



PARISH NEWS FOR THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, ANDOVER

St John the Baptist, Andover and St John Fisher, Whitchurch

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Office Hours: Mon: 8.30am - 3.30pm; Tues & Thurs: 8.30am - 12 noon; Fri. 8.30am - 2.30pm.

NB: The Office is CLOSED on Wednesdays / Canon Chris' Day off: Wednesday.

15th and 16th August – THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS: Entrance Antiphon: Glorious things are spoken of you, O Mary, who today were exalted above the choirs of angels into eternal triumph with Christ.

Psalm Response: Go up, Lord, to the place of your rest, you and the arc of your strength.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia.* Blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it. *Alleluia*

Communion Antiphon: Blessed is the womb of the Virgin Mary, which bore the sun of the eternal Father.

SUNDAY MASS: Entrance Antiphon: A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet, and on her head a crown of 12 stars.

Psalm Response: On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia.* Mary has been taken up into heaven; the host of angels rejoice. *Alleluia*

Communion Antiphon: All generations will call me blessed, for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

I am not always completely honest when people ask me if I need anything, or if I am okay. I would usually say I am fine so those who ask can be freed from the responsibility of worrying about me. I would usually say I don't need anything, so people around me don't feel the need to give. In between all my words and my "feels," as they say, I really want to be in the presence of those whom I love and those who love me. It is a blessing when those are the same people in one's life - those we love and those who love us - because when this is so, their presence or visit makes our heart leap with joy and fullness. The fullness one feels from being cared for, loved, missed, thought of, and remembered and the joy one experiences when the presence of the Holy Spirit rises to the surface when love comes into our home.

As I reflect upon the assumption of the Blessed Mother, I think about how often I have found myself seeking her intercession and asking her to stay close by. I find great comfort when Blessed Mother Mary sits with me for a while and keeps me company, especially when I have nothing else to say and no more tears to cry. When my day is challenging and long, in prayer, I rest my head on her lap, and she simply whispers, "Rest . . . rest awhile."

Considering my temptation to have a list of requests when I come to God in prayer, it is nice to rest quietly on the lap of the Blessed Mother while God works on what troubles me, and either lightens my burdens or strengthens my spirit. I, like Elizabeth, feel a leap of joy within me when Mary spends time with me. Today, let us take off our heavy shoes of worry, set down our heavy bag of self-doubt, past trauma, and the heartbreak we sometimes carry around with us. Let us put aside our list of many needs, wants, and desires, and just for a moment, ask the Blessed Mother if we can just lay our head on her lap to rest awhile as we entrust our life path to God.

V.A.

Blessed Mother, keep us company in this life and help us rest when it is time for us to rise into new life.

Blessed Mother Mary, pray for us.

BAPTISM COURSE EVENING

The next pre-Baptism evening course will be on **Wednesday 16th September** from 7.00pm to approximately 9.00pm in the Parish Hall. Completion of the session is required before booking a baptism. To register for the course, please email / telephone the Parish Office. Both parents are requested to attend - not children - and must be registered with the Parish.

RCIA – JOURNEY IN FAITH Have you thought about joining the Catholic Church and would like to find out more?

Do you know someone who is interested in the joining the Catholic Church?

Did you miss out on Confirmation in the past but would like to become a full member of the Church?

We are starting a new course on **Wednesday 16th September**. The sessions would run weekly, every Wednesday from **7.00pm to 9.00pm** in the Parish Hall. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office on 01264 352829

BIBLE STUDY COURSE

There will be a new eight-week Bible Study Course in the Parish Hall on Monday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.00pm starting on 5th October and ending on 30th November including a break for half term.

Would those interested please contact Mark Johnson-Ferguson at: mandj.jf@gmail.com or phone 0790 296 7210 or give your names and contact details in to the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS FROM 15th August – 28th August.

No 10.00am Mass on Saturday 15th August.

Congratulations to James David Michael Jordan who is to be baptised this weekend.

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This Saturday we welcome Fr Simon Everson who will be celebrating the Saturday Evening Mass for us.

Sat. 15th August Andover Mass 6.00pm *Holy Souls in reparation and thanksgiving. (No confessions this Saturday evening)*

Sunday 16th August – THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Whitchurch Mass 8.30am *For the People of the Parish*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am *Holy Souls in reparation and thanksgiving.*

Mon. 17th Andover Mass 10.00am *For All Souls.*

Tue. 18th Andover Mass 10.00am *Johan Fernandes - Birthday Blessings*

Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm

Wed. 19th No Mass or Service

Thur. 20th Whitchurch Mass 10.00am *St Bernard, Abbot, Doctor of the Church, memorial. Edward Henry Foran RIP*

Funeral Service for Teresa Kearley RIP – Charlton Park Crematorium at 4.30pm

Fri. 21st Andover Mass 10.00am *St Pius X, Pope, memorial. Janine Marie Thérèse and Austen Robert Armstrong RIP –*

(No Exposition today)

Anniversary

Sat 22nd Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition and Confessions. ***Queenship of Mary, memorial. Canon Barry RIP***

Sat 22nd Andover Mass 6.00pm *Patricia Moore RIP – Anniversary*

Sunday 23rd August – THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Whitchurch Mass 8.30am *George and Mary Ann Mahy RIP*

Farleigh School Mass 10.00am -

Andover Mass 10.30am *For the People of the Parish*

Mon 24th Andover Mass 10.00am **ST BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle, feast.** *Kusumanathi Dissanayaka RIP - Anniversary*

Tue. 25th Andover Mass 10.00am *[St Louis IX, King of France, optional memorial or: St Joseph Calasanz, Founder, optional memorial]*

Jim Cullen RIP - Anniversary

Andover - Healing Prayers from 6.30pm - 7.00pm

Wed. 26th No Mass or Service

Thur. 27th Whitchurch Mass 10.00am *St Monica, memorial. Beatrice Riggs RIP*

Fri. 28th Funeral Service for Katherine Johnson RIP – Charlton Park Crematorium at 9.00am

Fri. 28th Andover Mass 10.00am *St Augustine of Hippo, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial. For the Souls in Purgatory*

Sat 29th Andover Mass 10.00am followed by Exposition and Confessions. ***The Passion of St John the Baptist, memorial.***

Adrian Rathnayaka – Birthday blessings

Please pray for: Esmé Coveney, Rita Lane, Margaret Williams, Patrick Arnold, Fiona Hilleard, Tony Fabian, Helen O'Connell, Douglas Manning, Diane Mahoney, Rita Casey, Carol Keenan, Eileen Wharton, Oran Keenan, Margarita Hardiman, Robert Colledge, Eileen Price, Concepta Cuddihy, Frank Hinds, Clan Furtado, Lisa Rammage, Susanne Church, Sandy Saunders, Margaret Blair, Pat Middleton and Angelo and Angela Alvarez.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Teresa Kearley, Katherine Johnson, Pat Judge and Horace Herst.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

Last Call! ANDOVER CATENIANS PARISH BBQ – SUNDAY 23rd AUGUST

Tickets are available from the Catenians after the Saturday evening Mass and the Sunday 10:30am Mass at St John the Baptist. Ticket includes: a burger and a sausage (each served in a bun); side salads and a dessert. Ticket prices: Adults: £6.00 Children (7 and under): Free (a ticket is still required for catering purposes) Discounted family tickets are also available.

Both cash and card payments are accepted. There will also be a Charity Raffle.

IT'S TEA O'CLOCK!

Come to tea at St John Fisher Church, Bell Street, Whitchurch on Saturday 12th September from 2.00pm – 4.00pm.

Join us for afternoon tea and a chance to catch up – all are welcome! Bring a plate to share – drinks provided.

Raffle raising Funds for the Andover Foodbank. For more information contact the Parish Office or Jim White on 07881 912373