaven, but to be an intercessor for us. And so in that ancient prayer to Our Lady, the Salve Regina, we pray:

*Turn then thine eyes of mercy towards us,
and after this our exile,
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.*

There is no evening Mass on Thursday.

This Friday is the monthly Latin Mass according to the Missal of 1962. This month it will be a celebration of Low Mass for the feast of St Bernard.

After many years' service, Tony Blundell has stepped back from his role as Parish Treasurer. We are grateful for all that he has done during this time in bringing his knowledge and experience to the financial workings of the Parish and for his contribution to the Parish Finance Committee.

Final Hymn on Sunday

Immaculate Mary!
Our hearts are on fire,
that title so wondrous
fills all our desire.

*Ave, ave, ave Maria!
Ave, ave, ave Maria!*

We pray for our mother,
the church upon earth,
and bless, sweetest Lady,
the land of our birth.

For poor, sick, afflicted
thy mercy we crave,
and comfort the dying
thou light of the grave.

To God be all glory
and worship for aye,
and to God's virgin mother
an endless Ave.

Lectio Divina in the Conference Room after morning Mass every Monday. You are invited to read and reflect on the Gospel of the day and think about God's words and reflect on your encounters with God and everyday life with its joys and challenges. Everybody welcome.

Jam is back! Ewa van Lierop's delicious jams, marmalades and chutneys will be on sale outside St Dunstan's Church after Sunday Masses on Sunday 29th August. All proceeds will go to the Jane Smith Education Fund through which we are currently funding Loreto Sisters' schools in South Sudan.

Church Readers at St Dunstan's and St Jude's. If you used to read at Sunday Mass and would like to re-join the rota, or if you would like to start to read at Mass, please could you email the Parish office. It would be great to have a few more readers on the rota. Also, it seems a good time to restart the readers at weekday Mass. If you would like to offer, please let the office or Fr Philip or Fr John know.

Gift Aid Envelopes. There are still a number of Gift Aid boxes that haven't been collected for both churches. If you normally have a box of envelopes and haven't yet collected these, please could you collect your box from the Parish office either on a Wednesday or a Friday. Donating through Gift Aid means we are able to claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give. It will not cost you any extra. If you are a tax payer and you would like to Gift Aid your donation, please contact the Parish Office.

During this time of pandemic, the diocese is asking us to continue, for the time being, to **keep social distance, face coverings, and to sanitise our hands** as we enter and leave church. A number of people are still fearful of larger gatherings, and so we try to ensure that everyone feels safe and comfortable during the celebration of Mass.

There are no longer restrictions on capacity for weddings, funerals or baptisms. Please note that for baptisms, only one child is permitted to be baptised at any one time unless they are siblings.

Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. Restrictions around us, due to the effectiveness of the vaccination programme are being gently lifted. There are a number of Parishioners receiving the Blessed Sacrament at home again. If you, or someone you know, would now like to resume this, let one of the priests know, or email the presbytery.

Eucharistic Ministers: Please have a word with Fr Philip or Fr John, or email the Parish office, if you would be willing to help with Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. There are basic safety guidelines for this during the present time to make sure that such things are as safe as possible.

We pray for those who have died recently: Mary Masterson, Baby Emma Rose Boulton, Noel Anderson, Sr Joan Coffey.

We pray for those who are being Baptised today: Arlo and Sofia-Rose at St Dunstan's.

Walsingham Pilgrimage 3rd – 5th September 2021. The final payments for the Walsingham Pilgrimage must be made by Friday 22nd August. The total cost of a standard single room is £170, and the cost of an ensuite room is £200 (remember to deduct any deposit you have paid from the total amount). Payments can be made by cash or cheque. Please make cheques payable to 'St Dunstan's Church'. Place your payments in an envelope marked 'Walsingham' with your name, address and contact number and post or hand into the Presbytery. Please let Isabel O'Connell know if you have any dietary requirements on 07758004306.

March for Life UK will take place on Saturday 4th September in central London from approximately 10am – 4.30pm. To ask for coach details or to book a seat, contact Brian Healy at brianhealy@talktalk.net or phone 07726311261. Recently there was the highest ever annual abortion figures in the UK (last year saw 210,860 abortions in England and Wales as well as the introduction of home/DIY abortions. Let's do our part in turning the tide in our nation. More information, or to give a donation, please visit marchforlife.co.uk or contact Isabel on 07773 501721 / izzyvs@gmail.com.

Are you or anyone you know living with dementia?

The Birmingham Irish Association run a weekly group in St Dunstan's Conference Room so people with Dementia meet other people with Dementia for socialisation and fun activities. If you or someone you know may be interested in receiving support please contact: Ruth Geoghegan, ruth@birish.org.uk or 0749571170.

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.

COLLECTIONS

	St Dunstan's	St Jude's
Gift Aid	£602.30	£ 81.00
Non-Gift Aid	£752.91	£145.10

Standing Orders are a great way to make regular donations. If you would like a standing order form for either church, please contact the Parish office.

The Parish Office will be open from 9.00am until 5.00pm on Wednesday and Friday each week. In order to minimise the number of people in the office and for the safety of those at work, until further notice we ask you to observe the following:

If you need to see the Parish Administrator or one of the Priests: we would ask that you phone or email in advance, so that an appointment can be arranged at a convenient time for both. You will not be invited in the office unless you have a re-arranged appointment.

If you have an enquiry: please phone or email first to see if it can be sorted in this way.

For those wishing to book Mass intentions: please bring a sealed envelope clearly labelled with the intention details (person's name, required date etc) and include the offering inside. This can then be handed in at the office and if requested a Mass card be signed and given.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MASS

FIRST READING *Apocalypse 11:19, 12:1-6, 10*

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it.

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready.

Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R: On your right stands the queen,
in garments of gold.**

The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.
Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words:
forget your own people and your father's house. **R.**

So will the king desire your beauty:
He is your lord, pay homage to him.
They are escorted amid gladness and joy;
they pass within the palace of the king. **R.**

SECOND READING *Corinthians 15:20-26*

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Mary has been taken up to heaven;
all the choirs of angels are rejoicing.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 1:39-56

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said: 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord and my spirit exults in God my saviour; because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid. Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me. Holy is his name, and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him. He has shown the power of his arm, he has routed the proud of heart. He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the lowly. The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away. He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy – according to the promise he made to our ancestors – of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.' Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back home.