



Catholic Parish of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Godalming

with St Joseph's, Milford

*Through the love of the Father, Son and Spirit,
our Parish will grow as the Body of Christ in Godalming.*

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 16th August 2020

Mary is the Mother of God, the Mother of Jesus and the first and model disciple of her Son. The feasts of Mary tell us about her Son and about God's working in his son's disciples. The Assumption of Mary (the 'Dormition' in Eastern Churches) is not explicitly mentioned in Scripture, but it is one of the most significant mysteries and ancient traditions. It might therefore seem strange to think that it was only 70 years ago that it was formally defined.

One of my lecturers once observed that rules are a surer indication of their breach than their observance: they only get made when things need correcting. There is a parallel in solemn definitions. Theological boundaries get drawn when something risks getting missed.

In the aftermath of the Second World War it seemed right and fitting for Pope Pius XII to recall that Mary, "led a life troubled by cares, hardships, and sorrows, and that, moreover, what the holy old man Simeon had foretold actually came to pass, that is, that a terribly sharp sword pierced her heart as she stood under the cross of her divine Son, our Redeemer" that the "Mother of God, like her only begotten Son, had actually passed from this life" and "Her sacred body had never been subject to the corruption of the tomb, and the august tabernacle of the Divine Word had never been reduced to dust and ashes."

Perhaps one of the reasons why this mystery became so important for us now is what it tells us about our destiny. Mary was assumed into heaven body and soul on account of her sharing in the life and death of her Son. We will die, but we will be raised to new life – soul *and* body – on account of our sharing, through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, in the life and death of the Son of Mary. It is the *whole* of us that will be given new life in heaven. We rejoice today that God's promise to Abraham and his descendants has indeed been fulfilled in Mary, and that it will most surely be fulfilled in us too when God's saving work is completed.

Responses for Mass

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of the Virgin Mary, at whose Assumption the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

PSALM RESPONSE: On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.

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

COMMUNION MUSIC: *The Canticle of the Turning*

19 Croft Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 1DB t: 01483 416880

Parish Priest: Fr Jonathan How e: pp.godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Assistant: Sarah Stilwell e: godalming@abdiocese.org.uk

Deacon Jeremy Oliver: t: 01483 414862. m: 07751819032 jeremyoliver296@yahoo.com

www.stedsgod.com

From Sunday 6th September

- **Sunday Masses** at 9.00am (St John's, Farncombe), 10.30am (St Joseph's).
- **Parish Angelus** online at noon, with one of the Sunday readings, some bidding prayers, a chance to catch up with 'prosecco & prayer'.
- **Seating at St Joseph's** will probably move to every other bench, so distanced at 1.5m (with mitigation), providing some additional safe capacity.

August Bank Holiday Weekend. Fr David Murphy from Haslemere will celebrate Mass at 6.00pm on Saturday and noon on Sunday. Deacon Jeremy will preside at a Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion at 9.00am on Sunday at St John's.

Fr Jonathan will be on leave from 23rd August to 4th September. In case of emergency he can be contacted through the parish office. Deacon Jeremy will be available through this time to provide any pastoral support that may be needed and to lead a few Liturgies of the Word and Holy Communion.

Blessing of Students and Teachers will take place at all Masses on 5th & 6th September. There are many in our parish who work or learn in our schools, colleges and universities. The first weekend in September will be an opportunity for us to celebrate their work and to ask God's blessing on them for the year ahead. If you are a teacher, teaching assistant, tutor or lecturer please let the parish office know if you would like to come to Mass that weekend so that we can ensure you are included.

Ride & Stride 12th September 2020.

Sponsored Ride and Walk around and in aid of Surrey Churches (including ours). For details contact Ian honeysett@btinternet.com or see the parish Facebook page.

Prayer & Spiritual Formation We are looking forward to supporting and developing the prayer and spiritual life of the parish as we move into a 'new normal'. If you would like to help with the planning or delivery of this please let Deacon Jeremy or Fr Jonathan know.

Update on Buildings Printed copies are available at the back of church. Feedback on this is still welcome and Fr Jonathan will report on comments received and possible next steps after his return in September.

Parish Pastoral Plan Fr Jonathan also wrote recently about a Parish Pastoral Plan to help and guide us as we resume parish life. Please do make some time to read the draft: you can pick up a copy at church, or download from: <https://tinyurl.com/y7eftwp6>

Churches are open for private prayer, often with Exposition on Sundays (4-5 pm) at St Edmund's and Wednesdays (10-11 am) at St Joseph's. A big thank you to all those who help with the stewarding and cleaning.

Lectio Divina This is a special and fruitful way of praying with the Scriptures and takes place online every **Wednesday 7.30pm – 8.30pm** on GoToMeeting.

GTiG Prayer Breakfast 22nd August at 8.30am, hosted by Michael Stubbs and Fr Jonathan. Lectio Divina on Matthew 16:13-20 (The confession of Peter). Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/9463914833> Pwd: 2020.

Weekend Masses It is a great joy each week to welcome people back to Mass. A few points to note:

- We are using a **booking system** for weekend Masses, using an online form: <https://tinyurl.com/y9qmmk2r>. You only need fill out the form once as we will use the information you provide to help us allocate places for the coming weeks. You can also email or phone the parish office with your preferences.
- **Face coverings** should be worn in Church unless legally exempt (such as children under 11). Please remember to remove and replace them using the ear loops.
- We will **clean the church** after each use and continue to observe social distancing (2m at St Edmund's and a little less at St Joseph's).
- There is a basket for the **Collection** at the entrance. Thank you for your financial support for the parish.
- The Sunday obligation continues to be dispensed. Please do not feel guilty if you aren't ready to come back just yet.

Sacrament of Penance (Confession) or Anointing of the Sick are available by arrangement with Fr Jonathan.

Ladywell Convent are recruiting for a Companion-type role for the Sisters in the La Verna Care Home. This flexible paid role will vary depending on the needs of the sisters and the person's availability. For details contact recruitment@ladywell.org.uk or the parish office. Closing date: Monday 31st August.

First Holy Communion 2020 We look forward to welcoming a number of the children of the parish to the table of the Lord on 20th and 27th September.

First Holy Communion 2021 Registration for this is now open. The form can be found on the website at <https://stedsgod.com/fhc>.

Some Recommended Streaming

St Edmund's, Godalming. Sunday Liturgy of the Word by video conference on **GoToMeeting**. ID 450-922-301. Or **by telephone** on 020 3713 5028 using access code: 450-922-301. Please ask if you need help setting it up.

Guildford <https://www.cpg.church> They also have a lot of resources for adults and families.

August Art Competition A bit of holiday fun for our younger parishioners with a weekly painting and drawing competition based on the miracles of Jesus. Parents read the story, and children interpret it as they like using any medium. Each week one picture will be chosen as the outright winner and will get a virtual rosette. Two age categories: 2-6 years and 7-10 years. The miracle for this third week is Jesus healing the deaf man (Mark 7:31-37). Entries will be posted on our website; please email them to: honeysett@btinternet.com

Remembering Pilgrimages Throughout August we are remembering past pilgrimages (and maybe looking forward to new ones) on the parish Facebook page; this week we are focussing on Lourdes and Fatima.

Sources of Practical Support

LOAF (Love One Another Fellowship)

If you would like help from our team of parish volunteers do not hesitate to call the help line number (07593 121430) or send a message via the parish email or Fr Jonathan.

The **SVP** are also able to help: 07990 717067

Godalming Food Bank is still providing vital support to many. For latest update and details, including new collection points see: <http://www.parishofgodalming.org.uk/our-church-of-st-marks/food-bank/>

Some **Food Vouchers** are available from the Diocese for those in need. Please speak to Fr Jonathan or Sarah in the parish office.

Parish Welfare Fund aims to support those who are struggling at this time to afford basic necessities. If you need a bit of help or know someone who does please don't hesitate to contact Fr Jonathan, in confidence.

Please remember in your prayers

All those affected by the **Coronavirus**: parishioners or their families who are sick, the sick and dying, those who work in our essential services, who are anxious or struggling with living well together at home, our families, schools and their staff, and for those who find juggling learning, work and family life difficult. Those who are worried about their jobs or livelihood.

The Holy Father's Intentions for August:

The Maritime World: We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

The sick and those who care for them

including - Cliff Hutchinson, Alan Berry, Nicolle Ernould, Gerry Newell, Ruth de Stefani, Josie Whittle, Barbara Brightman, Nuala Gallagher, Maria Chacaltana, Ann Lloyd, Anita van Rheenan, Jean Humphrey, Maura Goodfellow, George Gelder, Jean Tyrell, Pat Wilson and Rudolf Dorrepaal, and those in our hospitals and care homes.

The faithful departed, and in particular for Emiliana Evergeti-Murtagh, Joehanna Wertheim, Andrew Garguilo, Maria Lawson, Servais Coulber who anniversaries occur at this time.

**Schedule of Services for
Solemnity of the Assumption & 20th Week of Ordinary Time (Year A)**

Saturday 15th August	10.00am Mass (St Joseph's) – In thanksgiving 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's) – Celebrant's Intention
Sunday 16th August Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	9.00am Mass (St John's, Farncombe) – Private Intention 10.30am Liturgy of the Word online 12.00pm Mass (St Joseph's) – People of the Parish
Monday 17th August	No services today
Tuesday 18th August	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's)
Wednesday 19th August	9.30am Mass (St Joseph's) – Kathleen Flynn RIP 10.00am – 11.00am Exposition (St Joseph's) 7.30pm Lectio Divina online
Thursday 20th August St Bernard	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)
Friday 21st August St Pius X	9.30am Mass (St Edmund's)
Saturday 22nd August The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10.00am Mass (St Joseph's) 6.00pm Mass (St Edmund's)
Sunday 23rd 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am Mass (St John's, Farncombe) – People of the parish 10.30am Liturgy of the Word online 12.00pm Mass (St Joseph's) – Peter Kelly RIP 4:00pm – 5:00pm St Edmund's open for prayer (t.b.c.)

Divine Office Psalter Week 4: Weekday Readings Year II.

For details of how to book a place at weekend Mass:
please visit <https://stedsgod.com/Coronavirus>

Online activities are held on GoToMeeting 450-922-301
www.stedsgod.com