

Corpus Christi Bolton
Feast of Corpus Christi
14th June 2020

PRAYERS PLEASE

We pray for all the sick and housebound in our parish, and other relatives and friends.
Bernard Holder, Christopher Scott, Jackie Harte, Moya Fau-Goodwin, Anne Hurst, Margaret Padfield, Anne Killeen, Fred Heywood, Emily Martin

Lately Dead: Kerry Haydock, Florence Clarke, Susan Howard, Peter Hodgkinson

Anniversaries: Georgette Kosecki

Mass Intentions: Georgette Kosecki (A)
Florence Clarke (LD) Colin Spragg x2(LD), Emily Martin (sick)

We keep them all in our prayers.

Let us also continue to pray for the victims of this pandemic, their families and loved ones. Remembering also the key workers who are on the front-line during this current pandemic. We thank them for all they are doing and ask the Lord to keep them safe.

Hope in the future

Let us pray for the people of the parish of St. Bernard, Burnage, for Mgr. Michael Kujacz, their parish priest, and Fr. John Coe, and for their parish primary school.

Church Services Online: There are many online resources available to help you with your prayers at this time, including the daily live streaming of Holy Mass. For links regularly updated: www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/covid-19-online-resources

www.churchservices.tv or www.mcnmedia.tv

If you have no internet-The Diocese of Middlesbrough are now offering Mass by phone. The number is 01642 130120

NB: -This Sunday at 8.10am Mass will be broadcast on BBC Radio 4



*On the night of that Last Supper,
seated with His chosen band,
He the Pascal victim eating,
first fulfils the Law's command;
then as Food to His Apostles
gives Himself with His own hand.
Word-made-Flesh, the bread of nature
by His word to Flesh He turns;
wine into His Blood He changes;
what though sense no change discerns?
Only be the heart in earnest,
faith her lesson quickly learns.*

St Thomas Aquinas - Pange Lingua

Weekly Reflection - the Feast of Corpus Christi

**Deuteronomy 8: 2-3, 14-16 Psalm 147 1
Corinthians 10: 16-17 John 6; 51-58**

*I am the living bread which has come
down from heaven*

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Have you ever been hungry, I mean real hunger, not fasting, just existing without food to sustain you? In our world today there are many without food, they will go to bed hungry, just like they did last night and will do tomorrow night. Each day, for them is a fight for survival, we have seen the scenes from war zones on our television screens of people crowding around aid workers who are distributing food, I read something profound today, a comment that it is not those who are close to the food parcels who have the real hunger, it is the ones on the fringes of the crowd who have not the strength to clamour, to call out, it is the speechless, the one's whose strength has gone that need to be called forward to receive the gift of life.

For that is what food gives, the Gift of Life. That is the message we must take from today. Jesus is the Bread of Life, he gives to all who ask the food that we need to sustain us, to quell our hunger pains, to bring us life with the Father of Love.

Many who listened to the voice of Jesus turned away from Him. They would not accept his Word, They were willing to accept his miracles, the feeding of thousands from five barley loaves and two fish, they looked for his healing touch like the blind man and the lepers, but when He spoke about himself, their doubts came to the surface. Only the apostles stayed true, they recognised the Bread of Life and their answer, when Jesus questioned their commitment, "Lord to whom shall we go" echoes in our hearts as we too believe that Jesus is the Son of God and Our Saviour.

Today we are hungry for a return to normal life, we hunger for the return to the way we lived before this epidemic came along. We miss our community, our Mass, which was always there for us: the availability of the sacraments, the social life our church provided for us. Yet, when it was available, did we really cherish it. Did we make an effort to support those, priests and people, who provided things for us, did we give

thanks, did we hunger for it? Will we welcome the return with open arms, prepared for what changes lie ahead or will we return to the old ways and relax into the easy convenient use of that which our church provides. If something good is to come from our sacrifices then we must take what Jesus is offering, the bread of life, grasp it to our hearts, and begin again in a new way our life in the Body of Christ.

With thanks to *David Franks*

PARISH DONATIONS - STANDING ORDER

People have enquired how they can donate to our Parish, in the absence of public Mass. This can easily be done by setting up a Standing Order through your Bank. If you have any queries regarding this please contact Chris Molyneux from the Parish Finance Committee, who has kindly agreed to assist with enquiries 01204 400472 or 07789816002

Additionally, the diocese has set up a system to make it easier for people to donate to their parish by standing order or by a one-off payment. It is quick, safe and private. If you go to the diocesan link: - If you go to the diocesan web page www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk at the top right-hand corner you will see a red box that says 'DONATE'. By clicking on this you can donate money to Corpus Christi, through the main diocesan system and your donation will come straight to the parish.

MASS OFFERINGS

These can still be made ideally by post or dropping off your intention at either Presbytery, or if you have any queries please call the Parish Office.

PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL PRAYER

Our Churches will open tomorrow for private prayer. The Bishop has indicated 16 churches will open in the Diocese; two of which in Bolton, namely St Osmund's Breighmet and St William of York.

Opening times

St Osmund, Brightmet

Monday 9.30am - 11.30am

Tuesday 5.00pm - 7.00pm

Wednesday 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Thursday 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Friday 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Saturday 2.00pm - 4.00pm

St William of York, Great Lever

Monday 9.30am - 11.30am

Wednesday 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Saturday 10.30am - 12.30am

CORPUS CHRISTI - OUR PARISH FEAST

The source and summit of our faith

On the second Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, also known as the Feast of Corpus Christi, which is Latin for “the body of Christ”.

This feast day commemorates the Eucharist, the meal in which we partake of the Body and Blood of Christ. The Eucharist is at the heart of our Catholic faith; and while we do currently have online Mass, we cannot receive this great sacrament during this current climate that traditionally, holds a special place among the sacraments.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church has this to say about the importance of the Eucharist:

1324 The Eucharist is “the source and summit of the Christian life.”¹³⁴ “The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it.

For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch.”¹³⁵ The Eucharist was

instituted by Jesus at the Last Supper and this institution of the sacrament is celebrated on Holy Thursday.

Volunteers in readiness for Church re-opening

Please note we need permission from the Bishop and a risk assessment before our own churches can re-open; and when the time comes, we will need people to help as marshals/ushers encouraging people to observe social distancing and ensuring that safeguards are followed, additionally with regular cleaning the church, after each visit. (We cannot open without volunteers).

Many thanks to those who have already kindly volunteered. If you are willing to help could you email the parish office (office@sbsj.org.uk).

For your own safety you must not have any underlying health problems where you have been asked to isolate or generally be considered vulnerable to Covid 19. The diocese has stated that all volunteers will need to be safely recruited following diocesan safeguarding procedures.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2020

This weekend the children from St John’s were due to celebrate their First Holy Communion; sadly, everything continues to be on hold until we can return to normality.

I continue to hold you all in prayer and remember you at Sunday Mass.

Hope you are all safe and well!

God bless *Fr Alf*

This Newsletter is sponsored by
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DIOCESE OF  SALFORD