

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.*

Or

*Let us all rejoice in the Lord,
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of the Virgin Mary,
at whose Assumption the Angels rejoice
and praise the Son of God.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who assumed the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the Mother of your Son,
body and soul into heavenly glory,
grant, we pray,
that, always attentive to the things that are above,
we may merit to be sharers of her glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

A reading from the Book of Revelation.

God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple.

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God.

And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, 'Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 45(44):10. 11. 12. 16. R. 10b

R: On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

1. The daughters of kings are those whom you favour.
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir. **R.**
2. Listen, O daughter; pay heed and give ear:
forget your own people and your father's house. **R.**
3. So will the king desire your beauty.
He is your lord, pay homage to him. **R.**
4. They are escorted amid gladness and joy;
they pass within the palace of the king. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:20-27

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming

those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For 'God has put all things in subjection under his feet.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION BEFORE THE GOSPEL

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

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

R: Alleluia.

GOSPEL Luke 1:39-56

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.'

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring for ever.' And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

May this oblation, our tribute of homage,
rise up to you, O Lord,
and, through the intercession of the most Blessed Virgin Mary,
whom you assumed into heaven,
may our hearts, aflame with the fire of love,
constantly long for you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Having received the Sacrament of salvation,
we ask you to grant, O Lord,
that, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
whom you assumed into heaven,
we may be brought to the glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Parish of St Anselm, Hayes

August 16th, 2026

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

WE WELCOME FR NICHOLAS TO ST ANSELM'S TO SAY OUR MASS THIS WEEK.



Today is the Solemnity of the Assumption, when the Church celebrates the commemoration of the death of the Blessed Virgin Mary (the Dormition, or falling asleep, as it is called in the East). The feast is known as the Assumption because of the tradition that her body did not decay but that she was raised up, or 'assumed', body and soul, into heaven. This tradition was already present in the sixth century; but it was only recognised as a formal doctrine of the Church during the 20th century.

It might be considered that, as the Church has managed to survive for 2,000 years without a doctrinal commitment to what happened to Mary's body after her death, it must be an unimportant theological after-thought. But the assumption witnesses to the idea that the Godhead contains the feminine as well as the masculine because it is Mary's body that signals her femininity. It's a useful antidote to the sterile arguments that surface every now and again about whether God is male!

Entrance Hymn

275 Hail, O star that pointest

Offertory Hymn

282 Sing we of the blessed Mother (*During this hymn the collection is taken. Please give as generously as you can.*)

Recessional

281 Shall we not love thee, Mother dear

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THIS WEEK (Year A[2]; Psalm week 4)

ALL MORNING PRAYER SERVICES EXCEPT ON THURSDAYS, AND ALL EVENING PRAYER SERVICES INCLUDING ON THURSDAYS, ARE NOW ONLINE. To attend these online services, visit www.stanselm.co.uk, select 'Services and events', then 'Online Morning Prayer' or 'Online Evening Prayer' as appropriate, and click on 'MORE INFO'.

17th: Monday of 20th week in Ordinary Time.

Morning Prayer 0900 online.

18th: Tuesday of 20th week in Ordinary Time.

Morning Prayer 0900 online. Evening Prayer online 1700.

19th: Wednesday of 20th week in Ordinary Time.

Online Morning Prayer 0900. Online Evening Prayer 1700.

20th: St Bernard, Abbot. **NO MORNING PRAYER OR MASS AS FR STEPHEN IS AWAY.** Evening Prayer online 1700.

21st: St Pius X, Pope. Morning Prayer 0900 online.

22nd: Our Lady, Mother and Queen.

NEXT SUNDAY

23rd August: 21st Sunday on Ordinary Time. Mass at 1000 as usual.

PARISH PRAYER REQUESTS

Eliz Asmar, Kathyan Fenton, Desiree Loderick, Mr & Mrs DeGale, Fitzroy Sandiford, Peter Wickham, Cora Freeman, David Couling and Shirley Thomas. (If you have a name for the list, please give the details to Fr Stephen.)

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Mary Parnell, Kwebena Armstrong Sedu, and Sylvia Fenton

ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH

17th: Clifford Newick, Edward Geake

18th: Doreen Holland

20th: Dulcie Robertson, Winifred Evelyn Smith,

Idris Viola Clarke, Joyce Edith Henrietta Brennan

21st: Marion Polley

YOUNG CHILDREN IN CHURCH: Don't worry if they make a noise or move about! Young visitors to the sanctuary are always welcome, so no drama if they go for a walk! We'll have a look at the children's work at the end of mass...

FINANCIAL POSITION:

During July 2026 our income was £1,643.60, and our outgoings were £1,831.89. We were almost in balance, but spending more than we receive, even by a small margin, is clearly unsustainable. Could you help us by making a small increase in your contribution to St Anselm? Please flash this QR code to get started!



STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

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