


The Parish of the Assumption

West Oxfordshire

Holy Trinity Chipping Norton

St Teresa's Charlbury

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The Assumption is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 8th November 2026 – Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time & Remembrance Sunday
Readings: Year A Mal. 1:14b-2:2b, 8-10 · Ps. 131(130) · 1 Thess. 2:7-9, 13 · Matt. 23:1-12

Dear Friends,

May I begin by thanking everyone for their presents, cards and wishes for my 70th birthday last week! It is so encouraging to feel that appreciation, and it has inspired me to keep going! This year has been a bit "up and down" on the health front but such warmth and support does wonders for morale.

This Sunday is Remembrance Day and we shall be offering a Mass of Requiem in each church on Sunday morning for all who have died in battle. It is one of the great consolations of the Catholic Faith that we can do this for those whom we have loved, still love, but see no more. Following on from All Souls, when a priest has an Indult to offer three Masses in one day, this sets the tone for November, the Month of All Souls.

Don't forget the brown envelopes at the back of church if you would like a Mass for your November intentions. Just write out the names on the slips of paper and put them in the envelope with a Mass offering. Pop it in the Petitions box at Holy Trinity or under the sacristy door at St Teresa's.

War is in the air… open conflict as in Ukraine, the Middle East or Africa, or covertly as we are experiencing across Europe. Bomb scares on planes, cyber attacks in supermarkets… are these the work of rogue individuals or state actors? There can be no mistake about the Russian trawlers dragging their anchors and severing vital underwater cables. Undemocratic, authoritarian regimes in the world do not like the liberal democracies of the West and wish us harm, even though their peoples may yearn for a say in their society, and freedom.

Today's Gospel, set for this Sunday in Ordinary Time, calls us to be ready at all times.
The five wise virgins are alert and prepared to do their job meeting the bridegroom and his party. The five foolish virgins are left behind, literally locked out and shunned. Jesus is telling a parable about the kingdom of heaven, or to put it another way, about our eternal destiny, our salvation. Are we ready for the Lord if He came to us today? Are our lamps lit for Him? The Eucharist and Confession offer us paths to prepare outprselves, to be in the right state of soul. And above all we should heed those final words of today's passage:

"Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P.S. This week: Masses/Rosary as usual.

Tuesday 10th – at the 9.15 am Mass we will be celebrating a very special 100th birthday for Joanna Hulme, Johnny Hulme's mother, and the invitation is open to everyone to join us. There will be cake and coffee at *Carlo's Café* afterwards in the parish room.

Saturday 14th – Two baptisms:
10.30am: Zara Husselbury
12pm: Rey Baker

Two weeks until Christ the King, and the end of *"Ordinary Time"* for this year. That signals… **Advent**… the time of preparation for the Lord's arrival at Christmas. Is your lamp lit?

God bless everyone,
Fr Clive

Last week's Second Collection for The Johnson Association raised £359.43.

Masses & Rosary:

	Holy Trinity	St Teresa's
Monday	9.15am Mass	
Tuesday	9.15am Mass *St Carlo's Café*	
Wednesday		9.15am Mass *Adoration & Benediction*
Thursday	9.15am Mass *Adoration & Benediction*	
Friday	9.15am Rosary for Peace	9.15am Mass
Saturday	6pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday	11am Mass	9.15am Mass

Holy Trinity's T4U Shoebox Appeal returns once again. There are a number of options as to what you can put in your shoebox, depending on whether you are sending it to a boy, girl, or a home including the usual stuff like toothpaste, gloves, scarves, toys, along with candles, cooking utensils, tea towels, etc. Please feel free to pick up a leaflet at the back of church.

St Teresa's parishioner and Roofbreaker, Elena Piras, was recently featured in a BBC article, which can be read using this link if reading digitally, or by following the QR below. She is currently crowdfunding for her next album which you can donate to here, or again scan the QR below. Lastly, it's worth reiterating her role as the Parish's Roofbreaker. In her own words:

> "My role is to help people to access the services offered in the Parish of the Assumption, which include the facilities, Mass itself and the various activities that take place, aiming to involve people with disabilities and improve their experience. Jesus accepted everyone in his church, including people with disabilities, without prejudice, making them equal contributors to his work of evangelisation."

St Teresa's "Way Forward" Meeting - Thurs 12th November - 7.30 - 8.45pm - Morris Room, Charlbury Corner House. If you are interested in contributing further to the St Teresa's community in Charlbury, as well as to the wider parish, please come along to our next Way Forward meeting, where we will continue to discuss upcoming events as well as potential activities for the future. Representatives will then meet with Fr Clive to talk through how best to implement these ideas. For any queries about the meeting please contact **Brek Taylor-Tamblyn** on **07779 579482** by call or WhatsApp.

From Johnny Hulme: My dear Mother Joanna Hulme celebrates her 100th Birthday on Tuesday November 10th, 9:15 morning Mass on the day will be a celebration of her life so far! I would love as many of you as possible to join us at Mass, we will have coffee and cake afterwards.

From Suze Mathews:

ACN XMAS CARD SALES AT ST TERESA'S AND HOLY TRINITY

I will be selling ACN Xmas cards and small gifts at both Holy Trinity and St Teresa's in November:

St Teresa's: After 09.15 Mass Sundays 8 and 22 November
Holy Trinity: After Mass Saturday 21 Nov and after 11am Mass Sunday 22

Buying your Christmas cards and small gifts from Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is a great way to support all those Christians world-wide who have lost their homes, their churches and in some instances their freedom to practice their faith.

ACN RED WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2026 - HOLY MASS at ST TERESA'S 09.15am

Every year ACN highlights the worldwide persecution of Christians by encouraging us to wear red—the colour of martyrs—on Red Wednesday. St Teresa's makes a special effort to show our of support ACN and their work; so please, if you can, come to Holy Mass on Wednesday 18th November at 9.15 and wear red.



ACN have also recently released their *Persecuted and Forgotten? 2024-2026* report, which you can read online by following this link (if reading digitally) or scanning the QR to the right. Well worth a read.

In November, let us pray with the Holy Father for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of our Parish, in particular Hilda and Anne Clifton of St Teresa's. 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. For the Middle-East, Ukraine, Europe.

T**he Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times.** Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are **Tina Short** (sg.holytrinity.chippingnorton@rcaob.org.uk) and **Sharnalee Foster** (sg.stteresa.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk). Alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.