



St Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Church

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Newsletter for Sunday 14 June 2020

CORPUS CHRISTI

Psalter Week 3

O Sacrament Most Holy! O Sacrament Divine!

On this great Solemnity of **Corpus Christi**, we are called to express our faith in the truth that the Holy Eucharist, Holy Communion, is in fact a reception of the very Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of JESUS Christ, whole and entire, in His glorified state. We do not receive a symbol. At the Last Supper, Our Lord took bread *'and when He had given thanks He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My Body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."* And likewise the cup after supper, saying, *"This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My Blood"* (Luke 22:19-20).

Then in today's Gospel He says, *"I am the living bread which has come down from Heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh for the life of the world"* (John 6:51). So Our Lord is making it absolutely clear that we cannot take His words here metaphorically. He meant what He said. The Jews were really shocked by His words, but He became even more adamant and kept on repeating this teaching, and as a result many stopped following Him that day. Most non-Catholic Christians believe that the Eucharist is just a symbol. But we as Catholics believe in the **Real Presence** of JESUS, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist because that is what He said. The Church has taught this from the very beginning and it is in the Scriptures and the writings of the early Fathers of the Church. Orthodox Christians also believe this. The word the Church uses to describe this miracle is **TRANSUBSTANTIATION**, where the substance of the bread and wine cease to exist and it is changed into the living JESUS, true God and true man. He is present in the fullness of His divinity and in the fullness of His humanity in the Sacred Host and in the Precious Blood. Only the outward appearances of bread and wine remain and only a validly ordained priest can bring about this change at Mass when he pronounces the words of **Consecration**.

We are going through a great trial at the moment where we have been deprived of attending Mass and being able to receive Holy Communion. Hopefully this will have taught us, perhaps painfully, how much to appreciate the Mass and never to take it for granted again. We should really be looking forward to receiving JESUS again. A good Confession before will prepare you

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MASS INTENTIONS AT ST MARY'S

Sat	13 th	6.00pm	Ann O'Rourke RIP (Anniversary)
Sun	14 th	<u>CORPUS CHRISTI (Solemnity)</u>	
		9.00am	For the Parish
		11.00am	Winnie Best RIP
Mon	15 th	9.15am	For all who have died of Coronavirus
Tues	16 th	9.15am	Charles Pratt (GE)
Weds	17 th	9.15am	Vittorio Giorgio RIP (Anniversary)
Thurs	18 th	9.15am	Violet & Philip Bowler RIP
Fri	19 th	<u>MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS (Solemnity)</u>	
		9.15am	Stephen Merriman RIP
Sat	20 th	<u>The Immaculate Heart of Mary (Memoria)</u>	
		9.15am	David Paterson RIP (Anniversary)
		6.00pm	Intention for the living
Sun	21 st	<u>12th Sunday of Ordinary Time</u>	
		9.00am	Andrew Marples RIP
		11.00am	For the Parish

MASS INTENTIONS: Although the times of Masses have been left on the weekly calendar, the priests will not necessarily offer Mass at those specific times, but the Masses will all be celebrated for the particular intentions on the days advertised.

THANK YOU to all who have taken out a standing order or increased their giving at this time. We are very grateful.

NB: Due to government regulations regarding personal data (GDPR), we are only able to publicise the Mass intentions for the deceased in the online edition of the newsletter.

PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died: May they rest in peace

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: George Haynes, Catherine Fitzpatrick, Doreen Dilkes, Margaret Thurman, Maria Di-Niro, Maureen Modlen, Rev Fr Michael Hare, Barbara Nolan, Herbert Dominy, Vittorio (Vic) Giorgio, John Scott, Regina Wojciechowska, Irene Calus, Ann O'Rourke and David Paterson

well. Also, if we believe that JESUS is truly present in the Holy Eucharist, it is only logical to conclude that we must worship Him there. **And we must worship Him in the Holy Eucharist with the worship that is due to God alone (*latria*)**. So very soon now when we are able to come back into church for private prayer, let us really show our faith by genuflecting (or bowing if we can't), kneeling and showing a real awareness of Christ's Presence as we pray before Him in St Mary's. The Holy Eucharist is the *prime* Sacrament, the one from which all the others come and the one to which all the others point. Hopefully, once this crisis is over we will be able to have a splendid Procession of the Blessed Sacrament in thanksgiving and give Our Lord all the glory and honour which is His due. *"O Sacrament most holy! O Sacrament divine! All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine!"*

Fr Paul Gillham, IC

RE-OPENING THE CHURCH: Although the Government has given permission for places of worship to open for private prayer only from Monday 15th June, as I write it is unlikely we will be able to do so on that date. Risk assessment forms have to be completed first and they are not yet available. Upon completion of the forms we will then require the permission of the Diocese to open. Please note that anyone showing cold or flu symptoms will not be allowed to enter. I will keep you informed. Please keep your eye on the parish website. *Fr Paul*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Some of the children of the parish were due to make their First Holy Communion this weekend and next weekend and naturally they are disappointed they will not be able to do so. Please keep them in your prayers as we hope and pray they will be able to receive Our Lord for the first time later this year. *Fr Paul*

MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART: As May was the month dedicated to Our Lady, June is the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of JESUS. Devotion to the Sacred Heart is devotion to the human heart of JESUS burning with love of us. Our Lord appeared to St Margaret Mary in 1675 and said, *"Behold the Heart that has so loved men...instead of gratitude I receive from the greater part (of mankind) only ingratitude..."* JESUS then asked for a **feast of reparation** on the Friday after the Octave of *Corpus Christi*. We celebrate the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart this **Friday 19th June**. Let us all make reparation to the Sacred Heart for the grave sins committed in the world today and that God will end the scourge of Coronavirus. There is a short prayer of reparation on the back page of this newsletter. *Fr Paul*

STAYING CONNECTED: While the church is closed, you can keep in touch in two ways:

1. **The Parish website – www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk**. Here you can sign up to receive the newsletter by email every week and access the Sunday Mass readings and prayers. The home page will keep you updated with links to News posts and other helpful information.
2. **A private Facebook support group (St Mary's Community Support)** that you can join and through which you can interact with other parishioners and offer each other support. To join the group you will need to have a Facebook account. A link to the group is available on the Parish website.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

LEADER: Please kneel for our prayer for vocations. Let us ask God to give worthy Priests to His Holy Church and Brothers and Sisters to Religious Orders.

ALL: O God, we earnestly beseech You to bless this diocese with many priests, brothers and sisters, who will gladly spend their entire lives serving Your Church and making You known and loved.

LEADER: Bless our families. Bless our children.

ALL: Choose from our homes those who are needed for Your work.

LEADER: Mary, Queen of the Clergy!

ALL: Pray for us. Pray for our priests and religious. Obtain for us many more. *Amen.*

PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL: Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God thrust down to hell Satan and all the wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. *Amen.*

PRAYER TO OUR LADY AGAINST DISEASE

Priest: The Star of Heaven that nourished the Lord drove away the plague of death which the first parents of man brought into the world. That very Star is now worthy to encompass the world, whose wars cut down the people with the sore of dreaded death.

All: **O glorious Star of the Sea, preserve us from pestilence; hear us, O Lady, for Thy Son honours Thee by denying Thee nothing. Save us, O Jesus, for whom Thy Virgin Mother supplicates Thee.**

SHORT ACT OF REPARATION TO THE SACRED HEART: JESUS, Son of God and our Saviour, have mercy on all who wound Your Sacred Heart by sin, unfaithfulness and neglect. O loving Heart of JESUS, broken by our ingratitude, pierced by our sins, yet loving us still, accept in reparation the offering I now make to You of all that I am and all that I have. Draw me ever nearer to Your Sacred Heart: there where I can learn best, teach me, JESUS, Your blessed way to eternal life. Amen.

FROM THE SAINTS: "I have no taste for corruptible food nor for the pleasures of this life. I desire the Bread of God, **which is the Flesh of JESUS Christ**, who was of the seed of David; and for drink **I desire His Blood**, which is love incorruptible.

(St Ignatius of Antioch, died 108 AD.)

CAFOD have written to thank you all for your generous support during Lent this year with a sum of £582. The money has helped in Zimbabwe with food and clean water. The communities there have been very inspired by the help you continue to give.

PLEASE KEEP CHECKING THE PARISH WEBSITE FOR UPDATES FROM ST MARY'S

www.stmarysloughborough.org.uk