

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 twelve stars.

FIRST READING: Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 45.

RESPONSE:

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

1. The daughters of kings are those whom you favour.
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir. **R**
2. Listen, O daughter; pay heed and give ear;
Forget your own people and your father's house. **R**
3. So will the king desire your beauty.
He is your lord, pay homage to him. **R**
4. They are escorted amid gladness and joy;
They pass within the palace of the king. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15, 20-27.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia. Mary has been taken up into heaven; the host of angels rejoices. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-56.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

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

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 18 Aug (Bl. Victoria Rosoamarivo)

Judges 2:11-19; Psalm 106; Matthew 19:16-22

"Her witness of love for this land (Madagascar) and its traditions, her service to the poor as a sign of her faith in Jesus Christ, show us the path that we too are called to pursue." – Pope Francis

Tue 19 Aug (St John Eudes, Pr)

Judges 6:11-24; Psalm 85; Matthew 19:23-40

"Our wish, our object, our chief preoccupation must be to form Jesus in ourselves, to make his spirit, his devotion, his affections, his desire, and his disposition live and reign there." – St John Eudes

Wed 20 Aug St Bernard, AbD

Judges 9:6-15; Psalm 21; Matthew 20:1-16

"There are: those who seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge – that is curiosity; those who seek knowledge to be known by others – that is vanity; those who seek knowledge in order to serve – that is Love." – St Bernard

Thu 21 Aug St Pius X, P

Judges 11:29-39; Psalm 40; Matthew 22:1-14

"Nothing would please us more than to see our beloved children form the habit of reading the Gospels – not merely from time to time, but every day." – St Pius X

Fri 22 Aug Queenship of Mary

Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 113; Luke 1:26-38

"... for our consolation we ought to remember that Mary is a most tender and kind Queen, eager to help us in our miseries. So much so, that the Church wants us to call her Queen of Mercy." – St Alphonsus Liguori

Sat 23 Aug (St Rose of Lima, V)

Ruth 2:1-3.8-11; 4:13-17; Psalm 128; Matthew 23:1-12
Love in action: "When we serve the poor and the sick we serve Jesus. We must not fail to help our neighbours, because in them we serve Jesus." – St Rose of Lima

Sun 24 Aug 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 66:18-21; Psalm 117; Luke 13:22-30

"If the Sun is the source of flow in the economy of nature, what is the 'Sun' of a human gift economy, the source that constantly replenishes the flow of gifts? Maybe it is love." – Robin Wall Kimmerer

KEY: SOLEMNITY; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)
Pr=Priest; Ab=Abbot; D=Doctor; P=Pope; V=Virgin

Catholic Link

NICENE CREED 1700 years

Assumption of Our Lady • Year C
Divine Office: Week IV • 17 August 2025

Incarnate

The word incarnation comes from the little Latin word *carnis*, which means "of flesh". So, "in-carnation" means "in flesh".

When we speak about the Incarnation of the Son of God, we are dealing not just with religious words but with a mystery which defies our imagination. Of course, people in the ancient world had ideas about their pagan gods consorting with humans and interfering in human affairs. But the reality of the Son of the Father becoming, through the power of the Spirit, a full member of the human race? This truly is something else.

The creed introduces the Holy Spirit at this point, to present a coherent account of this great mystery. All Christian creeds are trinitarian: built around the Father, the Son and the Spirit. Here we are dealing with the mystery of the Son of God, God from God, Light from Light becoming a human being. It is the role of the Spirit to bring the Christ, the Anointed One, the Son of God, into the world as the unique incarnation of the Word.

The first and most obvious level of the meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus is that this is the fullest manifestation of the love of the Father for the world and the compassion of the Father for a world astray: *God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life* (John 3:16).

The classic way of reflecting on the Incarnation teaches us that basically Jesus Christ is

both fully human and fully divine. He is one of us and at the same time, God-with us. Through this wonderful mystery, our humanity is shown to be open to the eternal and able to 'house'

God, as it were: "Two natures without confusion or change, without division or separation... coming together in the one person.... one only unique Son, God, Word, Lord Jesus Christ.

The creed also reminds us how this came about. While the Incarnation is a work of the Father, Son and Spirit, it is brought about through the Virgin Mary. The freedom of God to give what is God's to give, is echoed in Mary's freedom to accept the divine invitation expressed by the angel Gabriel at the Annunciation.

This wonderful new creation began in Mary's virginal womb by the power of the Holy Spirit who overshadowed Mary's life. It was entirely the gift of God to Mary and to humanity, without any human intervention. It made Mary the mother of the Word made flesh, mother of the first born of all creation, mother of God. Ultimately it made

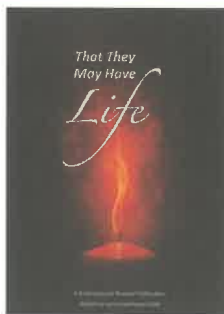
Mary our spiritual mother and Mother of the Church.

When professed in the Liturgy, the last phrase of this article of the creed is accompanied by a bow (and at Christmas, by a genuflection): and became man". The Incarnation requires not just a bow, but a life of loving reflection and of personal transformation, to share the life of Jesus, human and divine.



Prado version of the Annunciation by El Greco, 1500

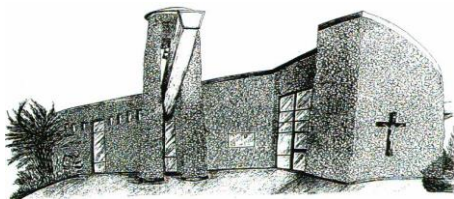
By popular request, the 2023 Catholic Link series on illness, wellbeing, healthcare and related issues has been collated and compiled under one cover. God's will is indeed for us to have fullness of life, despite the experience of human limitation and finitude. It is precisely there that we encounter a compassionate Christ who reveals to us the mystery of a God of mercy. May this booklet be a help to growing in a deeper spirituality for health and wellbeing, sickness and suffering.



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PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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Parish office closed on Wednesdays

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Guided by the Holy Spirit, we strive, as a Parish, to grow into disciples of Jesus Christ, Reaching out in Faith into a wider Community.

Prayer of the Church (Divine Office):

15 minutes before weekday Masses.

Prayer Circle:

Contact Cay Loader 0314664474 / 0789216797

PLEASE PRAY FOR: Our long-term Seriously Sick whose names are on the noticeboards, and for our currently –

Seriously Sick:

Tashnim Dos Santos, Michael Tunley, Fr Chris Neville, Merlyn Oakes, Andy Rossell, Cathy Barr

CONFESSIONS: Please note that Fr Mike is available for Personal Confessions on Saturday afternoons from **16.00 - 17.00.**

ONLINE MASS: Live-streamed on Facebook at the **Sunday 9:00am Mass**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:

Sat 16 Aug 5.30pm ASSUMPTION OF BVM

Fr Derrick Butt's Birthday [Frankson Family]

Ryder Meth's Birthday [Family]

Sun 17 Aug 7.00am ASSUMPTION OF BVM

All Parishioners

Sun 17 Aug 9.00am ASSUMPTION OF BVM

Rita Dawood R.I.P. [Fosia]

Zelda Norris R.I.P. [Family]

Justin Sutherland's Birthday Intentions [family]

All Bluff Catholics Women's League Members.

Mon 18 Aug 8.00am

Fr Mike's Special Intention.

Tue 19 Aug 5.30pm

Jermaine Paul's Birthday [Family]

Wed 20 Aug 8.00am St Bernard

Leeann Campbell Thanksgiving for prayers

Answered. [Dhunraj & Campbell Family]

Thu 21 Aug 5.30pm

Ramon Fynn R.I.P. [SSVP]

The Deceased Members of SSVP Bluff.

Fri 22 Aug 8.00am Queenship of BVM

Clive, Cheryl and Kerwin Van Wyk R.I.P. [Meth Family]

Sat 23 Aug 5.30pm

All Parishioners

Sun 24 Aug 7.00am

Abongile Vanto R.I.P. [Family]

Norman Dhunraj Birthday Intentions [Family]

Sun 24 Aug 9.00am

Raheem Jooman Birthday Intentions [Family]

Magdeline George Birthday Intentions [Jooman Family]

THIS WEEK'S DIARY:

Sun 17 Aug

REPOSITORY OPEN AFTER THE 7AM & 9AM MASSES

10.30am Junior Catechism- Hall Complex

10.30am Grade 4 GIFT Program – Boardroom

5.00pm Senior Catechism- Hall Complex

Mon 18 Aug

6.30pm Men's League Meeting – Hall

Tue 19 Aug

9.00am St Monica's Parents' Group – Church

6.30pm S S V P Meeting – Hall

Wed 20 Aug

6.30pm Women of Faith Meeting – Hall

Thu 21 Aug

6.30pm General Choir Practice – Church

7.00pm RCIA 2026 Topic: Your Prayer Life / Catholic Prayers & Practices – Hall

Fri 22 Aug

7.00pm Senior Youth – Hall

NOTICES:

COMBONI MISSIONARIES: This weekend after each Mass, Fr Rafael Armada of the Comboni Missionaries, will do a short presentation regarding the work of the missionaries, and have a table at the church entrance where you may sign up for a monthly subscription to their "Worldwide" magazine.

PPC Nominations :

All signed Nomination forms for parish pastoral Council have to be handed in this weekend.

August copy of the Southern Cross still available at R40 a copy.

Jubilee Cross :

The Jubilee Cross will be carried in procession into the church at the beginning of the 9am Mass. It will remain with us for the whole week until weekend of 23/24 August.

Mon: Taize Prayer at the foot of the Cross [led by the Altar Servers]

Tues: Rosary [led by the Proclaimers of the Word]

Wed: Praise and Worship in song and dance [led by Junior Catechist]

Thurs: Focus on Charity praying for those in need [led by the St Vincent De Paul]

Fri: Praise and Worship [led by the Youth]

Responsorial Psalm Response:
(Sat 5.30pm & Sun 9.00am)

The Queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in Gold.

