

GOSPEL REFLECTION: THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

A Special Place for Mary.

Catholics are a little different from other Christians. We are the ones with a very special place in our hearts for Mary. Our devotions might seem a little sentimental to others, but this is not the case. Mary, often depicted as meek and mild, was in fact a woman of great strength and insight. More to the point, Mary is on the side of ordinary men women and children everywhere.

Today Mary tells us about a liberating God who is all about turning human values upside down. We may look up to the rich the successful and the glamorous but God doesn't. We may aspire to be like our X Factor idols but this isn't the Christian aspiration. Of God, Mary tells us, "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."

Mary voices God's opposition to oppression, injustice and greed. Mary, herself a 'lowly servant', is on the side of all those who find life a daily struggle. Is it any wonder we so often pray for her intercession, particularly in these days of difficulty?

Luke does not mention the death of Mary in his writings, but by the sixth century, Christians had already begun to speculate about the nature of Mary's death. They could not believe that Mary's body underwent decay after the unique role she had played in history. The dogma of the Assumption, founded in the origins of popular faith, was proclaimed in 1950 by Pope Pius XII.

Exam Results

When you look at the people who make the world go round, you may be surprised at the exams that they did or didn't manage to pass. As you get older you realise that it isn't the exams in themselves that were important but how you moved forward from that point. This of course is difficult for teenagers to believe when the importance of exams has been drummed into them from the earliest youth. We praise their efforts, and we support them in whatever they want to do next.

Bitesize "Don't try to be different. Just be good. To be good is different enough." - Arthur Freed



PARISH PRAYER – Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word and a new consecration to your service, that your love might grow among us and your kingdom come, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Permanent Deacons: Revs Martin Sanderson & Richard Jones
(deaconrick@sacredheartdereham.org.uk)

Parish Music team: Judy Reid, Kathleen Edmunds & Paul McIntee.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Paul McIntee

Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



Parish Priest: Fr Jay T. Magpuyo
35 London Road, Dereham, Norfolk, NR191AS

Tel: 01362 694066. Email:

edsacredheart@gmail.com

Registered Charity No. 278742

www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk



Sunday 16th August 2026 - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

[Sundays Year A, 20th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year II, Psalter Week 4]

MASSSES in the PARISH

Saturday 15th August	Feria
18.00 MASS	
Sunday 16th August	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Solemnity) Holy Day of Obligation
09.00 MASS	For the People of the Parish
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	Ron Thurstance + (JD)
Monday 17th August	Feria
- No Mass	
Tuesday 18th August	Feria
10.00 MASS	
Wednesday 19th August	Feria
10.00 MASS	Hilda & William Pritchard + (CP)
Thursday 20th August	St Bernard
10.00 MASS	
Friday 21st August	St Pius X
- No Mass	
Saturday 22nd August	Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
18.00 <i>First MASS of Sunday</i>	For the People of the Parish
Sunday 23rd August	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00 MASS	
11.00 MASS <i>Live streamed</i>	

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Thursday after 10.00 Mass and Saturday at 17.30
EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION: Thursday after Mass

Rosary & Morning Prayer are said weekdays before Mass from 09:15.

Please note the 18.00 and 11.00 weekend Masses are normally sung.

For Live Streamed Masses Search for Dereham Catholic Church on YouTube, or use the link on the parish website.

The parish newsletter is available on the parish website from Friday each week.

Anniversaries this week: William Albert Schmidt, Julian Peter Spetch, Mary Porter, Richard Burrows, Catherine Todd. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits: If you or any member of your family is admitted to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and would like to have a visit from a Catholic Priest, please inform a nurse on the ward and contact will be made through the Chaplaincy. If you are admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn, please contact Fr. Peter Rollings at the Presbytery on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick before going into hospital, please contact Fr. Jay either by phone or by email.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] - Please pray for: Derek Williams, Patsy Gray, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Katherine Vella, Frank Vella, Pauline Organ, Pat Grout, George Mealy, Peggy Mealy, Richard Allison, Marion Ring-Davies, Patsy Thompson, Ann McWilliams, Margaret Glendon-Doyle, Mila Kaunaite, Anne Sibley, Hillary Bushell, Ann Williams, Matthew Williams, Frank Crawley, John Salmon, Mad Knight, Paul Holdsworth, Joss Holdsworth, Patsy Tracey.

Money Matters:

DONA donations received 3 Aug were £401.45. This was for donations in June/July as follows: Offertory £293.23; Flowers and Candles £13.27; General donations £19.68; Life Charities £9.84; Peters Pence 26.07 and Stella Maris £39.36. Personal giving via BACs: £2,265.

Gift Aid - Rex is in the process of finalizing the parish Gift Aid claim for tax year 6th April 2025 to 5th April 2026 and would be obliged if parishioners who are members of the scheme would let him know if there have been any changes to your personal circumstances regarding the payment of income tax (or change of address). In the absence of any such information it will be assumed that you are still a tax payer and the parish will reclaim tax from HMRC on the offertory donations you have made during this financial year.

If there are any parishioners who pay tax and are not part of the Gift Aid scheme, please let Rex or Father Jay know. This is a great way for the parish to get additional funds from the tax reclaim. With this scheme you do not need to commit to a fixed amount as it will be based on your annual contribution. Contact details for Rex Baker are: Telephone 01362 694801 or email rexbaker27@btinternet.com.

For those who would like to make their regular offerings by Standing Order, the information you need is: Account name: The Sacred Heart Church, the Sort Code is: 52-41-29 and the Account number is: 44725132. If you are a tax payer, please consider Gift Aid. Gift Aid forms are available at the back of church. This will help to maximize our donations in the Parish. When amending your Standing Order details please use **Offertory** as the only entry in the **Reference** box. Please only use **Stipend** or **Donation** for payments that are extra to your regular offering.

Upcoming Parish events:

Diary for week Sunday 16th August - Saturday 22nd August 2026	
Monday: 1900 - 2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578	

Our Lady of Peñafrancia Filipino Prayer Group - Saturday 15th August 2026 at 1300 in the church.

Wedding - Daniel Aidoo and Alexis Pereira will be married on 22nd August at 1400.

Parish Pastoral Council: Copies of the Promulgated Diocesan Policy on PPC are available at the back of the Church.

Parish Diocesan 50th Anniversary Celebration Family Day - A Parish Family Day, in celebration of the Diocesan Jubilee, will be held at 2.30pm on Saturday 12th September 2026 at the Walsingham Sisters Convent, Neatherd Moor. Please bring food, drink and picnic gear (e.g. blanket). Food provision volunteer sheet is at the back of the church. *Ideas for activities most welcome.*

RCIA Course - Are you thinking of becoming a Catholic? Or being confirmed as an adult, or just growing in understanding your faith? All are welcome. The RCIA course (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will start 22nd September in Dereham, Tuesday evenings 7 pm. Please use the application form at the back of the church and pass it on to Fr Jay. We look forward to meeting you. *Kevin and Rachel Pugh.*

Join Pope Leo in Lourdes, 27th September 2026 - Pilgrim Among Pilgrims.

This would be a wonderful opportunity to make a pilgrimage to Lourdes, especially as Pope Leo will be there on 27th September 2026. [Apostolic Journey of the Holy Father to France and Visit to the Headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization \(UNESCO\) \(25–28 September 2026\)](#)

First Holy Communion for 2026/7 - Forms are now available at the back of the church for preparation for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion for 2026/7. Children must be entering Year 3 and above at school. There will be a meeting for parents in September and classes start in October. Please return forms to Fr Jay.

Mass Coordinators for the Three Sunday Masses:

- Weekday and Saturday 1800 Mass - Theresa Pitcher
- Sunday 0900 Mass - Rex Baker
- Sunday 1100 Mass - Gerry McCarthy

For any queries regarding Mass preparation please liaise with the appropriate Mass Coordinator.

Prayers - We pray for the safety of our fellow parishioners travelling at this time.