



## The Parish of the Assumption, *Holy Trinity*

26, London Road, Chipping Norton, OX7 5AX

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*The Assumption is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust*

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**Readings: Year A**

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**Dear Friends,**

Many years ago, a wise old farmer said to me: "May is the best month in England". The flora and fauna are bursting out in all their freshness, the birds are singing with all their gusto... Spring is in the air and our Oxfordshire countryside is stunning.

For Catholics there is another beauty of this month: *Our Blessed Lady Mary*.

Through most of the year we begin or end Mass with The Angelus:

*The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae*

At this time, during the 50 days of Eastertide we replace the *Angelus* with the *Regina Caeli*:

*Regina caeli, laetare alleluia*

*Rejoice and be glad, alleluia*

*Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia*

*He whom thou wast meet to bear, alleluia*

*Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia*

*As he promised hath arisen, alleluia*

*Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia*

*Pour for us to God thy prayer, alleluia*

Mary is the Gospel link from the Incarnation, through the public ministry of Jesus, as in the wedding at Cana, the first of the miracles, and on to the traumatic Passion and the death of her son on the Cross, and, as in today's first Reading, to the Upper room and the falling of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Only Mary continually walks alongside the Saviour, her son. Only Mary follows Him so faithfully and discretely through His life. It is entirely right and proper that we love her, pay her the highest of honours and sing her praises.

On Wednesday of this week the children of our school will be singing in Mary's honour and this will culminate in the *May Procession* to the outdoor shrine. This has been completely overhauled and refreshed thanks to the generosity of one lady. Do take a look and say a prayer to Our Blessed Mother.

**P.S.** We are approaching First Communion/Confirmation time and this Friday at 10.30am in Holy Trinity our area Bishop Richard will celebrate a Confirmation Mass for the children of the school. This Mass is open to everyone to join and share in this special time. The Bishop (formerly parish priest of *St John's*, Banbury) will then spend time in the school... a great honour for us!

In June we will be welcoming our First Communions, a bumper crop again.

**God bless everyone,**

**Fr Clive**

## Parish Notices

Last week's second collection for *Poor Parishes* raised £211.18 across the Parish.  
This week's second collection is for *Catholic Communication*.

**Masses and Classes as usual this week, however no Friday Rosary:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday  
Mass 9.15am. Friday School Confirmation Mass 10.30am.

**On Thursday 21st May please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country.**  
Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting  
contact *The Good Counsel Network* on [020 7723 1740](tel:02077231740), or via [www.goodcounselnetwork.com](http://www.goodcounselnetwork.com).

*"And the people of Ninevah believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth,  
from the greatest to the least...God saw their efforts to renounce their evil ways. And God  
relented about the disaster which He had threatened to bring on them, and He did not bring  
it." (Jonah 3:5,10)*

**In May, let us pray together with the Holy Father** that everyone, from large producers to small  
consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality  
food.

**Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parish.** In  
addition to your own daily prayers please remember: All those who mourn the loss of loved ones.  
The repose of the souls of those who have died. People whose anniversaries occur at this time. The  
people of the Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

The Parish operates in accordance with **Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and  
Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times.** Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are  
**Tammy Lawson** and **Shamalee Foster** ([sg.stteresaoftisieux.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stteresaoftisieux.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk)). Alternatively,  
the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at  
[safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026

# National Day of Prayer & Fasting for Life

*A great prayer for Life is urgently needed. Saint John Paul II*



**21<sup>st</sup> May**  
Vigil of St Rita

**Join us each month in Prayer and Fasting:**

### Fasting

**Fast from all food except bread and water for the day**

Or

Fast from a particular food or luxury, e.g. chocolate, alcohol, cigarettes, TV.

Fast from whatever you can given your state of health etc, but make sure it is something that involves a sacrifice to yourself.

### Prayer

**We are asking people to say a Rosary (or an extra Rosary if you say it daily already).**

You could also offer an extra effort such as going to Mass (or an extra Mass) on the day, or going to Adoration. You can even pray before a closed tabernacle if Adoration is not available near you.

*And He said to them; This kind (of demon) can go out by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.  
(Gospel of Mark 9:29)*

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