

The week ahead...

Saturday 13 August Saturday of Ordinary Time 19	5:00pm	Mass: Pauline Pepper and pro populo
Sunday 14 August <i>Feast of the Assumption</i>		
Monday 15 August Monday of Ordinary Time 20		
Tuesday 16 August Tuesday of Ordinary Time 20		
Wednesday 17 August Wednesday of Ordinary Time 20	9:30am	Mass: Personal Intention
Thursday 18 August Thursday of Ordinary Time 20	9:30am	Mass: Personal Intention
Friday 19 August Friday of Ordinary Time 20	No Mass	
Saturday 20 August <i>St Bernard, Abbot, Doctor</i>	5:00pm	Mass: Ray, Bridie and Bernadette Winnard and pro populo



St Patrick's RC Church, Langley Moor

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Feast of the Assumption

14 August, 2016

"My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord..."

THOUGH THE FEAST of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary actually falls on 15 August, here in England we celebrate the Assumption on the Sunday closest to that date, this year just a day before, in fact. This feast day reminds us of the truth that Mary, when her earthly life had ended, was assumed body and soul into heaven, in recognition of the fact that she, as the one chosen to bring Christ into the world, could not possibly undergo bodily decay as would any other mortal. The reward for her fidelity and docility was to be assumed into heaven at the end of her life on earth.

Note that the wording used is "at the end of her life on earth", rather than "her death". The Church does not make any statement about how Mary's earthly life came to an end. In a sense, it is not important because the focus is that however her life ended, she was assumed totally into heaven at that point. Not for Mary the bodily corruption that we will undergo (unless we are saints!) or time in purgatory. So close to her son was Mary, reflected in her fidelity and obedience, that after her life on earth she was united with him and will be for eternity.

Of course, the scriptures tell us nothing of this. We hear nothing about Mary after the death of Jesus but the teaching of the Assumption is based on the tradition of the Church from the early centuries. Though the dogma of the Assumption of Mary was not definitively stated until the middle of last century, the Church had taught about this event and celebrated it liturgically from the fifth century or so and so it was a natural step for the dogma to be proclaimed when Pope Pius XII did so in 1950.

Though the scriptures mention nothing about Mary's assumption into heaven, we do get plenty of evidence about her saintliness and the manner in which she lived her life which makes her Assumption an event that follows on naturally from her life.

Mary's example is a very poignant one for us for she gives us the greatest example of how to best live life as a disciple of Jesus. As we know, Mary's life was not an easy one. From the time she assented to be the one to give birth to the Saviour through to watching him die a shameful death, her life was punctuated with sadness and grief. Yet her commitment to her discipleship meant that she knew an inner peace and joy despite those times of hardship and suffering.

Though we may not be immediately assumed into heaven when our earthly life ends, by following the example of Mary's steadfast discipleship, we can have confidence that when our earthly life ends and our bodies decay, sinners though we are, we can look forward to sharing eternal life with Mary and her Son and all the saints in the heavenly kingdom, as we delight in being in the luminous presence of our loving and merciful God.

Blessings and prayers in the week ahead,

Fr Robert



Ministries for this week Saturday 13 August

Eucharistic Ministers:
John and Irene Carey
Judith Bulmer

Readers:
Claire Lavery
Margaret Purdom

Children's Liturgy:
No Children's Liturgy until school resumes in Sept.

Welcomers:
Janet Harrigan
Halina Holman

Ministries for next week Saturday 20 August

Eucharistic Ministers:
Wilf Lavery, Jane Smith,
Helen Musham

Readers:
Greg Mearman
Pat Middleton

Children's Liturgy:
No Children's Liturgy until school resumes in Sept.

Welcomers:
Angela Harmston
Christine Tracey

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid: £237 Loose Plate: £184

Total: £421

Mass Attendance: 137

DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE
CHARITY NUMBER 1143450

Have you an item for the parish bulletin? Please contact Judith Bulmer on 0191 378 3544 or 07980 481 858 or send an email to her at judithbulmer@rocketmail.com.

Please remember in your prayers people who are sick and housebound in the parish....

Tom Taylorson, Sylvia Kelly, Marie Carey, Mary Spears, Rose Crick, Maureen McCrann, Teresa Parkin, Doreen Carroll, Marie Wilson, Dorothy Dowdle, Jean O'Donoghue, Margaret Pouton, Betty Allison, Michael Kane, Pat Harrison, Olwyn Morris and Tom Tracey.

A note on appeals: We have had quite a few appeals of late for various very worthy causes and I thank you for your generous support. We will have a hiatus for a few weeks now from diocesan appeals but Fr Brian will be here next weekend to talk about further support for Fr Ejaz in Pakistan.

Emailed Bulletin – If you would like to have the parish bulletin emailed to you each week please email Judith (details opposite) and you will be added to the mailing list. Parish Council minutes are also available electronically.

What's going on...?

Parish Family Picnic: There will be a Parish Family Picnic on Sunday 25 September, from 2:00 – 5:00pm. If the weather is fine this will be on the school field; if not, then we will picnic in the school hall. Please bring your own picnic, blanket and chairs. A glass of wine, cups of tea and coffee and juice for children will be provided. There will be live music during the afternoon, a raffle and bottle tombola, and a treasure hunt if we are outdoors or a quiz if we are indoors. If you would like to join us for the afternoon please sign the sheet in the porch at the back of church. If anyone would like to donate bottles of any kind for the tombola or prizes for the raffle, all donations will be gratefully received - please see Irene, Angela or Judith. We look forward to seeing you there!

Pakistan Orphan Society: Fr Ejaz recently sent a letter of gratitude to Fr Brian addressed to his dear friends from Langley Moor and Willington. Fr Brian will take the opportunity next week at the end of Mass to read the letter to you and give you more information on the completion of the orphanage and the progress of the children. We will display photographs of the new building and letters from some of the children. There will be a collection on 20th August to continue our support for the wonderful work Fr Ejaz has undertaken. He deserves our support. In addition, the "brown envelopes" are available at the back of church for those who kindly donate to the appeal each month.

Ushaw Moor Catholic Club: The Catholic Club is available for birthday parties and wedding anniversaries as well as receptions after weddings and funerals. For more information, phone 07519 672 570 and, if need be, leave a message.

Ushaw College: During the summer the college is open every Saturday from 12:00noon until 5:00pm.

Pastoral Care of the Sick and Housebound: Do you know someone who lives in the parish but cannot get to Mass and is in need of the sacraments? It is our responsibility to care for our brothers and sisters who cannot gather with us each week. If you know someone in this situation who is in need of pastoral care, please pass their details on to Fr Robert.



*Father, may we follow Mary's example
in reflecting Christ's holiness and join in
her hymn of endless love and praise.
Amen.*

The Kids' Bulletin

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 14, 2016

"I have come to set the earth on fire."	and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."
There is a baptism with which I must be baptized.	and a son against his father.
Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth?"	and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!
From now on a household of five will be divided.	No, I tell you, but rather division.
a father will be divided against his son	and a daughter against her mother,
a mother against her daughter	and how I wish it were already blazing!
a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law	three against two and two against three;

What did Jesus say in today's Gospel reading?
Match the parts to find out!

Fire in Our Hearts



In today's Gospel reading Jesus says that He has come to set the earth on fire. Of course He didn't mean that He wanted everything to burn up. He meant that He wanted the flame of the Holy Spirit to burn in the hearts of people all over the world.

What do you think happens when the Holy Spirit is in someone's soul? The Holy Spirit pulls us closer to Himself and God the Father and Jesus. When we are closer to God that means we love Him more, and the more we love God the more we will love other people too. We were made to love God and be happy with Him, so we want the Holy Spirit to live in us and bring us close to Him!

How does the Holy Spirit come into our souls? When we are baptized the Holy Spirit comes into us for the first time. He will stay with us unless we sin and close our hearts to Him. But when we go to Confession He comes back, and in Holy Communion and the other Sacraments

He becomes even stronger in us. He comes in a special way in the Sacrament of Confirmation, when He gives us grace and strength to live as grown-up Christians and soldiers for God. Pray to the Holy Spirit to live in your heart and make you love God more every day!



Answers to Fill-in-the-Blanks: great, ourselves, naming, keeping, perfects, Him, despising, through, endured, warring, Don't give up!

www.thekidsbulletin.wordpress.com

SAINT OF THE WEEK

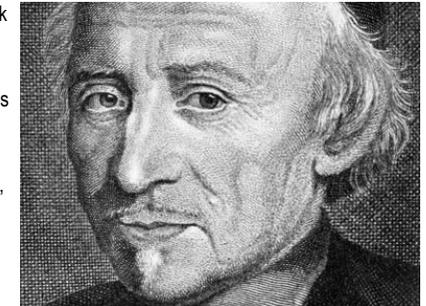
St John Eudes - 19 August

John Eudes was born on 14 November 1601 in Normandy, France, and died there on 19 August 1680. He was ordained priest and spent many years preaching parish missions. He organised a congregation of nuns that grew into the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity, dedicated to the care of women rescued from a disorderly life and a congregation of priests dedicated to the running of seminaries. He was active in encouraging devotion to the Sacred Heart, and to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

In his time the Church in France was corrupt and in many ways a source of evil rather than grace. The higher clergy were rich and privileged and enjoyed and guarded their privileges (the country was run, and wars were waged, by a cardinal). The lower clergy were ignorant and the common people were poor, superstitious, and oppressed as much spiritually as materially. To this mix was added the poison of Jansenism, which taught that human nature was corrupt, original sin rampant, and perfection was both necessary for salvation and practically unattainable.

In such circumstances, setting up seminaries to ensure the proper education of priests becomes itself a revolutionary act, and the encouragement of devotion to the Sacred Heart – to the emotional core of Jesus – becomes not a sweet, pious platitude but a defiant proclamation that the centre of God's essence is his love, not condemnation.

Over and over again in the lives of the saints we find the Church sick and corrupt. Perhaps it must always be so, journeying in a fallen world and staffed by sinners who are as fallen as the rest of us and subject to worse temptations. And over and over again we find God's grace acting through people like St John Eudes. They do not stand outside and complain or run campaigns, they go in and do things, removing the mould of worldly corruption and putting back, bit by bit, the heaven of grace. They will always be needed, until the world ends.



Text taken from www.universalis.com

DID YOU KNOW...?

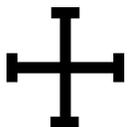
...that the Church has said nothing definitive about whether Mary died or not, simply that her "earthly life was completed"?

As we celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Mary this Sunday, it is worthwhile reflecting on what the Catechism says on this matter (974-975): "The Most Blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven, where she already shares in the glory of her Son's Resurrection, anticipating the resurrection of all members of his Body. We believe that the Holy Mother of God, the new Eve, Mother of the Church, continues in heaven to exercise her maternal role on behalf of the members of Christ."

"QUOTE OF THE WEEK"

"As the most glorious Mother of Christ, our Saviour and our God and the giver of life and immortality, has been endowed with life by him, she has received an eternal incorruptibility of the body together with him who has raised her up from the tomb and has taken her up to himself in a way known only to him."

Modestus of Jerusalem
(d. 630)
Patriarch of Jerusalem



PLEASE PRAY FOR...all those who have been victims of senseless violence in recent weeks and their families who grieve the sudden loss of their loved ones. Pray too for Anthony SOWERBY and Michelle CLARK who are to be married here at St Patrick's in two weeks' time.