

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Jan Deregowski; David O'Donovan; Tony Brosnan; Peter Neal
and all the faithful departed.

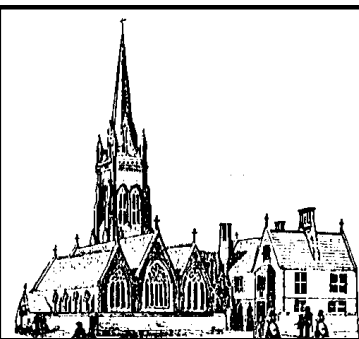
Our Saturday Mass is usually offered for those who are unwell

Solemnity of The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary Parish Mass Book Page 178

Saturday	15th	6.00 pm	-
SUNDAY	16th	8.30 am	The People of the Parish
THE ASSUMPTION		10.00 am	Jan Deregowski (RIP - anniv)
OF THE BLESSED		12 Noon	David O'Donovan (RIP)
VIRGIN MARY		6.00 pm	-
Monday	17th	9.30 am	-
Tuesday	18th	9.30 am	Tony Brosnan (RIP)
		10.00 am	<i>Tuesday Morning Prayer Group</i>
		2.30pm	<i>St Anthony of Padua Prayer Group</i>
Wednesday	19th	<i>No Mass today. Church is closed,</i>	
Thursday	20th	9.30 am	Peter Neal (RIP - anniv)
<i>St Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church</i>			
Friday	21st	9.30 am	-
<i>St Pius X, Pope</i>			
Saturday	22nd	10.00 am	The sick and housebound
<i>The Queenship of The Blessed Virgin Mary</i>		10.30 am	<i>Exposition and Benediction</i>

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY 5.00 - 5.40PM

THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY
11AM - 3PM, (Closed on Wednesday except Holy Days)



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF St THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, FULHAM

60 Rylston Rd, London SW6 7HW

Tel: 020 7385 4040

Email: fulham@rcdow.org.uk

Web: fulhamcatholic.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr James Neal

Administrator: Mr Gerald Daly

Safeguarding Representative: Ms Shirley Mills

Email: fulhamsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Dear Friends

In 2021, the late Pope Francis reflected on how this Sunday's great Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary is of everyday importance to us. His remarks remind us why this, of all the Feasts of Mary, is for us a Holy Day of Obligation, this year kept in combination with our Sunday obligation. The mystery of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven can get us through dull, repetitive, difficult days, said the Pope:

"The poet Dante calls the Virgin Mary 'humbler and loftier than any creature' (Paradise, XXXIII, 2)," he noted. "It is beautiful to think that the humblest and loftiest creature in history, the first to win heaven with her entire being, in soul and body, lived out her life for the most part within the domestic walls, she lived out her life in the ordinary, in humility."

Taking up the name-title she was given by the Angel Gabriel, Pope Francis said that "the days of the Full of Grace were not all that striking." "They followed one after the other, often exactly the same, in silence: externally, nothing extraordinary. But God's gaze was always upon her, admiring her humility, her availability, the beauty of her heart never stained by sin."



The Pope said that this fact is a "huge message of hope for us, for you, for each one of us, for you whose days are always the same, tiring and often difficult." "Mary reminds you today that God calls you too to this glorious destiny," he said. And, the Pope emphasized, "These are not beautiful words: It is the truth." It is not a well-crafted, beautiful ending, a pious illusion, or a false consolation. **No, it is the truth, it is pure reality**, it is as real, as live, and true as the Madonna assumed into Heaven. Let us celebrate her today with the love of children," he invited, "let us celebrate her joyful but humble, enlivened by the hope of one day being with her in Heaven!"

Fr James

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN GIVING

Don't forget you can also make an offering via the 'Touch & Tap' at the door. For details of methods of Planned Giving, see the leaflet at the door of Church. Parish bank account details are below, and on the website *Donate* page.

PARISH BANK DETAILS: HSBC

Sort code: 40-05-20

Acct. No.: 11263137

Acct name: WRCDT ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY FULHAM

S.V.P.(SOCIETY OF St VINCENT DE PAUL): The next meeting of our new SVP Conference is on Thursday 17 September at 7.30pm in No. 62.

- We are seeking to know if there are people with mobility issues who would get to church if a lift was available. Know anyone in this situation? Please contact the office or Fr James
- The Food Hub collection is up and running, and you'll find the collection point at the back of church near St Joseph's shrine. Posters in church show you what items are needed for donation.
- **Currently the contact telephone number for any calls to the SVP is the Parish Telephone: 020 7385 4040**

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: Usually on 15 August, this year this great Solemnity and Day of Obligation is moved to **Sunday 16th** in England - just in case you were wondering about the week's schedule!

SOMEBODY STOLE OUR LADY OF LOURDES: The CCTV shows that at 3.30am last Wednesday a man walked slowly around our site and, having taken a good look through the cemetery gates (perhaps with a view to seeing how accessible other properties might be) he calmly walked back and uprooted the statue of Our Lady of Lourdes from the "grotto" outside the Rectory. ***This is a sad loss.*** Keep a look-out in case Our Lady has been discarded anywhere locally. We will put some thought into a worthy, and more secure, replacement.

ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO "SPEAK SHAKESPEARE IN THE CHAPEL" Our parishioner, voice coach Matthew Collins, loves helping people to explore their spoken voices - especially with the help of Shakespeare! **THURS 27 AUGUST (5.45pm - 7.45pm)** he's offering another workshop at Brompton Cemetery chapel: Explore Shakespeare Sonnets by Speaking Them. Tickets £16.50 - refreshments served. To book go to www.matthewcollins.com. Poster & QR code in church.

PROPOSED SUNDAY PARKING RESTRICTIONS: The period of consultation ended this week. However, it is still worth contacting your MP, Councillors and Council Officers to register opposition to the plan to impose all day parking restrictions seven days a week around the church.

MARCH FOR LIFE 2026, SAT 5 SEPT: The *March for Life* is a growing act of witness in the UK and many other nations, not just Catholics but all pro-life communities. The theme this year is "Abortion hurts the family." Details of the theme and events at www.marchforlife.co.uk . 10.30 – 1pm Pro-Life Family Summit with events for all ages at Emmanuel Centre, Marsham St SW1

10.30am Mass at Westminster Cathedral with many of the bishops of England and Wales

March 1.30pm Tufton St, SW1 – **3pm** Parliament Square for speeches.



DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM SAT 19 SEPT: The cost of hiring a coach for this is now too much to make it possible for us. So, we are combining with White City parish. See the sign-up sheet in church: ***We have 3 places remaining.*** The cost for coach + pilgrim donation is £30. Coach leaves 7am and return is about 8pm. It is a long day, but usually a lovely event. This year with Archbishop Richard.

ARE YOU A NEW STUDENT GOING TO UNIVERSITY SOON? See the flyers in church for information about Catholic support for student societies. Contact www.catholicstudentnetwork.co.uk

ENDORSEMENT OF SCHOOL APPLICATIONS: If you will be seeking the endorsement of a school application for ANY PURPOSE, Nursery, Primary, Secondary transfer etc, for ANY school or institution, between Sept - January, please register your intent with Fr James TODAY after your Sunday Mass. If you have any questions or doubts - ask Fr James after your Sunday Mass. (*Please note: Fr James won't be able to respond to Email or take telephone enquiries on this subject.*) Ample provision to meet to discuss possible endorsements will be available, but close to the closing dates for applications Fr James will be on annual leave.

INFORMATION FROM URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS WIMBLEDON: Join one of our open events to hear why Ursuline High School may be the right choice for your child, take a tour of the school, and meet many staff and students. In addition, we'll share our prospectus, enrichment, wellbeing & personal development programmes, the application process and other important information. **YEAR 7 (MAIN SCHOOL), 2027+ ENTRY** Open Evening: Wed 23rd Sept 6.00 – 8.30pm.

Open Mornings: Monday 28th September – Friday 2nd October 2026. See poster or visit: www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/admissions/open-events-2/