## **ALL SAINTS**

11<sup>th</sup> August 2019 Trinity 8 Pr 14

#### **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

The most prominent Feast Days concerning Mary number twelve for Roman Catholics, nine for Anglicans and four for Lutherans. One of these feast days is the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 15<sup>th</sup> August – this coming Thursday.

NEWS

Whilst the Assumption is a shared festival amongst Romans and Anglicans it is not celebrated by Lutherans. Luther himself recognised and honoured Mary as 'the Mother of God' (not so Calvin, who also honoured her but referred to her as 'the Mother of Jesus'), however, Luther ceased celebrating the Assumption as his 'evangelical' thinking developed during the Reformation.

It is worth reminding ourselves that Mary is reverenced by Muslims as well as Christians; they refer to her with a variety of titles, most commonly 'Mother of Jesus' and 'Our Lady'. She is mentioned frequently in the Quran and Muslims will visit both Christian and Islamic shrines of Our Lady to pray and light candles.

#### The Assumption

Considerable discussion has been invested into the question of what happened to Mary after "having completed the course of her earthly life". Did the assumption take place before or after her death? This is a question that has not been settled 'infallibly' by the Roman Catholic Church. What the Roman Church has stated is that Mary was assumed into Heaven 'body and soul' (before or after death - or 'falling asleep' as the Eastern Orthodox say).

#### So....?

Regardless of our theological positioning, on the questions of before or after 'falling asleep' or body and soul, this is a feast worthy of celebration because, at the very least, God singled her out by choosing her to be the mother of Jesus.

Additionally, by contemplating Mary in her heavenly glory, we are reminded that this world is not the 'definitive' homeland for us either - our calling is to have our gaze fixed elsewhere. This does not mean to say we turn our back on this world, with all its grief, pain, struggle, uncertainty and fear; it is the same world in which Mary lived out her earthly life. Within this life Mary was obedient to God's calling, was the human mother of the person Jesus, struggled with the daily uncertainties of life, worked to shape the developing church after His death and resurrection and now resides in heaven.,

#### **Contact us**

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The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

> Festival Mass Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August

> > 7.30pm

#### Community of the Sisters of the Church

**ALL SAINTS NEWS** 

**EVENTS** 

#### **Alongsider at Bristol**

The Community, guided by Sister Aileen (the Sister Provincial) and Sister Teresa Mary (Sister in Charge, Bristol), has decided it would be good to offer a residential place in the Bristol Community House for an 'Alongsider' (volunteer).

This is a splendid opportunity for someone exploring their vocation and reflecting on ministry; it might be someone pre or post BAP (Bishops' Advisory Panel), or considering lay ministry or the possibility of becoming a Religious; or, indeed, a post-grad student at one of our universities engaged in a research degree; or who knows what.....

If you know anyone who might be interested please contact Sister Teresa for a copy of the Role Description. Teresa Mary CSC: teresamary@sistersofthechurch.org.uk







# ALL SAINTS NEWS



### WE HAVE SCHOOL SPACES AVAILABLE FROM SEPTEMBER 2019

St. John's welcomes all children from Reception to Year 6.

If you are new to the area or considering a change of school, we would like to invite you to visit our Ofsted Outstanding, Church of England School.

We are highly inclusive, welcoming children from all backgrounds and faiths and those with special educational needs. Our family ethos makes St. John's a very happy place to be for our children and their families. We have an excellent reputation, and pride ourselves on delivering an outstanding education within a nurturing environment. Our holistic approach to learning enables all children to grow into confident, articulate, and immensely capable young people, fully equipped for their next stage of education and beyond.

Please call 0117 903 0251 or visit our website to book a date to visit us. We look forward to welcoming you and your family to St John's.

#### www.stjohnsprimary.org.uk



 Infants' Site (EYFS – Year 2): Lower Redland Road, Bristol, BS6 6SU
 Tel: 0117 353 2090

 Juniors' Site (Years 3 – 6): Worrall Road, Bristol, BS8 2UH
 Tel: 0117 903 0251



### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at 4.00 pm

Tea & Cake

**Retiring Collection** 

Organ Recital by Jonathan Hope Assistant Organist at Gloucester Cathedral

# ALL SAINTS NEWS

12	Mass 9.30am Pray for young people – here in our parish and school. Also that all countries take an opportunity to assess their investment in and commitment to youth.
13	<b>Mass 7.00pm</b> Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down and Connor 1667 Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace
14	Mass 9.30am Maximillian Kolbe, Friar 1941 Pray for those who sacrifice their life for another or for others. Sometimes the literal giving of life, but very often the sacrifice of health, wealth, pleasure or opportunity to allow others to benefit and grow. Pray for those who donate organs and blood so that others may live. Pray for the NHS Blood and Transplant Service (NHSBT)
15	<b>Festival Mass 7.30pm</b> Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Almighty God, who looked upon the lowliness of the Blessed Virgin Mary and chose her to be the mother of your only Son: grant that we who are redeemed by his blood may share with her in the glory of your eternal kingdom
16	Mass 10.30am Flying Ambulance Services. Pray for all those who work to deliver this life- saving service, pilots, medical specialists, volunteers, fundraisers. And those who have been (and will be) served by their dedication
17	Marriage of Daniel Mills & Francesca Smith 11.30 amMass 10.30am Pray for the work of thrift shops – organizations and people who sell used goods to positively recycle goods, especially when donations are made to charities. Pray for the charity shops in our parish – Oxfam, St Peter's Hospice, British Heart Foundation, Sue Ryder, Cancer Research, Heart Foundation, Save the Children, DEBRA and MIND.Soup Run 3Organ Recital 4.00pm
18	Trinity 9         Pray for poets – those who find ways to express meaning in words. Pray for those unable to express themselves for many and varied reasons.         Mass       8.00am         All Age Eucharist       9.30am         Parish Mass       11.00am         Evening Prayer       6.00pm
	All