The Assumption of Our Lady and the Blessing of Herbs

On Wednesday evening 14th August at 7.30pm we will celebrate the vigil of the Assumption of Our Lady with a Procession, Solemn Mass and the Blessing of Herbs. Since the 10th century herbs have been blessed on this Solemnity. You can bring your own or there will be some to take home. The Church asks God to bless these herbs and flowers for they are the work of his creation to give his people strength, healing, flavour and to use them in thanksgiving for the beauty He has given us. There are many flowers especially here in England and in the Bible that are closely associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The biblical images such as vine, lavender, cypress and lily, connect Our Lady with sweet smelling flowers because of her virtue, and most of all because of Isaiah’s 11:1 words “the shoot springing from the side of Jesse”, which would bear the blessed fruit of Jesus. St. John Damascene writes about the time when the earthly life of Our Lady was coming to an end and all the Apostles, who were scattered all over the earth preaching the Gospel, were miraculously brought to Jerusalem in an instant to be present for Her death. They laid Her body to rest in a tomb in the garden of Gethsemani; three days later, when Thomas arrived in Jerusalem from India, so he and the Apostles went to the tomb, but on opening it, they discovered that Her body was no longer there, and a sweet odour came forth. St. John Damascene writes “Whom once it pleased to take the flesh from the Virgin Mary, and become a man, and be born of Her ....and who after birth preserved Her virginity incorrupt, it also pleased, after Her passing, to honour Her immaculate body by translating it to Heaven before the common and universal resurrection” of our own souls.

Some Good News. Bishop Richard has agreed that Fr Gerard will come back to the Parish by the weekend of the 14th September. Fr Gerard will have to take it easy and Fr Dominic will be around to help. An interim weekly Mass and Devotional schedule will be taken on, which will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 10.50am before Mass at 12 noon on Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Thursday morning Mass at the school, and the evening Mass will be at 7pm in the Extraordinary Form (Latin). Saturday morning confessions and Adoration from 10am until Holy Mass at 11.15 am and Saturday evening Mass will be at 6pm. Sunday Masses will stay the same. Vespers and Benediction will move to 5pm.

Through Jesus and Mary. Fr Gerard
Sunday 11th August - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings
1st Reading: Wisdom 18:6-9  Psalm: 32
Psalm Response: Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

Sunday 18th August - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Readings
1st Reading: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10  Psalm: 39
Psalm Response: Lord, come to my aid.

Please continue your prayers for Fr Gerard’s return to full health. Also please keep in your prayers; Fr Laurence Quin-Morris, Fr Martin Jakubas and Canon Brendan McCarthy, previous Parish Priests of our Parish, who are also in need of our prayers.

Please also remember to pray for Timmy Young, who will be undergoing a serious operation on Monday 26th of August. On Sunday 25th August, the eve of Timmy’s operation, we will come together at 6.00pm to recite the Holy Rosary for the success of his operation and speedy recovery.

Parish Newsletter: There will be no newsletter next week, and the next newsletter will be on 25th August and then weekly thereafter.

This weekend The Bethlehem Nativity Group, a missionary from Bethlehem will be visiting us to briefly talk about the Holy Land and also sell religious articles.

Parish Office Restructure
The Parish Office will be manned by members of the Parish Finance Committee.
The temporary schedule is: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10.30am - 12.30pm.
If you wish to contact us at any time, please use this temporary email: stthughoflincoln.office@gmail.com
In case of emergency, please contact St Dunstan’s Parish on 01483 760652.
It is our intention to maintain these arrangements over the summer, during which time the new Office Manager post will be advertised.

Jackpot Club: Subs are £1 per month and the more members, the bigger the prizes! 50% of the monthly subs go into parish funds and 50% in prize money.
£100 annual draw on the Feast of St Hugh
Further details on the Jackpot Club can be found in the porch
If you would like to join the Jackpot Club and be one of our lucky monthly winners contact Anne on 01483 480677 or email: am.rushton@btopenworld.com.
The next Draw will take place on Sunday 11th August in the hall after 9.30am Mass.

Parish Project Ahotokurom Padre Pio Rehabilitation Centre, Ghana
The latest newsletter is now available at https://www.ahoto.org/newsletters.
First Holy Communion Programme 2019/2020
Registration for the 2019/2020 First Holy Communion Programme is now open. Further information and the registration forms are available on the parish website under the “Children” tab, or in hard copy in the narthex. For further information please contact Hilton Leslie on 07900 246719 or you can email him at sthugh.fhc@gmail.com.”

Are you, or is someone you know, interested in the Catholic faith? If so, you are invited to join the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Group which will be starting in September. To register your interest, please contact the Parish Office via email: sthughoflincoln.office@gmail.com. Dates and details to follow.

Parish Safeguarding Contact: Mobile - 07914030250 Email - sthugh.safeguarding@virginmedia.com

There is a bottle of Lourdes Holy Water available in the Sacristy. If you would like to take some home please bring your own receptacle.

We are still looking for an occasional cook for our term-time Thursdays pensioners' Parish Lunch Club. Please ring Audrey Moss on 01276-857516.

Going into Hospital
If you or someone you know is going into Hospital please let the Parish Office know as soon as possible. Once you are in Hospital you will need to let the Hospital Chaplaincy know either by e-mail (preferable) or by telephoning or texting them direct. You will need to be very clear if you want a) anointing by a Priest; b) Holy Communion; c) a visit. The contact details of the Chaplains are available on the Hospital websites.

Worth Abbey Retreats
- Silent Retreat: 16th - 19th September
- Individual self-led retreat: 22nd - 24th October
For further information or to book your place, contact the Bookings Secretary, Worth Abbey Retreats on 01342 710318 or email: toc@worth.org.uk

Fr Gerard will celebrate Masses at his Parents’ Home

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<th>Intentions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon 12 Aug Private Intentions</td>
<td>Teresa Brooks</td>
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<td>Tue 13 Aug Denzil Plomer RIP</td>
<td>Carol Dunne</td>
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<td>Fri 16 Aug Sheila McLaughlin RIP</td>
<td>Carol Dunne</td>
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<td>Thu 22 Aug Intentions of Andrew Larkham</td>
<td>Harry Larkham</td>
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<td>Fri 23 Aug Intentions of Catherine &amp; Tina Russell</td>
<td>Audrey Moss</td>
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**Immaculate Heart of Mary, my Mother, I come to you as your child. I desire with all my heart that all the people of the world may be brought back to the knowledge and love of your dear Son. I pray, dear Mother of my God, that the wonderful beauty and purity of your own Immaculate Heart may so win our souls that we may detest all sin and dedicate our lives to the honour and glory of the God who created us. You revealed at Fatima the secrets of your own sad heart and begged for penance, prayer, and conversion of the world. What more can I do than unite my heart to yours in this great yearning? What can I add but my fervent prayer that all the world may listen to your call? I give my heart to you, my heavenly Queen, and in confidence I leave to you what is best for me in answer to my prayer for love and reparation. Immaculate Heart of the Mother of my God, I implore through your powerful intercession, for the conversion of the hearts, the complete victory over sin, and the return of the peace which you have promised. Through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**