



THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF OUR LORD & ALL SOULS



The Catholic parish of Chapelfields & Earlsdon
Kingsland Avenue Coventry CV5 8DX

A parish of the Archdiocese of Birmingham in collaboration with the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

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SUNDAY 22 AUGUST 2021

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Collect of the Day

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The wearing of face coverings in church is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED at this time. Thank you.

WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Sunday cycle of readings: Year B Weekday cycle of readings: Year I Divine Office psalter week I
Eucharistic Adoration 30 minutes before Mass Monday-Saturday

| | | | |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Sun 22 nd | 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 10.30am MASS | <i>For the People of the Parish Peter & Joseph Hughes RIP (Fr Tim)</i> |
| Mon 23 rd | ST. JOHN WALL, priest, Martyr | 9.30am MASS | <i>Celia Toman RIP</i> |
| Tues 24 th | ST. BARTHOLOMEW, Apostle | 9.30am MASS | <i>Bridget & James Greene RIP</i> |
| Wed 25 th | Feria in Ordinary Time | 9.30am Mass | <i>Richard Parker RIP</i> |
| Thurs 26 th | Blessed Dominic Barberi, Priest, Religious | 7.30pm Mass | <i>The Holy Souls</i> |
| Fri 27 th | St. Monica | 9.30am Mass | <i>Mary Keating RIP</i> |
| Sat 28 th | St. Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church | 9.30am Mass 10.30-11.30am Confessions | <i>Denise Mastro & Amanda Dennis</i> |
| Sun 29 th | 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 10.30am MASS 12pm Holy Baptism 1pm Holy Baptism | <i>For the People of the Parish Jack Ryan Annabelle Donoghue</i> |

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: CELEBRATING, LIVING & SHARING GOD'S WORD

The Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians

In brief A very angry St. Paul wrote this letter! St. Paul's argument about the law and the relationship to the law is notoriously complex, involved and hard to follow. This letter focuses on one key issue: the question of how someone is justified with God and what difference that makes to their life.

Faith in Christ is what matters After Paul had founded the Galatian Christian community, a community that included both Jews and Gentiles, Jewish Christian evangelists had arrived arguing that those who wanted to follow Christ had to be Jewish and so needed to be circumcised. Paul's vehement rejection of this message is what makes up the letter to the Galatians, where he argues that it is faith in Christ, not observance of the Jewish law, that justifies people with God. It is faith, not anything else, that allows them to participate in the dying and rising of Christ into a new way of being, a way of being marked with true freedom.

The freedom of the Gospel Paul is at his most abrasive in his letter to the Galatian Christians. There is no initial thanksgiving, no final greetings. Though they once helped him devotedly, he calls the Galatians "mad" (Galatians 3:1) and uses a bitter wit, sarcasm and even coarse language. Paul had always insisted that faith, not observing the minutiae of Jewish laws, must be the hallmark of believers in the salvation won by Christ Jesus. He rebukes Peter (Cephas) and all backsliders who want to change the freedom of the Gospel for the shackles of law. For Paul, the Gospel makes Jews and pagans, slaves and freeborn, women and men, equal in God's sight for all are redeemed in Jesus Christ. All are called to freedom, not legal entanglement. Paul begs his "foolish Galatians" to live in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Life by the Spirit Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. (Galatians 5:19-25)

God speaks to us One of the issues that bemused Paul in this letter was why the Galatians, who had been offered true freedom in Christ, were so keen to turn their back on that freedom. Perhaps God is asking us how we turn our backs on the freedom we have been offered in Christ.

WELCOME BACK TO SUNDAY MASS

From **Sunday 12 September** we will return to two Sunday Masses: **9.30am Family Mass** and **11.15am Solemn Mass**. Children's Liturgy will resume at the 9.30am Mass, both Masses will include singing and refreshments will be served after both Masses too.

Although the obligation to attend Sunday Mass is not being restored by our bishops until the end of November (beginning of Advent), **I invite parishioners to see Sunday 12 September as a call back to the practice of attending Sunday Mass**. Sunday is our holy day, the Day of Our Lord's Resurrection, the day in the week consecrated to the worship and service of God.

It is understood that there are those for whom returning to Sunday Mass is impossible: those who are housebound or who live in care homes or nursing homes, as well as those who are sick or vulnerable, or who are fearful because of underlying health conditions. Those people are invited and encouraged to participate via livestreaming, to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, and where possible, to receive Holy Communion at home.

It may also be the case, however, that some parishioners who have now begun to go out more frequently to shop, to socialize and participate in other activities, have not yet returned to Sunday Mass, or Mass on any day of the week. **I encourage us all to prioritise Sunday Mass in our patterns of living as we emerge from the pandemic**. We know that the Eucharist is the "source and summit" of our Catholic faith, our compass, enabling us to keep our gaze fixed on Jesus. And we've discovered during the pandemic that without the Eucharist it's very easy to lose our spiritual bearings and to become lost. So please don't stay away from the Eucharist for a day longer than is necessary.

Community is also important. We can be sure that the evil one will make the very most of the scattering effect of the pandemic on the Church. He knows that when Christians are separated and scattered they are weakened. **It is time now for our worshipping community to gather together again and regain strength**. Some may say that they can worship God on their own. Certainly, there is truth to this. But there's greater truth in the words of Pope St. John Paul II: "it is not enough that the disciples of Christ pray individually and commemorate the death and Resurrection of Christ inwardly, in the secrecy of their hearts. Those who have received the grace of Baptism are not saved as individuals alone, but as members of the Mystical Body, having become part of the People of God. It is important therefore that they come together to express fully the very identity of the Church" (Dies Domini #31). Please come back to Sunday Mass not just for your own sake, but for the sake of our parish community.

If you need more information or reassurance about worship at the moment, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours in the Lord, Fr Paul

SOME MORE CHANGES IN SEPTEMBER

In September Friday Mass will revert to its pre-pandemic time of 7.30am. Friday will continue to be Fr Paul's rest day. Morning Prayer in church will also be reintroduced on certain days and be livestreamed. Please note, therefore, that **the schedule of worship from Sunday 12 September** will be:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sunday | 9.30am Family Mass | 11.15am Solemn Mass |
| Monday | 9am Adoration | 9.30am Mass |
| Tuesday | 9am Morning Prayer | 9.30am Mass |
| Wednesday | 9am Adoration | 9.30am Mass |
| Thursday | 9am Morning Prayer | 7pm Adoration 7.30pm Mass |
| Friday | 7am Adoration | 7.30am Mass |
| Saturday | 9am Morning Prayer | 9.30am Mass |
| | 10.00-11.00am Confession & Adoration | |

ONLINE VESPERS (EVENING PRAYER) From today I will send out an invitation to online vespers to everybody on our emailing list on Sundays and major feast days only, and will lead vespers online on those days. It may be that a group of parishioners wishes to continue with daily vespers on Zoom. Praying together has been a real blessing during the pandemic. If that proves to be the case, there would be a contact person you could send your email address to requesting Zoom invitations for other days of the week.

SEATING ARRANGEMENTS All the seating in the nave (the long central section of church) is available. Stewards will no longer be showing people to a seat, so please make your own way to a place of your choice. Please try, however, to spread out if possible. In the two blocks of seating in the transepts (near the side chapels) distancing will remain in place (every other pew in use) for the benefit of those people who would prefer still to be distanced a bit more from others. We ask that if you sit here, you certainly wear a face covering.

SERVING SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS If you are able to serve refreshments - tea, coffee, juice, biscuits - after one of the Sunday Masses from 12 September onwards, please contact Fr Paul. The opportunity to sit down with one another after Mass over a cuppa will be helpful in rebuilding parish life, catching up with old friends and meeting new parishioners. Hopefully we can establish a rota of volunteers to put out tables and chairs etc. before Mass, to serve people after Mass and to clear up afterwards.

SATURDAY COFFEE & CHAT From Saturday 11 September our Saturday coffee morning will resume, 10-11.30am in the parish room. If you could help serve teas and coffees, please let Fr Paul know.

ALTAR SERVERS We would love to see more of our altar servers back in the sanctuary. Deacon Paul will be in touch soon to let you know about a refresher evening in September with pizza dinner. Thank you to all our altar servers and their families for your generosity of spirit in serving our parish.



THE SACRED HEART CHAPEL LAMP

burns this week for

in thanksgiving (Josie McGrath)

THE LADY CHAPEL LAMP

burns this week for

Sarah Ann & Joseph Morris RIP (birthday)

To request a lamp please fill out a white envelope at the back of church AND enter your request on the list in church.

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Please pray for **Sean Chester & Rhian Miller** and **Mark Metcalfe & Maureen Parry** who were married here last week. What God has joined together, let no one put asunder.

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED Of your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of **Jade Fitzpatrick** (funeral Wed 8 September).

THE ANNUAL DIOCESAN THANKSGIVING MASS FOR MARRIAGE will take place on Saturday 9th October, 12noon at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham. If you are celebrating a milestone anniversary during 2021 (from your 1st up to 60th (every 5 years), and every year over 60) please email Lianne Pap (Marriage and Family Life Co-ordinator) marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk for your names to be listed in the Mass booklet. You can also send in 'then & now' photos to be part of the video compilation. We are looking to find the longest married couple in the diocese, so if you think you, your parents or grandparents could be it, then let Lianne know! The Mass is open to all married couples, as well as those preparing to marry in 2021 but you will need to register a place via email – marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk Closing date to register is 1st October.

OPEN DOORS As you know, Coventry is the UK City of Culture 2021. To recognise the importance of faith as part of culture there will be a "Faith Weekend" throughout the city from Friday 10th September to Sunday 12th September. Part of the weekend involves asking churches to remain open for visitors under the banner of "Open Doors". We're looking, therefore, for volunteers to help keep All Souls open 10am-4pm on Saturday 11 September and perhaps serve some light refreshments in the parish room. Please add your name to the list in the porch if you can help.



A SUMMER ROADMAP FOR ALL SOULS

from 19 July 2021 (Step 4)

The Bishops' Conference of England & Wales has issued guidance for churches for Step 4 of the government Covid roadmap.

It is heartening that we can begin to take further steps forward, but caution remains necessary while local infection rates remain high. Below I outline a local 'roadmap' for the next couple of months here at All Souls. I am confident that parishioners will exercise responsibility for their own decisions for the good of all who use our church. Unless otherwise stated, these measures take effect from Monday 19 July.

Hand sanitiser will continue to be available for people's use.

Track & Trace As long as the NHS Test, Track & Trace system is in operation, we will make available the means for people to sign in for acts of worship – the NHS App and QR code, and slips of paper in the black box.

Face coverings are 'strongly recommended' to be worn by everybody in church, particularly if you are singing.

Seating & distancing From Sunday 1 August all the pews in the nave (the long, central section of church) will be available for people to use. The two transepts (the side sections of the church near the small chapels) will be designated as areas of socially-distanced seating for those who would feel more comfortable being seated further apart from other people. We ask that face coverings certainly be worn by those sitting in these areas.

Stewards will carry on doing the excellent job of welcoming people into church. They will no longer direct people to a seat, but will point out where the 'socially-distanced' seating areas are. They will also continue to facilitate the orderly administration of Holy Communion, and to wipe down high frequency touch points after services.

One-way system The one-way system through church has worked very well indeed, so it will remain in place. Please enter church from Kingsland Ave and exit on to the driveway.

Holy Communion For the time being, Holy Communion will continue to be distributed in one kind only (the Host). If you wish to receive the Host on the tongue, please come forward to Communion at the end of the queue. Ministers of Communion will continue to sanitise their hands and wear a face covering during the administration of Holy Communion.

Ventilation Doors will remain open during services.

Singing Our plan is to gradually increase singing at Mass during the summer period (see the note above about face coverings).

Sunday Mass times From Sunday 12 September the pattern of two Masses will resume ie 9.30am ('Family Mass') and 11.15am (Solemn Mass). The bishops plan to reinstate the Sunday Obligation from 28 November, the First Sunday of Advent.

Collection We will not yet return to passing around the collection bags at the Offertory. The very effective system we currently have will continue for now. We strongly encourage online and contactless giving where possible.

Sign of Peace We will continue to exchange the Sign of Peace without physical contact. Holy water stoups will remain empty for now. Please bring a bottle of water to be blessed.



CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Statement from the Catholic Bishops of England

Sunday – it is our Day¹

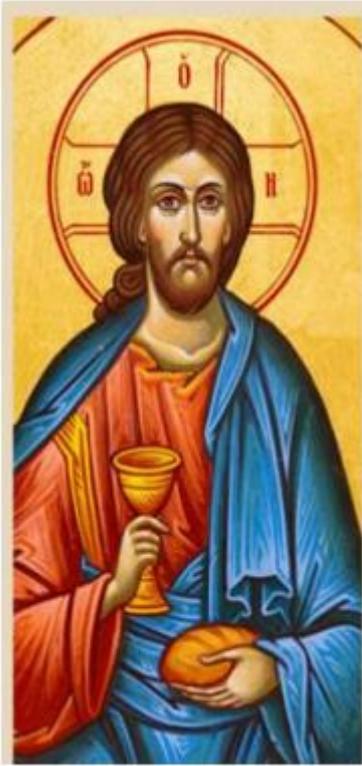
On 19 July, the current legislative powers which assist the mitigations against the Covid-19 virus transmission will be rescinded by HM Government. Nevertheless, there will be an encouragement to personal and corporate responsibility in this area; as the Prime Minister said in his most recent statement “The pandemic is not over.” Even without this legislation in place, the Church in England and Wales will be adopting a cautious approach to capacity and activity within our buildings, especially at corporate acts of worship.

Sunday Obligation

We are mindful of the certain fact that the Covid-19 virus is still circulating in society. Vaccines provide genuine protection against the worst effects of the virus, yet we recognise the legitimate fear on the part of some who otherwise desire to gather for Holy Mass. It is our continuing judgement, therefore, that it is not possible at the present time for all of the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday thus fulfilling their duty to God. It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday in Advent 2021. In the meantime, all Catholics are asked to do their best to participate in the celebration of the weekly Sunday Mass and to reflect deeply on the centrality of Sunday worship in the life of the Church.

In April, following our Plenary Assembly, we offered a reflection on the experience of the extraordinary long months of the pandemic. It was titled *The Day of the Lord*. We also began to look at the way forward. We spoke about the important invitation to restore the Sunday Mass to its rightful centrality in our lives. We asked for a rekindling in our hearts of a yearning for the Real Presence of the Lord in the Eucharist, as our response to the total, sacrificial love that Jesus has for us. We said: “The Eucharist should be the cause of our deepest joy, our highest manner of offering thanks to God and for seeking his mercy and love. We need to make it the foundation stone of our lives.” May this continue to be our striving during these coming months as we journey back to the full celebration of our Sunday Mass and our renewed observance of *The Day of the Lord*.

Prayers for Spiritual Communion



Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the
Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive
You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this
moment receive You
sacramentally, come at least
spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were
already there and unite
myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be
separated from You.
Amen.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me
Body of Christ, save me
Blood of Christ, inebriate me
Water from the side of Christ, wash me
Passion of Christ, strengthen me
O good Jesus, hear me
Within thy wounds hide me
Permit me not to be separated from thee
From the wicked foe defend me
At the hour of my death call me
And bid me come to thee
That with thy saints I may praise thee
For ever and ever. Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your disciples, 'I am with you always'. Be with me today as I offer myself to you. Hear my prayers for others and for myself, and keep us all in your care. Amen.

O God, help me to trust you, help me to know that you are with me, help me to believe that nothing can separate me from your love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you most humble and hearty thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Conclude with the following:

The Lord bless us, and preserve us from all evil, and keep us in eternal life. Amen.