

OUR LADY AND ST. HELEN'S CONDORRAT.

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Priest: Rev. Paulinus Onyenuru OP.

Deacon: Paul McNair

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Mass times

Monday to Friday	10 am
Saturday Vigil Mass	6 pm
Sunday	10 am & 12 noon

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday to Friday	9:00 -9:45 am
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Confessions

Tuesday and Thursday	9:20 am
Saturday	5:20 pm

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday, 16th of August, 2026.

1st Reading: Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

A woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 45(44)

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 20-27

Christ the first fruits, then those who belong to Christ.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

He who is mighty has done great things for me; he has exalted those of humble estate.

Reflection: Christ's Victory, Mary's Glory

In the series *The Chosen*, there is a touching scene in which Mary calls Jesus away from His disciples and tells Him, as any mother would, that His hair has not been washed for some time and needs a treatment. Jesus, now a man in His thirties, lies down while Mary takes a jar of water and gently washes His hair. This was a very affectionate moment which tells of the extraordinary connection between Jesus and his mother. Today, we celebrate the fulfilment of that unique relationship. Mary, at the end of her earthly life, was taken body and soul into heavenly glory.

Why is it fitting for the Blessed Virgin Mary to be assumed into Heaven? First, consider the closeness between Mary and Jesus. She carried Him in her womb, gave birth to Him, nursed Him, raised Him and remained faithful to Him even when many others abandoned Him. At the foot of the Cross, Mary stood beside her suffering Son (John 19:25). At Cana, Jesus listened to His mother's concern and performed His first sign (John 2:1-11). Their hearts were united not only by the bond of motherhood but also by faith and love. Mary's entire life was intertwined with her Son's life and mission.

Secondly, Jesus took His human flesh from Mary. St John tells us, "The Word became flesh and lived among us" (John 1:14), while St Paul says that God sent His Son, "born of a woman" (Galatians 4:4). The human body that Jesus took into Himself came from Mary. That body suffered, died and, as Scripture proclaims, was raised and did not undergo corruption (Acts 2:27). It is therefore fitting that the woman who gave Christ His human body should, through God's grace, share bodily in the glory of His Resurrection. The Assumption is not something Mary achieves independently of Christ. It is Christ's victory shared with His Mother. What Christ accomplished by His own divine power, Mary receives as a gift of grace.

The Assumption also gives us hope. Mary is a sign of what God desires for all His faithful people. Our bodies matter to God, and destiny is not simply to become spirits floating in heaven, but to share in the resurrection and glory of Christ. The hands that once washed the hair of Jesus now rest in the

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presence of God. The Mother who stood beneath the Cross now stands in the glory of her Son.

Where Christ has gone, Mary has followed. And where Mary has gone, we too hope, by the grace of Christ, to follow.

Hymns for Sunday

Entrance: Hail, Queen of Heaven	No. 309
Offertory: All that I am	No. 122
Communion: Praise to the Holiest in the heights	No. 582
Recessional: Immaculate Mary	No. 360

St. Helen (Solemnity, Tuesday), **St. Bernard** (Memorial, Thursday), **St. Pius X** (Memorial, Friday), **The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary** (Memorial, Saturday).

There will be two Masses on Tuesday of the Solemnity of St. Helen: 10 AM and 7 PM

Death: *Rose Steel*

Anniversary: *Tom Grant, Ellen Tourish, James Carragher, Joseph Moran.*

Completion of the Parish Hall

We are delighted to announce that the Parish Hall has been completed, two weeks ahead of schedule. We thank God for this wonderful achievement and express our sincere gratitude to everyone whose hard work made it possible.

As we prepare to put the Hall into full use, we are looking for three to four parish volunteers to assist with its day-to-day management and coordination. If you are willing to offer your time and talents to this important ministry, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please speak to Fr. Paulinus or any member of the Parish Pastoral Council if you are interested in serving.

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Community Meeting/Party

You are warmly invited to our Parish Community Meeting, to be held on Wednesday, 19 August, at 7.00 pm in the Church Hall. We will also have our St. Helen's Feast celebration. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a parish family, celebrate our patron saint, share ideas, and discuss matters that concern our community. We encourage everyone to attend and take part in the life of our parish.

Collections for 19/07/2026

Offertory: **£572.81** Gift Aid envelopes: **£289.90**

Paraclete Prayer Group

This is a long-standing prayer group in the parish. It meets in homes and is keen to have new members. Kindly reach out to Kathleen Gay or Mary Keegan.

Vocations Mass

You are invited to the annual Vocations Mass on the 24th of August at 7 pm. The Mass will take place in St Andrew's Cathedral, Clyde Street, Glasgow, G1 4JY. It is an opportunity to join as a diocesan community and pray for all vocations. There will be refreshments afterwards in Eyre Hall. Everyone welcome.

Pro-Life Mass: The monthly Pro-Life Mass will take place on Wednesday, 19th August at 7.30 pm at Holy Cross, 113 Dixon Ave, G42 8ER. Adoration begins at 6.15 pm. Tea in the hall afterwards – all welcome. The celebrant will be Fr Edward Toner.