



**THE PARISH OF ST. THOMAS MORE,
KIDLINGTON & ST. HUGH OF LINCOLN, WOODSTOCK**
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Pope Leo XIV's Prayer for August 2026: For evangelisation in the city. Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness, we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Welcome to this House of God.

Pray to God before Mass, Listen to God during Mass, Talk to others after Mass

"He who is mighty has done great things for me; he has exalted those of humble estate. Luke 1:39-56

Psalter week 4

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 15th-16th August 2026

Saturday 15th August (K)	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Second Collection Parish Debt	5.45 pm Rosary 6.00 pm. Mass: Debbie RIP – (Sandra Lemon)
Sunday 16th August	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Second Collection Parish Debt	Early Morning Mass 9.30 am Woodstock Day Mass 11.00 am Kidlington. Zoomed & on YouTube: Rita Hatton RIP (Jane Lemon)
Tuesday 18 th August (K)	Feria in Ordinary Time (Green) Diocesan Novena to Blessed Dominic Barberi begins	7.00 pm Mass: Private intention of Daniel Walsh.
Wed 19 th August (W)	Feria in Ordinary Time (Green)	11.00 am Mass
Thurs 20 th August (K)	Memorial of St Bernard, Abbot, Doctor of the Church. (White)	9.30 am Mass: For daughter's devotion to Mass and the Rosary
Friday 21 st August (K)	Memorial of St Pius X, Pope. (White)	11.00 am Mass
Saturday 22nd August (K)	Vigil for the Twenty- First Sunday in Ordinary Time (White) Second Collection: Parish Debt	5.45 pm Rosary 6.00 pm. Mass: Kitty Walsh RIP
Sunday 23rd August	The Twenty- First Sunday in Ordinary Time (White) Second Collection Parish Debt	Early Morning Mass 9.30 am Woodstock Day Mass 11.00 am Kidlington. Zoomed & on YouTube: Rita Hatton RIP (Carthy Morrison)

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is an important event for Catholics, marking her being taken up to heaven, body and soul, at the end of her earthly life. She is honoured for not experiencing decay, as God brought her directly to heaven. This event is celebrated on August 15th, a holy day of obligation for many Catholics, who reflect on Mary's unique role as the mother of Jesus and a model of faith.

Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption as a dogma in 1950, establishing it as a core belief of the Catholic Church. While not explicitly mentioned in the Bible, it is based on longstanding tradition within the Church.

The Assumption highlights Mary's special relationship with Jesus as His mother and emphasises her faithfulness and obedience. By taking her to heaven, God honours her role within the Church, illustrating a deep link between Mary and Jesus. This celebration reminds us that, like Mary, we can achieve eternal life through faith and God's transformative help. It signifies her complete redemption and her role as an intercessor for believers, offering hope for eternal life with God. Reflecting on Mary's journey encourages Catholics to live faithful lives, trusting in God's promises.

Angelus: The Angelus will be prayed before the Saturday Vigil Mass at 6:00 pm. Please collect an Angelus prayer booklet from the church porch.

Sign of Peace: The parish has decided to resume the traditional handshake during the Sign of Peace at Mass. Please feel free to shake hands if you are comfortable.

Rosary: Thank you to everyone who leads us in praying the Rosary before Saturday evening Mass. Your time and dedication are truly appreciated.

Prayer Intentions, Parish Sick: We pray for all on our parish sick list and for those who care for them. Catherine Elford (McCann), Rebecca Lambert, Mary Couchman, Anne Howard, Tracy Richards, Kit Murphy, Christopher Browne, Neil Greenwood, Sheila Cooper, Geoff Boorman, Martha and Rosemary and Steve Whelan, Claire French. May they be strengthened in all their needs by the Lord Jesus Christ and his mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary

Anniversaries: We pray for all who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again especially Rita Hatton who died this week and, for all our parish anniversaries, We pray for all who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again, for all our parish anniversaries, Esther Brumby, David Rahill, Ettie Higgins, Bernard White, Louis Martin, Alfred Osborne, Gertrude Parker, Charles Ellul, Catherine Ellul. Bernard Murphy, Thomas Connolly, Arthur Hill, George Wareing, John McErlain, Maria Jeffries. May they come into the light of God's presence in his heavenly kingdom.

Funeral: There will be a Funeral Mass for Rita Hatton on 22 August at 11:00 am, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. Rita was a long-standing parishioner who lived near the church and contributed greatly to our parish. Please join us as we pray for the repose of her soul. May she rest in peace.

Annual Diocesan Novena for the Canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi starts Tuesday 18th August. This will take place across the Archdiocese until the Feast of Blessed Dominic on Wed 26 August 2026. The novena prayer and further information can be found on the diocesan website on the page relating to the Novena. The Novena of Prayer can be prayed in Parishes, and privately at home.

Piety Shop is now open for your cards, medals, gifts, etc. Please show your support and appreciation! Eileen Perkins & Milagros Ponte.

Scripture Study Group: The monthly meetings are held on Mondays at 2 PM in STM Hall. The next meetings are scheduled for 7th September, 5th October, 2nd November, and 7th December. Everyone is welcome to attend. For further information, please reach out to Jane Lemon at janemcgrathlemon@gmail.com.

Food Bank at STM (K): A list of needed food donations is posted on the porch notice board and the hall door. Please place your donations in the food box located in the lobby between the church and the hall. Thank you.

Food Bank at SHL (W): A list of the food most needed is displayed on the porch and hall notice boards.

Please put your donations in the food box, located on the porch and lobby between the Church and Hall. Thank you.

Harvington Hall Annual Pilgrimage: The Annual Archdiocese of Birmingham Pilgrimage Mass will take place on Sunday, 6th September. Confessions 1.45 pm- 2.30 pm; Mass at 3 pm. Harvington Hall, Kidderminster, DY10 4LR. All are welcome

Home/ Sick Visits: If you are aware of any parishioners or family members living in a care home, nursing home, or who are housebound and would like a visit from the parish to receive Holy Communion, please let us know. You can inform us in person or via email, providing their name and contact details so we arrange the visits. Thank you!

Trustee and Volunteer Opportunities: The Archdiocese of Birmingham is seeking practising Catholics with professional experience to serve as Trustees and committee members, particularly in safeguarding, property, governance, heritage and the work of Harvington Hall. For further information, visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jobs

CAFOD: The world's poorest countries spend more on debt repayments than on essentials like healthcare, education, and clean water. CAFOD is calling for these unjust debts to be cancelled so that millions of people can live with dignity and hope, and asking us to support the campaign by adding our voices.

St Thomas More Primary School: Our Parish primary school are currently raising money for new Religious Education resources. If you can help, please follow the link to the "Just Giving Page."

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stthomasmorebibles?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL

FLAME, Saturday 6 March 2027. The largest gathering of Catholic young people at Wembley Arena. We are looking to take a group of young people from the parish to join with others from the deanery. If your son or daughter is aged 13 plus and is interested, please let Fr Damian know or email the parish.

Carmelite Contemplative Prayer Circle: Join us for shared prayer, wisdom, and friendship in STM Hall at 6 PM on August 20th. For more information, please contact Kathleen McGlynn at kathleenikelly@yahoo.com.

Safeguarding Information from the Archdiocese Office: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Lena Shams & Anastasia Hargreaves-Hand. They can be contacted at sg.stthomasmore.kidlington@rcaob.org.uk. Alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Kenelm Youth Trust Newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/bcys/march-newsletter-kenelm-youth-trust-16564215?e=978575ba13>

Kenelm Youth Oxford: <https://www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/oxfordnews.html>

Young Adults group: 1st Sunday of the Month after 6.30 pm Mass at Corpus Christi, Headington.

Birmingham Archdiocese Link: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Vatican News: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

Catholic Bishops' Conference: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/news/>

Follow the Readings at Mass: www.universalis.com/mass or www.alivepublishing.co.uk