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Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Prayers and Readings p.1170 in the missal

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.

Responsorial Psalm:

On your right stands the Queen in gold of Ophir.

Gospel Acclamation:

Mary has been taken up into heaven;
 the host of angels rejoice.

Eucharistic Prayer:

Eucharistic Prayer III (5.30pm & 8 am).

Eucharistic Prayer I (10 am).

Communion Antiphon

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

Readings:

Revelations 11. Psalm 45 (44) 1 Cor 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56.

Marian Antiphon (at the end of the 5.30 pm and 8 am Mass)

Salve Regina – please see the Marian Antiphon prayer cards.



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH THETFORD

Celebrating 200 years proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ

Sunday 16th August 2026 ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Saturday 15th 1730 *Annie & Jack Grace* ✠

Sunday 16th 0800 *Paco Fabio Ortiz* ✠

1000 *Pro Populo*

Monday 17th Feria NO MASS

Tuesday 18th St Helena 1000 *Fatima Anja*

Wednesday 19th Feria 1830

Thursday 20th St Bernard 1830

Friday 21st Requiem Mass 1130 *Francis Huber* ✠

21ST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Saturday 22nd 1600 Confessions

1730

Sunday 23rd 0800

1000 *Pro Populo*

Confessions Saturday at 4 pm, or **by appointment after any Mass.**
Confession is one of the greatest gifts of the Church. If you are at all anxious about Confession, please speak to Fr Andrew first.

Dates for your diary

- 18th August: St Helen's Day Picnic, Santon Downham
19-20th Sept: Heritage Open Days
21-23rd Sept: Fr Andrew's Sponsored Walk to Walsingham

Prayer Requests We pray for the sick: Fatima Anja, Patricia & Vittorio Cocuccio, Alicya Frydryk, Hazel Fullbrook, Maureen Huggett, Ann Jones, Theresa Lescott, Sheila Sheppard, Madeline Tanner, and Clive Townsend. We remember in our prayers those who have died recently, and their families and friends: Luna Freitas, Ann Griffin, Albert Huggett, Greg Warwick and Mirella Zubacz.

- **Missals for Children.** We now have **Children's Missals** at the back of the church, together with a separate bulletin for children. **Please do not take the children's missals home** - we've already lost half of them!
- **Gift aid.** If you pay UK tax on income or capital gains or a pension, please consider Gift Aiding your donations. For every £1 you donate to the parish each week, we can reclaim 25p from the taxman. The gift-aid claim is made by the diocese on our behalf, so **any information that you provide goes to the diocese not to the government.** It is a very big help for the parish, and it doesn't cost you anything!
- **Donating by card.** In the church porch we now have a **card-reader** and tablet so that donations can be made via card instead of cash. You can make your weekly offering, or give donations for Mass intentions or candles. Just tap the screen and follow the instructions – and thank you for your continuing support of the parish.
- A reminder that as usual during the summer there **will be no tea or coffee after Mass for the month of August.** Normal service will resume on Sunday 6th of September. Thank you to all the team who help out, and who will now enjoy a well-earned rest!

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

'The Feast of the Assumption is a day of joy. God has won. Love has won. It has won life. Love has shown that it is stronger than death, that God possesses the true strength and that his strength is goodness and love. Mary was taken up body and soul into Heaven: there is even room in God for the body. Heaven is no longer a very remote sphere unknown to us. We have a mother in Heaven. And the Mother of God, the Mother of the Son of God, is our Mother. Jesus himself has said so. He made her our Mother when he said to the disciple and to all of us: "Behold, your Mother!". We have a Mother in Heaven. Heaven is open, Heaven has a heart.' POPE BENEDICT XVI

- **St Helen's Day walk:** One of our Jubilee projects is to go on more **pilgrimages** – including locally. On **Tuesday 18th August**, the Feast of St Helena, we will visit the Holy Well of St Helen, in the forest at Santon Downham, and ask for the prayers of St Helena. Mass is at **10am in the Church**, with the visit after.
- On **September 19th–20th** we will be taking part for the first time in the **Heritage Open Day weekend**: this is part of our Jubilee effort to make our parish more visible in the local region. We need **volunteers** so that the church can be **open from 11 till 5** on **Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th**. Please speak to Deacon Paul if you are able to help.
- **Help please!** One of the jobs that always needs doing in the parish is **cleaning the Church and Hall**. We have a small group of loyal volunteers, but they really need some help. If you can spare an hour once a week or even once a month, at any time during the day or in the evening, please speak to Mary Gorman or Fr Andrew.
- Fr Andrew will be doing a **Sponsored Walk to Walsingham** to support our Jubilee projects on **September 21st–23rd**. Please sponsor him if you are able. There is a sponsorship sheet at the back of the church, or you can donate via the Dona card-reader. Anyone who would like to join Fr Andrew for the first mile of the walk is very welcome!

"I see Mary everywhere. I see difficulties nowhere."

ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE - FEAST DAY 14TH AUGUST