SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Iford Parish ✠ Bournemouth ADMA ✠ Bournemouth LMS ✠ Bournemouth OLW ✠ Bournemouth SPUC

WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY 9 AUGUST 2026 ✠ SUNDAY CYCLE A ✠ WEEKDAY CYCLE II

§ EVENT DATE TIME § TYPE Legend VOE:Vetus Ordo English (Anglican Use/Ordinariate) | VOL: Vetus Ordo Latin (Traditional Latin)

Sat 8 Aug '26 18.00: Sunday Mass Vigil ✠ ORDINARY TIME XIX ✠ MI Laura Lafferty (d 14 Apr 2017)
Sun 9 Aug '26 09.30: Sunday Mass ✠ ORDINARY TIME XIX ✠ Hymns:C143,C152; Setting:Clavinova ✠ MI Kevin Burnham (d 11 Aug 2020)
11.00: VOE Sunday Mass ✠ TRINITY X ≡ ORDINARY TIME XIX ✠ Hymns:C143,C152; Setting:MariaMagdalena ✠ MI Pro populo
12.30: VOL Sunday Mass ✠ PENTECOST XI ≡ Dominica XI Post Pentecosten
Sat 15 Aug '26 18.00: Sunday Mass Vigil ✠ ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY ✠ MI Ken Poole (d 12 Aug 2018)
Sun 16 Aug '26 09.30: Sunday Mass ✠ ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY ✠ Setting:Morean ✠ MI Pro populo
12.30: VOL Sunday Mass ✠ ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY ≡ In Assumptione Beatæ Mariæ Virginis
Fri 21 Aug '26 00.00: Meeting ✠ Bournemouth SPUC Branch
Sat 22 Aug '26 18.00: Sunday Mass Vigil ✠ ORDINARY TIME XXI ✠ MI Daphne Bennet (d 15 Aug 2024)
Sun 23 Aug '26 09.30: Baptismal Rite ✠ Zachary Wedam Abuga-Williams, Zaiah Wekem Abuga-Williams, Luca Kenneth James Woods
09.30: Sunday Mass ✠ ORDINARY TIME XXI ✠ MI Pro populo
11.00: VOE Sunday Mass ✠ TRINITY XII ✠ MI David m Jo Cassidy (FM 2010/2015)
12.30: VOL Sunday Mass ✠ PENTECOST XIII ≡ Dominica XIII Post Pentecosten
Fri 28 Aug '26 17.30: Meeting ✠ Bournemouth ADMA Chapter with Rosary & Litany of Loreto
18.30: Weekday Mass ✠ St Augustine of Hippo, Bishop, Doctor ✠ Bournemouth ADMA Chapter Mass
Sat 29 Aug '26 18.00: Sunday Mass Vigil ✠ ORDINARY TIME XXII ✠ MI Paddy m Merville Pidgeon (RIP 2003/2018)
Sun 30 Aug '26 09.30: Sunday Mass ✠ ORDINARY TIME XXII ✠ MI Pro populo
11.00: VOE Sunday Mass ✠ TRINITY XIII ✠ MI Ralph m Barbara Anthony (FM 2017/2009)
12.30: VOL Sunday Mass ✠ PENTECOST XIV ≡ Dominica XIV Post Pentecosten
Tue 1 Sep '26 19.30: Parochial Meeting ✠ Pastoral Council ✠ → Meeting Link
Wed 2 Sep '26 09.30: VOE Weekday Mass ✠ Trinitytide XIII:Wed ✠ MI David Michael Byrne (RIP 2025)
18.00: Hospital Mass ✠ Ord Time XXII:Wed ✠ → Royal Bournemouth Hospital
Fri 4 Sep '26 09.30: Weekday Mass ✠ Ord Time XXII:Fri
Sat 5 Sep '26 17.00: Devotion ✠ Bournemouth ADMA Chapter First Saturday Reparation
18.00: Sunday Mass Vigil ✠ ORDINARY TIME XXIII
Sun 6 Sep '26 09.30: Sunday Mass ✠ ORDINARY TIME XXIII
11.00: VOE Sunday Mass ✠ TRINITY XIV
12.30: VOL Sunday Mass ✠ PENTECOST XV ≡ Dominica XV Post Pentecosten

§ NOTICE ITEM § DESCRIPTION

STM Iford Parish •ADVANCE NOTICE: FR DARRYL & LISA MOVING TO WATERSIDE PARISH OF HOLBURY AND HYTHE IN ADVENT.
•WEEKDAY MORNING MASSES ON WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS ARE CANCELLED IN AUGUST.
•New Mass Books: Please consider sponsoring one or more at £6 each. Donation cards are on the Font Table.
•Small Group: "How To Pray" (Sycamore Series). Mon 19.00 (monthly). RSVP: Claire Riche-Gallet 01202 423431
•Confessions: Sat 17.30; Masses in Modern English: Sat 18.00 & Sun 09.30; Fri 09.30; Holydays 18.30
•Housekeeping & Pet Care by parishioner Alana Morris. Details: 07907 066 989|domestic-goddess.co.uk/
•FIRE EXITS: In case of a fire/drill, the assembly point is on the pavement on the corner over the road.
Bournemouth ADMA •Chapter Prayer Meeting & Mass: 4th Fri 17.30 & 18.30. Reparations to Our Lady of Fatima: 1st Sat 17.00
B'mouth LMS •Masses in Traditional Latin (Extraordinary/Tridentine Form): Sun 12.30; Holydays 17.00
B'mouth OLW •Masses in Traditional English (Anglican/Ordinariate Use): Sun 11.00, Wed 09.30, Holydays 09.30
•POOLW YouTube Channel (usually) with weekly podcasts on the Sunday Propers: youtube.com/@OLWOrdinariate
B'mouth SPUC •Branch Meeting: 3rd Fri 19.30. SPUC defends our created human nature against Moral Nihilism. |spuc.tv/
B'mouth X'church PA •YOUTH MASS @ Corpus Christi Boscombe: First Sundays at 17.00 followed by refreshments. All welcome.

§ FINANCE ITEM § DESCRIPTION

Parish Bank Account: CDP Bournemouth St. Thomas More; sort code 30-93-04; a/c 00875415
July Offering: StOrders ✢ Envelopes ✢ Cash ✢ Total ✢ WeeklyAverage
£1,114.44 ✢ £228.00 ✢ £272.42 ✢ £1,614.86 ✢ £404.00

§ CONTACT ITEM § NAME/ROLE ✢ DETAILS (IF NONE LISTED USE PARISH OFFICE)

Office: 42 Exton Road BH6 5QG; 01202 485588; stmiford@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk; thomasmorechurch.org.uk
Priest/Pastor: Parish/Ordinariate: Fr Darryl Jordan OLW, MDiv, BSc ✢ darryl.jordan@ordinariate.org.uk
Pastoral Council: Chair: Neil Dawson; Secretary: Mrs Sue Morris
Fabric & Finance: Chair & Treasurer: Peter Britton (STMI); Simon Jones (BOLW)
Archivist & Verger: Steve Ferris (STMI); Verger: Mike Lanham (STMI)
Hall & Repository: Mrs Marysa Coulter ✢ marysa@btinternet.com
Sacristans: Tim Hackwell (STMI) & David Collier (BOLW)
Music: Parish Organist & Composer: Tom Phillips; Choir Director & Organist (Cantores Spei): Andrew Santos
Safeguarding: Officers: Mrs Nadia Cassettai & Neil Dawson ✢ safeguarding.boust@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Hospitals: UHD NHS Chaplaincy Team: Bournemouth & Christchurch 0300 019 4221 ✢ Poole 0300 019 2167
Pastoral Area: BCPA (comprising Bournemouth & Christchurch) website: bccatholics.uk

Sunday after next https://www.theliturgyproject.com/sunday-next

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary August 16, 2026

Commentary: Fr Patrick Fitzgerald Lombard O Carm

Across Great Britain we find many Churches, Catholic and Anglican, which are dedicated to Saint Mary. This reminds us that the Blessed Virgin Mary is first among the saints, those men and women whose lives have achieved holiness just as we are called to be holy. For the saints, the day of their death is regarded as their birthday into heaven and so that is the day their feast is celebrated. While the date of her death is of course unknown, in a similar way the feast of the Assumption is St Mary's greatest feast day among her many feasts. This date may have been originally the anniversary of the dedication of her Church in Jerusalem. That is a sign of the antiquity of this feast, her Dormition as it is known in the East.

Yet Mary has always been regarded as unique among the saints because her Son Jesus was unique, a human who was also the Son of God. From as early as the fourth century, the tradition has been that her body was taken directly up to heaven so that she shares fully in the resurrection of her Son. The first clear reflection on the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin would be a homily of St John Damascene in the early eighth century: your body, most pure and without blemish, was not left to the earth but was assumed to the royal heavenly dwelling, you, Queen, Sovereign, Lady, the Mother of God, the true Theotokos.

The Biblical background for the Assumption is found in the letters of St Paul. Like all the New Testament writers, the resurrection of Jesus was key for Paul. His great first letter to the Corinthians begins with the cross and reaches its climax with the lengthy chapter about the resurrection. A few verses from this chapter form the second reading for the feast of the Assumption. The reading begins with Paul's insistence that Christ has been raised from the dead. He speaks of Christ as the first fruits from the dead and then all those who belong to him. First and foremost among those who belong to Christ must be his mother Mary, an ordinary woman who gave birth to Jesus, Son of Mary and Son of God. Christian reflection would soon have connected her Son's resurrection with her too already sharing fully in his resurrection. Her share in the resurrection, her assumption, therefore must be a sign of hope for all of us as those who believe in the resurrection of the body.

Coming to the Middle Ages, we find that the early Carmelites were interested in the Assumption of Mary. The medieval English Province was dedicated to our Lady of the Assumption just as the British Province is today. There may be no direct evidence but the importance of the Assumption could well have come from the importance of the Resurrection for them. The early Carmelites followed the rite of the Holy Sepulchre for their celebration of Mass which was known for its strongemphasis on the resurrection. For centuries Carmelites celebrated the last Sunday of the Church's year as a commemoration of the Resurrection, a repeat of the Easter Celebration. It has been said that the Holy Sepulchre was not the tomb in which the Lord was buried but rather the tomb from which he rose. We can associate the Blessed Virgin Mary with this Carmelite emphasis on the Resurrection by celebrating her Assumption into heaven.

Where Mary has gone becomes therefore our hope of reaching the same destination ourselves. Carmelites honour Mary not only as Mother but also as sister. She is the woman of faith, the perfect example of all that we hope and desire for ourselves, the embodiment of all our hopes. We follow the same journey through life as she did, she lights us along our pilgrim way. Her destiny may have been unique as she bore our Saviour but we the Church continue to make our Saviour present to the world. She would have followed the path through life through good times and bad just as we do. She celebrated life with her Magnificat, the Gospel for the feast of the Assumption. As she accompanies us on our journey through this world, so she will be with us at the resurrection of the dead, the return of her Son in glory, handing over the kingdom to God the Father.

Liturgy notes: Fr Derek Reeves

This is a very difficult feast because it is surrounded by traditions of processions, crowning of statues and the like. It is true that people love these things and like to see their children dressed up and taking part in things which have little relation to their daily lives. How helpful is this for ordinary folk and how much does it strengthen their faith. Can we not treat the feast from a more 'incarnational' point of view pointing out that Mary had to die like all of us and like her Son? Traditionally Mary was surrounded by the Apostles and others at her death bed so perhaps we could think more of the elderly and the dying in our communities and how we may be able to support them more effectively and not only those of our communities but the elderly in the dying in our local community. The children and young people might be encouraged to find out about the elderly people and the chronic invalids and perhaps organise more support for them. This could give rise to a whole new area of care in our communities.

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