



## SUMMER HOLIDAYS

We welcome all visitors attending Mass in our parish over the summer period. Whether you are visiting family and friends or just staying locally, we hope that you will have a have a blessed and happy time.

## THIS SUNDAY: ASSUMPTION OF OUR BLESSED LADY SUNDAY 16 AUGUST (TRANSFERRED FROM 15TH)

**St. Francis' Church will be the location for public masses on Saturday 15 August at 5.30pm, on Sunday 16 August at 8:00, 9:30am and 11:15 am and on Tuesday 18 August at 10:00am.**

**Please remember to wear a face covering in church, thank you.**

We often speak of life as a journey; if we wish to add a spiritual dimension, we may use the word pilgrimage. The Gospel for this Solemnity reminds us that after accepting the will of the Father at the Annunciation, Mary journeyed to be with her cousin, Elizabeth. In that encounter Mary is described like this, 'of all women you are the most blessed ... and blessed is the fruit of your womb.' Mary sings of her joy, 'Magnificat.' Throughout her life Mary journeys; from Nazareth to Bethlehem, to Egypt and then back home. She goes with Jesus to the Temple and then is with him in his ministry. She is there at the cross and rejoices at Easter and Pentecost.

The conclusion of her life is celebrated today, as she shares in Christ's Resurrection and Ascension in her Assumption and Coronation.

The mystical reading from the Apocalypse places her amidst sun, moon and stars. As we keep this Solemnity and Holy Day of the Church, it reminds us that our Lady was taken as a complete person, body and soul to the glory of heaven. In this way, she holds out to us, by the grace of Almighty God, the hope of heaven at the conclusion of our own earthly journey of faith, assisted by her example and intercession.

**Father David has not been well in the past week; please pray for him.**

I hope that you and your family will have some blessed times together in spite of all the present difficulties. **Enjoy your summer 'staycation' or vacation!!**

## ALL OUR GOOD WISHES AND BLESSINGS FOR THE FUTURE

We pray for the young people from our parish who are receiving their public examination results at this time.

May Almighty God bless and guide them all as they take decisions regarding the future.

## BRIAN DUIGAN RIP

We offer our condolences and the assurance of our prayers, to Rob Duigan, to Wendy, Matthew and Katie. Rob's father, Brian Duigan died in Port Elizabeth, South Africa recently. The death of a loved one is always a sadness, which in this case is compounded by the difficulties in travelling. I hope that happier family times will be Rob's lasting memories, and that the sadness of the present will soon be eased.

May he rest in peace.

## SVP AID

Our SVP conference in Kenilworth is here to provide practical assistance to those in need. If you need support, or know of anyone who does, contact us to see if we can help. Contact is [PresidentF021304@svp.org.uk](mailto:PresidentF021304@svp.org.uk)

## SVP – FOOD BANK COLLECTION:

As the unemployment figures rise, the food banks in the local towns are in need of support. The SVP will be collecting donations of non-perishable food and household products in the car park of St. Francis church, on **Saturday, 22 August** between **11.00am and 1.00pm**. They are particularly in need of tinned meat, sponge puddings, crisps/snacks, deodorant, toothpaste, washing-up liquid, ketchup/brown sauce/mayonnaise. If you are not able to attend at the above time, but would like to donate, please phone 01926 85 8436. (Please note, at present they do NOT need baked beans, pasta, soup, rice, dog food or milk).

## NEWS FROM 3H

Professor Archer has written to say: 'We received new residents, this time from Poland. We have a lady (aged 25) and her two children: one rising 4 and another coming up to 5.' She also writes that Yetunde, a previous resident, is starting an Open University course. Congratulations to her.

## KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA – DIAL-A-MASS

The Knights of St Columba have set up a Dial-a-Mass for those who are unable to participate in the celebration of the Mass via TV or Live streaming. The Mass is available from 12 noon each day and will last about 45 minutes, being available until midnight the same day. **The Mass will cost as little as a local call and the phone number is: 01642-130120.**

## NATIONAL CATHOLIC FUND

Our contribution to the running of the Bishops' Conference for this year is about £1100.00. **To offset this Levy placed on the Parish, there will, for obvious reasons, be no second collections this year.**

**Perhaps when you are at mass you would like to make an increased contribution?**

This is now such a considerable amount that we should all try to contribute towards it.

## GIFT AID ENVELOPES ETC.

These envelopes and other donations may be posted through the Presbytery inside letter-box. Thank you for this continued sign of kindness and generosity.

Our Parish Treasurer has gathered the figures together for income for the first half year. I would like you all to know that we are over **£15,000 down** on our forecasted income for that period.

Other parishes and institutions are in a similar state, but this is the figure for our parish.

## FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ALSO CONFIRMATION FOR THOSE NOT AT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

It **may be** that we can have parish groups meeting in the autumn; I really do not know. To that end it would help to have names of those **who come to mass regularly here**, who wish, if possible, with their parents' support, to be prepared for the sacraments. All names, addresses and phone numbers to Father Kevin or Father David as soon as possible, please.

**MAY OUR LORD BLESS YOU ALL DURING THESE DIFFICLT AND  
CHALLENGING TIMES, FATHER KEVIN**