

Welcome to our Parish Community

If you haven't been in our Church before you are most welcome. Thank you for being here with us. Please feel free to join in the service.

If you are from other Christian traditions, many of the prayers and songs will be already familiar to you.

Things you will see....

The **baptismal font** will probably be familiar to you: it is used for baptisms or "christenings" when Christians enter the life of the Church community.

The **sanctuary lamp** is lit to remind Catholics that Jesus is

present in the Eucharist, which is being reserved or kept inside the tabernacle. As a mark of respect, Catholics "genuflect" or bow to the blessed (or reserved) Sacrament.

The **crucifix** reminds us that Jesus died on Good Friday. Christians believe he rose again on Easter Sunday.

The **Stations of the Cross** tell the story in pictorial form around the church of how Jesus was tried, condemned to death, died and placed in the tomb.

Nearby is our **paschal candle**, a symbol of the light and life of Christ.

Central to our Church is the **altar**. This is the table where the priest calls down God's blessing upon the bread and wine. Where our Mass is

celebrated and To the side of the altar, the **ambo or lectern** from which the Word of God in Scripture is proclaimed.

There are a number of statues including a **statue** of Mary the Mother of God. Catholics do not worship statues or saints, but we do believe that the saints intercede for us in prayer. They are part of God's family both living and dead.

The **candles** remind us that Jesus is the light of the world.

If Holy Communion is distributed, those who are not Catholics are warmly invited to come forward, to receive a blessing. To indicate this, please come forward with the rest of the congregation, bow your head and receive a blessing the normal way, but fold your arms

Some traditional prayers you may hear in our church.

The Sign of the Cross:

In the name of the Father,
The Son, the Holy Spirit.
Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father
who art in heaven
hallowed by your name.
Thy kingdom come
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses -
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is
with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy
womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, mother of God, pray

for us sinners, now and at the hour
of our death.
Amen.

Glory Be...

Glory be to the Father and to the
Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was
in the beginning, is now and ever
shall be, world without end. Amen.

And finally . . . At various times
we stand, sit or kneel during
services. We don't always stand
for hymns, though!

For those who would like to learn
more about what it means to be a
Catholic, we have a year-round
informal weekly "**Journey in Faith**"
programme. Please have a word
with one of our welcomers or with
Fr, our parish priest.

Thank you for being here. May
God bless you.



**Our Lady of the Assumption
Catholic Church
Stainforth**

***You are most warmly
welcome.***

**A few notes for those who
are not Catholics**