

St. Joan of Arc, Farnham

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The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

16th August 2026

Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Readings 2, Psalter Week 4

We gather to worship God in union with Leo XIV, Our Pope.

Saturday	15 August	
12 noon	Nuptial Mass	Idemudia Darius Egualeonan & Titilope Olukole
4.15pm	Confession	
The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary		
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	Elizabeth Richardson RIP
Sunday	16 August	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
9.15 am	Mass	For the Souls in most need of Gods Mercy
11.15am	Mass	Stephen Calcott RIP (anniv)
5.00pm	Mass	Holy Souls
Monday	17 August	
12.00 noon	Requiem Mass	Mary Burland RIP
Tuesday	18 August	
11.00am	Mass	Holy Souls
7.30pm	Rosary	
Wednesday	19 August	Church Closed
Thursday	20 August	St Bernard
11.00am	Mass	Sandis Baltmanis RIP
Friday	21 August	St Pius X
10.30am	Adoration	
11.00am	Mass	Amiti Grech RIP
Saturday	22 August	
4.15pm	Confession	
Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time		
5.00pm	Vigil Mass	Michael Brothers RIP (anniv) & Kathleen Twine RIP
Sunday	23 August	Twenty First Sunday in OT
9.15 am	Mass	Georgina Herson RIP
11.15am	Mass	Patricia Atkinson RIP
5.00pm	Mass	Holy Souls

Missionary Appeal will take place this weekend

15th/16th August.

Mass Count: 8th /9th August: Saturday 5pm =110 ;

Sunday 9.15am = 109; 11.15am = 105; 5.00pm = 75 **Total 399**

Premium Bonds:

A very generous parishioner has taken to donating their premium bonds certificates, and we have quite a few now. Unfortunately we cannot cash these as, only the Bond Holder can. So please would the Bond Holder contact the Parish Office 01252 716711 opt 2 / 07484114716.

Catholics do good at every opportunity. Catholics pray every day. Catholics come to Mass every Sunday.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Veneration (Not Worship)

Normally, we only sing Marian Hymns at the end of Mass, a final anthem to Our Lady. The other psalms, chants and hymns express our worship of God. Today's celebration of the Assumption allows us to sing additional Marian hymns but as Fr. Simon will be over in Heath End and Ash if you want to sing at all, you may need to form a small schola and sing 'acapella'.

Catholics are criticised for our devotion to Mary, accused of worshipping her. The error stems from what is meant by 'worship'. Some non-Catholics conflate singing hymns as worship (c.f. 'praise and worship songs'). Worship (as adoration) is reserved only for God and Jesus told us how to worship: 'Do this in memory of me', so the chants of the Mass and Benediction (e.g. *Psalms, Gloria, Sanctus*) are 'worship songs'. Other songs (e.g. *hymns*), especially when sung outside of Mass are 'praise songs', and a good thing to do! Even so, these songs must express a theology consistent with Scripture, the Creed, and the Ecumenical Councils of the Church.

Be careful not to narrow the meaning of the English Word 'worship'. In older English, worship meant honour, dignity, reverence, esteem, or high respect, not just the 'adoration' due to God alone. This broader sense continues in titles like "Your Worship" for magistrates and mayors and no one thinks they are God! And so, we venerate Mary, not worshipping her with the adoration due to God alone. There is nothing controversial in this! Our respect comes from God himself, for when we say, 'Hail Mary' we use His greeting, the words His Messenger, the Angel Gabriel used when he asked for 'Yes' to being the 'Mother of God'. On the cross, Jesus told the 'beloved disciple' to take Mary to his home, giving Mary Motherhood of the Church.

Annual Missionary Appeal – the Columban Missionaries:

We welcome the Columban Missionaries to give the annual Missionary Appeal. While this priest celebrates our four Masses, Fr. Simon will celebrate Masses at Holy Family and Holy Angels so that Fr. Robin can have a holiday. The second collection is for their Missionary work. Please give by the collection baskets or via Dona. If you wish to Gift Aid your donation, you can give directly through the Columban Missionaries website: <https://columbans.co.uk/how-you-can-help/donate/>

Readings – Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1st Reading: **Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab**

Psalm: **Ps 45(44):10. 11. 12. 16. R10b**

2nd Reading: **1 Corinthians 15:20-27**

Gospel: **Luke 1:39-56**

Daily Readings can be found www.universalis.com

Fr Simons Daily Reflections are on the website.

www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk

12th & 13th Sept and 19th & 20th Sept: Fr. Simon will be on his summer holiday. Our supply priests are Fr. Chris Dobson and Fr. Gilmour McDermott. On these two weekends, they will celebrate 3 of our 4 Sunday Masses. **On these weekends there is no 5pm Sunday evening Mass.**

Rosary Group:

Meet on the **1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm** in the Church. Everyone is welcome to come along. Next date is on the **18th August.**

Life in the Spirit Prayer Group:

Every **Wednesday 8.00-9.00pm** in the Parish Centre. Come and refresh your prayer life. Everyone welcome. Information online at stjoanlits.webstarts.com

Scripture Study Group:

Will resume on **Wednesday 3rd September** after the Summer Break.

200 Club:

Contact John Dick to join St Joan of Arc 200 Club it's £12 a year for one number. john Dick187@btinternet.com

Arcaid:

If you would like to support Arcaid in any way please have a look at their work on our website. www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk/your-parish/parish-charity-arcaid leaflets and forms are in the church porch.

Arcaid is St. Joan of Arc's very own overseas Aid Charity.



SCAN ME

Home Visitors:

If you, or you know of someone who would like a visitor from St Joan's to stay in touch with the Church, please ask them to contact the Parish Office. farnham@abdiocese.org.uk

Holy Communion may be bought to the sick or housebound in our parish. Family members may request this via Fr Simon or the Parish Office.

Foodbank: www.farnham.foodbank.org.uk

This month Foodbank are requesting: Tinned vegetables; UHT juice; Squash; UHT milk, Savoury items such as pot noodles, crackers, crisps. **Thank you for your generosity.**

Diary Dates:

Parish Sunday Lunch: 6th September.

2:2 Club: 9th September; 14th October; 11th November.

Arcaid Cake Sale: Sunday 13th September.

Parish Quiz Night: Friday 16th October.

Christmas Bazaar: Sunday 22nd November.

If anyone would like to organize a Parish event do speak to Fr. Simon or email the Parish Office.

Mass for Altar Servers at Arundel Cathedral, Saturday 12 September at 12 noon:

Fr Aaron Spinelli, Diocesan, invites all diocesan altar servers to a special Mass at Arundel Cathedral. The Mass for Altar Servers is for all those who have served, all those who are serving, and anybody who would like to serve - all are very welcome to attend. Please bring a cassock/cotta or an alb, if possible. Holy Mass will be followed by light refreshments. Please bring a packed lunch. Please contact Fr Aaron to confirm attendance and numbers E: aaron.spinelli@abdiocese.org.uk

Let us pray for those in our families who are unwell at this time and especially for: Michael Pattie, Sheila Thorp, Ariane, Brian Fernando, Suzanne Eames, Robin Eames, Kate Pontifex, Carol Tutte, Donna Lawson, Anne Cheesman, Jennifer Flack, James Flack, Art Attwood, Elizabeth Murray, Peter McCormick, Elizabeth Leavy, Margaret Connolly, Andrew Torjussen, Siobhan Gorman, Francis Galliano, Eileen Farebrother, Noreen Yelland, and for all in our Parish community who are unwell.

Please let the Parish Office know if any names can be removed.

We pray for the recently deceased:

Mary Burland RIP whose Requiem will take place on Monday 17th August at 12 noon.

Mary Ditchburn RIP whose Requiem will take place on Thursday 27th August at 1.00pm.

We pray for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Fr Tim Jelf, Stephen Calcott, Michael Brothers, Michael Barnes, Kathleen Davies, Margaret Walsh, Joan Beattie, Phyllis Doherty, Margaret Day, Vera Ballard, Patricia Stewardson, Diana Campbell, Josie Lyons, Simon Dick, George Smith, Michele Kayes, Celia Morgan.

May the Lord grant them all a place in His Kingdom.

Sacristans – especially at 5pm Sunday Mass:

More sacristans are needed for the 5pm Mass on Sunday evening. Although, new volunteers are being trained as sacristans, there are gaps appearing in the sacristy provision. As the pastoral plan continues to be implemented and embedded, for any Mass to remain viable, the community needs to provide the necessary readers, servers, musicians, welcomers, **and sacristans**. Please discern if you can serve in these roles. A DBS check and training is required for the role of Sacristan.

Childrens' Liturgy:

Will be on 23rd August & 6th September. These are for Parents with Children in Reception to Year 2. **A Case 4 form must be completed on the first visit and a parent must accompany their child.**

First Holy Communion 2027

9.15am Mass - Every Sunday.

*Sign up Sunday for 2027 First Confession & First Holy Communion – **Sunday 13th September 2026***

Confirmation Group 2026

We will gather to **celebrate on Sunday 27th September** at the 5pm Mass. Certificates and refreshments.

Confirmation 2027

For those who will be in school years 10, 11 or 12 from September, and are contemplating receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2027, now is the time to ensure that the Holy Mass, especially on a Sunday is the source and summit of your life. **Applications will open in October.**

Youth Mass - 5.00pm - Every Sunday

Stop assisted suicide being legalized:

Assisted suicide campaigners have sadly brought back the Leadbeater Bill. This can be stopped if MPs vote down the Bill on 11th September. *Right To Life UK* has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you email your MP to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide in the vote in the House of Commons on **11th September. Please take 30 seconds to email your MP today to ask them to vote NO to assisted suicide:** <https://righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote>