ST. PHILIP HOWARD CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH

33 Walpole Road,
Cambridge CB1 3TH
+44 1223 211235
SPH Office Email: sphcambridge@gmail.com
Web: www.sphcambridge.org.uk

ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM

Sunday, 16 August 2026

Lectionary:
Sundays: Year A – Weekdays: II – Psalter: Week 4



CLERGY

PARISH PRIEST:
The Revd Father PHILIP JOHN
33 Walpole Road
Cambridge
CB1 3TH
Tel: **(01223) 211235 | 0771 313 9350**
Philip.John@rcdea.org.uk

Mgr. TONY ROGERS
40 Dunstan Court
Wulfstan Way
Cambridge
CB1 8QD
Mobile: **07778221509**
tonybrucerogers@gmail.com

DEACON:
The Revd Dr JOHN BELL
3 Applewood Close,
CB1 9NU
Mobile: **07919247977**
deacon@sphcambridge.org.uk

PARISH OFFICERS

Fabric and Finance Chairman
joanmariamilne@icloud.com

Treasurer and Gift-Aid Officer
Prasanth Francis
Tel: 07877 378104
Email: **treasurer@sphcambridge.org.uk**

Parish Safeguarding Officer
Hugh Bradley
Tel: (01223) 244222
hughdbradley@gmail.com

DATA PROTECTION If you have contact details printed in the newsletter that you do not want published on our website, please inform Fr. Philip John *(details above)*.

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Fulbourn
Phoebe Vargas 07796 893 558
Alistair Milne 01223 894997
Cherry Hinton
Nicky Marks 07876 713558

HOSPITAL POLICY

PLEASE contact the Chaplaincy Office directly on (01223) 217769 to inform them of any Catholic family members who may have been admitted to ensure that they are registered as a Catholic and that the patient has ticked the box giving permission for a priest or a member of the Chaplaincy Team to visit. More information at:

www.addenbrookes.org.uk/serv/nonclin/chaplaincy/

EAST ANGLIA PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

21-28 August

There are details of this year's pilgrimage **here**. You can express an interest in joining the pilgrimage **here**.

DONA & GIVING TO THE PARISH

If you have a **Mass intention**, you can use one of the small brown envelopes for your offering and give it directly to a priest or post it through the priest's door. If you pay for a Mass intention through **Dona**, please also fill out a brown envelope *clearly* and mention on it that you have paid via Dona. Other ways of giving to the parish include **standing orders**, **gift aid** and through a **legacy** in your will.

Sunday collection: £540.42



CONFIRMATION CLASSES IN 2026/27

The new Confirmation class schedule has been announced with the first class on **17 October**. The full schedule along with registration forms is **here**.

CATECHISM CLASSES IN 2026/27



Catechism classes for children in school years 1 to 5 will start in September/October. The full schedule of classes in 2026-27 is available below. You can also find the dates for your child's class, the registration form and information about the programme.

Please register your child in advance by sending your form to the class teacher listed on the webpage.

- **Schedule of classes for 2026/27**
- **Registration form (PDF)**
- **Registration form (Word)**
- **General information**

SPH YOUTH SUMMER SOCIAL

5.30-9pm, Saturday, 29 August



After the Vigil Mass, join us for a relaxed evening of board games, quizzes, good food, and great company. Whether you're competitive or just looking to have fun and meet new people, there's something for everyone. Food will be provided. This event is for anyone between the ages of 13 and 25.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church or use the following link: **https://forms.gle/bg7d7mTWh92TMdpu5**

Would you like to **support** this event? Parents and parishioners wishing to sponsor food and drinks for the evening can make a donation via **Dona** or directly in cash to Fr. Philip.

DIOCESAN JUBILEE PRESENTATION IN SEPTEMBER

Meeting at 7.30pm, Monday, 17 August

Please come to a **meeting in the Community Room** of the church on Monday, 17 August, led by Fr Tony Rogers. At an earlier meeting, we expressed a hope to involve some of our young people or adults in **interviewing parishioners for a series of short videos**.

We would like to build up a **profile of parish life** through a series of short conversations lasting no more than 5 or 6 minutes and through a series of photographs. As many strands as possible of parish life should be presented—for example, Cambridge 'born & bred', those who were around about fifty years ago, and more recent arrivals and newcomers. Our international community is diverse: composed of Keralan, Filipino, African, Caribbean, various parts of Europe and beyond! It would also be good to have people who are involved in parish life, such as servers, musicians, social committee members., and others. The idea is that this will be less an interview and more a conversation. Fr Philip would also like to include our relations with the Diocese. **The meeting aims to seek further ideas and volunteers** to ensure we have something to show when Bishop Peter comes for confirmation on **Tuesday 22 September**.



OUR LADY OF PEÑAFRANCIA

Sunday, 30 August

- **11.30am**: Procession
- **12pm**: Holy Mass
- **2pm**: Novena & Rosary

SPH BIBLE STUDY STARTS IN SEPTEMBER

The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation is a powerful journey through Scripture from Creation to the establishment of the Church. Filmed in breathtaking locations across the Holy Land, Egypt, Rome, and beyond, this updated edition brings God's Word to life.
To register, and to express an opinion about your preferred time and day for the sessions, follow this link:

https://forms.gle/ffgzNZkpCZrYY8XW7

THIS WEEK'S SAINT



Friday, 21 August: **Pope Pius X** (1835–1914) was pope from 1903 to 1914. He promoted frequent reception of Holy Communion, encouraged children to receive Communion, and reformed Church music and seminaries. He strongly defended Catholic teaching against modernist ideas. Remembered for his holiness, pastoral concern and dedication to the Eucharist, he was canonised in 1954.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION AT SPH

2pm, Saturday, 15 August

The WAF (World Apostolate of Fatima) warmly invites you to join us at SPH as we come together to honour our Blessed Mother on the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will begin with a **Holy Rosary** offering our prayers in honour of Our Lady followed by a festive **afternoon tea** in support of a worthy cause. Please join us for a beautiful afternoon of prayer and fellowship in our lovely church.



CAMBRIDGE NAZARETH TRUST

This Trust was established by members of the Equestrian Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem to provide education and development of our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land.

HOLY FAMILY CRÈCHE

Donation envelopes for this project are available in the display unit in our porch.

OPUS DEI

Women's group meets monthly.
Contact: Laura Roldán:
mlauramarchessi@gmail.com

SECULAR FRANCISCANS

Contact: Jaci Agarwala
Tel: 01223 213895 or
ofs.assisi@yahoo.com

CARMELITE GROUP

Contact: Antonia Braithwaite
carmelite.cambridge@gmail.com

CATECHISM LATIN-RITE

Year 1 Beate Gürtler-Green:
beate@guertler-green.co.uk
Year 2 Anne Manning
ammanning15@gmail.com
Year 3 Phoebe Vargas
janphoebe5@gmail.com
Year 4 Lauren DesRuisseaux
laurenruisseaux@btinternet.com.
Year 5 Carol Kelsall
ckelsall@btinternet.com

SYRO-MALABAR COMMUNITY

Contact: Santos Mathen
Email: mathensantosh@gmail.com
Mobile: 07958139920
Contact: George Paily
Email: meringerin4@gmail.com
Mobile: 07737465958

Syro-Malabar Catechism
Years 1-5 Shiji Jenson
Email: Shijijenson78@gmail.com
Years 6-10 Bigily Joy
Email: bigilymerlinjoy@yahoo.co.uk
Mobile: 07915607421

AFRICAN COMMUNITY

Contact: Dominic Oyeniran
oad74@yahoo.com

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING

antonia.braithwaite@gmail.com

MISSIO (APF)

Contact: info@missio.org.uk

ANNUAL AFRICAN MASS

5.30pm, Saturday, 12 Sept.

After the Vigil Mass, there will be a bring-and-share food & drinks reception. All are warmly invited!

JUNIOR CHOIR SCHEDULE

Junior Choir starts again in September. You will find the full schedule of practice sessions combined with the catechism class schedule **here**.

CAMBRIDGE CATHOLIC PARISHES

OUR LADY AND THE ENGLISH MARTYRS
Hills Road, CB2 1JR
Tel: (01223) 350787
or (01223) 448780

SAINT LAURENCE
91 Milton Road, CB4 1XB
Tel: (01223) 704640

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Contact: Fr Philip John:
Philip.John@rcdea.org.uk

https://www.rcdea.org.uk/marriage-preparation/

USE OF CHURCH PREMISES & NEWSLETTER ITEMS

For information contact:
sphcambridge@gmail.com

CAFOD & JUSTICE & PEACE

For information contact:

Bernard Shaw on **(01223) 240207**
or Sheila Brookes at
Sheila.brookes@btinternet.com
or **(01223) 503948**

Meetings are held online on the second Tuesday of each month at **19h30**.

J&P Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/people/Cambridge-Justice-and-Peace-Group/100064618067019/

PARISH MUSIC

Contact Fiona Kirker:
sphparishmusic@gmail.com

REPOSITORY ITEMS

Contact :Antonia Braithwaite:
antonia.braithwaite@gmail.com

SPH KNITTING GROUP

From January, **the SPH Knitting Group** will meet in the **Community Room at St Philip Howard Church** on the first Tuesday of every month from 2pm to 4pm. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please contact Nicky Marks (07876 713558) or Anne Manning (07742 758095).

GLOBAL DEBT CRISIS



Many of the world's poorest countries are being pushed into a deepening debt crisis, forced to make huge payments owed on loans from banks and hedge funds.
CAFOD have a petition calling on governments to take action on the crisis. You can sign it **here** and for further information, click **here**.

GOSPEL REFLECTION — Mary's Visit to Elizabeth *(Luke 1:59-63)*



The core of this gospel reading is Mary's canticle of thanksgiving for God's gifts to her. It is, however, fitting that, on the Feast of the bodily Assumption of Mary, it should begin with her bodily attention to the bodily needs of her elderly relative.
With her own baby on the way, she would have plenty of other priorities, making her long journey a real act of kindness. Her canticle, sung daily in the liturgy of Evening Prayer, sums up God's faithfulness to his promises, focussed on his gifts to this simple peasant girl. It combines a wonderful sense of the holiness of God with warmth of gratitude, showing the thoughts that revolved constantly in Mary's mind. As is fitting in the mouth of a girl whose only knowledge of books was the Bible, Mary's song is a texture of scriptural phrases. We cannot assume that Luke wrote it down at Mary's dictation, for putting words in the mouth of his characters is a feature of Luke the historian; but it must reflect her thinking. If any theme resounds again and again throughout the Bible, it is God's care for the poor, for the simple and for those in need. It is this which sets the Hebraeo-Christian tradition apart from the ways of the world.

REFLECTION: READING 1

Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6.10
The Woman Robed with the Sun

This vision of the Woman giving birth and of the huge red Dragon is bewilderingly rich in biblical symbolism. The context of the Book of Revelation is the struggle between the Church and the demands of Roman paganism, particularly the demand that all should worship the Emperor as God. The purpose of Revelation is to reassure the faithful of victory, despite the threat of martyrdom. The Woman represents Israel, the people of God, who gives birth to a son, the true ruler of the universe. The Dragon, of great sagacity and immense power, is the Roman Empire. The Son is unhesitatingly whipped up to heaven, frustrating the evil Dragon of its prey and issuing immediately in the hymn of triumph. The perspective is, of course, foreshortened, omitting the details of Christ's earthly life, to show the certainty of the Son's triumph. Secondarily, tradition sees in the Woman the earthly mother of the Saviour, Mary, mother of Jesus and mother of the Church, who triumphs over all the powers of evil. The secondary symbolism, therefore, is that Mary is the great sign in heaven of triumph over evil. Evil has no hold on Mary, and her children are sure of victory.

REFLECTION: READING 2

1 Corinthians: 15: 20-26
Christ, First-born from the Dead

On the Festival of the Assumption of Mary it is important to get things in the right order. Christ is the first-born from the dead. In him all will be brought to life, but all in their proper order. Mary is the first after her Son, and raised by her Son because she is part of his Body, the Church. The perfection of the Mother of the Saviour is won for her by her Son. He draws her after him in his retinue. In this chapter Paul is teaching about bodily resurrection. This is not merely immortality of the soul, but the resurrection of the whole person, an animated body, not a soul hidden in a body.
Bodily resurrection is particularly fitting when we consider Mary, the physical mother of Jesus, who gave to him her genes, her personality, her features and her talents. If any son takes after his mother physically, it must have been Jesus. The declaration by the Church of the Assumption of Mary is an assertion of the saving value of all our activity, the healing touch, the conquest of pain, exhaustion, moodiness and physical temptation in all its forms. That is why Mary goes ahead of us all and leads the way to full resurrection. Jesus got both his genes and his training from Mary.

READERS		
Bénédicte Howard **Nicholas Caldwell**	**Vigil Mass** **5.30pm**	**Saturday, 15 August**
John Latham **James Whitehorn**	**10am**	**Sunday, 16 August**
Nicholas Burnett **Carol Kelsall**	**12pm**	

COUNTERS FOR THE WEEK OF 9 AUGUST

Robin Kuriakose & Joseph Cherian

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	**Sunday, 16 August**
Meeting in the SPH Community Room	**7.30pm, Monday, 17 August**
SPH Youth Summer Social (5.30-9pm)	**Saturday, 29 August**

The Sacred Liturgy This Week (15–23 August)

15 AUG. SATURDAY FERIA
09h00 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
09h30 **Holy Mass**: Caitlyn Wilkin *(S)* (J. Ng)
17h30 **Vigil Mass for the Assumption of BVM**: Antoinette Asante *(T)*

16 AUG. THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM **Psalter Week 4**
10h00 **Holy Mass**: John Latham Sr. (N. Marks)
12h00 **Holy Mass**: People of the Parish
15h15 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**

17 AUG. MONDAY FERIA
18h40 **Vespers**
19h00 **Holy Mass**: Kenneth Hawkins (F)

18 AUG. TUESDAY FERIA
09h00 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
09h30 **Holy Mass**: Rosemary Jecce (D. Fowler)

19 AUG. WEDNESDAY FERIA
09h30 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
10h00 **Holy Mass**: Donald Chave (F)

20 AUG. THURSDAY ST. BERNARD AbD. Mem.
09h00 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
09h30 **Holy Mass**: Decima Beamish (F)
19h00 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**

21 AUG. FRIDAY ST. PIUS X Pp. Mem.
09h30 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
10h00 **Holy Mass**: Dec'd of the Savage & Price families. (R. Savage)
19h00 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**

22 AUG. SATURDAY QUEENSHIP OF THE BVM. Mem.
09h00 **Office of Readings & Lauds**
09h30 **Holy Mass**: Stephen Whitty (F)
17h30 **Vigil Mass**: Roland DeSilva (S. Peiris)

23 AUG. 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **Psalter Week 1**
07h40 **Syro-Malabar Qurbana**: John Latham Sr. (U. Anoop)
10h00 **Holy Mass**: People of the Parish
12h00 **Holy Mass**: Holy Souls

(F): Foundation (L): Living (T): Thanksgiving. (S): Sick (B): Birthday

AUGUST 2026

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Phyllis Adolfson, Angela Ambrose, Mrs. E. Borrelli, William Brinn, John Cambridge, John Campbell, Bridget Carolan, Eveline Castro, Donald Chave, George Cheeseborough, Teresa Clery, Mabel Cole, Michael Connelly, Bernadette Coogan, Allan Cook, Minnie Corrigan, Annie Cosgrove, Eugene Cryan, Mary Cryan, Lucy Cunningham, Kathleen Cuviello, Mark Dempsey, Patrick Devine, Kathleen Doherty, Marie Dyra, Patrick Dyra, Mary Edwards, Margaret Fagan, Duggie Fennell, Joyce Firek, Bridget Agnes Sheila Gardener, Mary Grosvenor, Irene Gustie, Ann Halligan, Joan Hands, Earl Reginald Harkness, Bridget Harwin, Kenneth Hawkins, Leonard Hanson, Brendon Heron, Jessie Hicks, Linda Hodge, Bill Hurley, Helena Iwanko, Bridie Johnson, Alice Keane, Edie Kennelly, Bill Lane, Edward Lindsay, Patrick Lindsay, Maurice Lynch, Joaquin Mattos, Margaret Mattos, Kathleen McBride, Kathleen McDevit, Michael McKeown, Thomas McManamon, Martin Morris, Catherine Munnelly, John Thomas Munnelly, Jane Murray, Jennifer O'Briazs, Michael O'Hara, John O'Neil, Mary O'Shea, Stanley Pickard, Ivy Pizey, Tim Pizey, Patricia Ramsay, Louisa Mary Santry, Alfred Sharp, Jenny Sinclair, Annie Sisam, Frederick George Smith, Mark Swain, Elizabeth Sylvester, Patrick Tynan, Elsie Walker, Dorothy Weaver, Stephen Whitty, Ken Williams, Theresa Williams, Margaret Willsmore, Mary Wilson, Terry Wilson, Annie Wire, Lady Patricia Hennessy, John Domone, Richard Rayner Clayton.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Owen Crouch, Teresa Margaret Creet, Angela Fordham, Simon Janos, Beth Malubay, Joseph Mashapure, Monica Nwaiku, Sr. Noreen O'Connor, Lucy Richardson, Vyramuthu Sabanathan, Jayne Stewart, Michelina Starace, Frances Wiseman, and all others.

PRAYER

Loving God, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. May all who suffer pain, illness, disease, and the frailty of old age realise that they have been chosen to be saints and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world. Being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Amen