

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Although we might consider this time of the year a quiet time in the life of the church, this weekend we have two very good reasons to think otherwise. Firstly, it is the Solemn Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady into Heaven. It is a celebration of the purity and holiness of Mary untouched by original sin, perfect at birth, and untouched by even death itself.

Secondly, we rejoice that we can hold Masses this weekend for the first time in several months. Although it is a far cry from the times we have gathered in relatively large numbers, it is, nonetheless a move in the right direction. It is good to be together, a group of people representing our wider community. Thank you to all who have been able to assist in the preparations of the church, keeping it as safe as possible.

Please note that we are also able to have readers should anyone want to volunteer. There is a special process of cleansing and safeguarding which is straight forward for anyone wishing to read. Please note also that Eucharistic Ministers will be welcome and are much needed. Once again anyone who wishes to help with communion time will be asked to follow a simple but safe procedure.

Over the next few weekends, we will be welcoming Father Chris Bester for Mass. People will be in place to help and assist him in the way we are doing things. He will be watching our streamed Mass to familiarise himself. Thanks in advance to Father Chris!

We continue to remember in our prayers those in need in the world. Let us also remember our local needs – we think of the families of those killed in the derailment in Scotland along with prayers for the souls of those who have died.

Please keep yourselves and others safe around you.

God bless and take care,

Father Anton s.c.j.

**Our Lady & Saint John the Baptist, Ashley
and
Our Lady & Saint Werburgh, Clayton**

The parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216

Parish Priest: Father Anton Madej, SCJ

Clayton and Ashley: 01782 613023

[Parishes Office Hours: Wed/ Thur/Fri/Sat 10.00 am – 1 pm]

Chaplain's Office for inpatients at the Royal Stoke: 01782 676400

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**Sunday 16th August 2020
Feast Of The Assumption
Sunday Readings Year A, Weekday Readings Cycle Two**

The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with Thee; Blessed art thou among women, And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, Now and at the hour of our death. Amen V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. R. Be it done unto me according to thy word. Hail Mary. . .	And the Word was made flesh. R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary. . . V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen
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