



# 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 5 SEPTEMBER 2021 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Collect of the Day

O God, by whom we were redeemed and receive adoption, look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters, that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance. 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 3  
Eucharistic Adoration 30 minutes before Mass Monday-Saturday

Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.30am MASS	For the People of the Parish
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.30am Mass 2.00pm Funeral Service of Peter Heath RIP	Margaret Mulligan RIP
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup>	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.30am Mass	Gallagher family RIP
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b>	9.30am MASS 11.15am Funeral Service of Jade Fitzpatrick RIP (at Canley)	Baby Vincent Guest (heart operation)
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>St. Osburg, Abbess</b>	7.30pm Mass	Carmel Jones RIP
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.30am Mass	John Paul Henderson RIP
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Our Lady on Saturday</b>	9.30am Mass 10.00-11.00am Confessions 1pm Mass of Thanksgiving for the Marriage of Luke & Susanne Arnold	Hazel & Joseph Clifford RIP
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.30am FAMILY MASS (with Children's Liturgy) 11.15am SOLEMN MASS 1pm Holy Baptism	Croffey & Gavin families RIP For the People of the Parish John Gallen & Anne McGee RIP (Fr. Tim) Ida Mary Kirrane

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

#### The Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

**A letter from prison** The letter to the Philippians was written by Paul while he was in prison to say that his imprisonment was actually helping to spread the Christian message, rather than hindering it. He also wanted to thank the Philippians for the gift they had sent him upon learning of his detention at Rome.

**First inroad into Europe** Philippi was the first city in Europe to be evangelised by Paul (Acts 16:11-12). This is confirmed by Paul's hint that his first converts came from Philippi (Philippians 4:15). Paul understood his mission as simple evangelisation, to plant the Gospel and march on; the watering of the seed was not his responsibility (1 Corinthians 1:17a).

**Model your life on Christ** The letter to the Philippians reveals a vision of life in Christ which takes seriously the example that Christ modelled, interwoven with the importance of rejoicing at all times and in all things. The vision of a life focused on Christ that Paul held up focuses on two key themes: Christ as servant and Lord (Philippians 2:5-11) and Christ as Lord and Saviour (Philippians 3:20-21) – and from these two flow the vision of how the Philippians should live.

**Self-emptying** Throughout Philippians, Paul exhorts his readers to give of themselves gladly for the sake of Christ and others. Paul himself says that he is content even with imprisonment as long as Christ is lifted up (Philippians 1:12-18). He tells the Philippians that he will be glad to be "poured out as a drink offering" if it will strengthen their faith (Philippians 2:17).

**A life of joy** In addition, throughout Philippians Paul describes the Christian life as one of joy (Philippians 1:4, 25; 2:2, 29; 4:1) and encourages his readers to rejoice (Philippians 3:1; 4:4). This is the great call and the great need of the Christian church today. Whatever our circumstances, whether we are rich or poor, comfortable or afflicted, we are called to rejoice in God.

**God speaks to us** The letter to the Philippians addresses head-on the human tendency toward discouragement and hopelessness. In Christ, who was in the form of God yet emptied himself and went to a cross for our sake (Philippians 2:5-11), an invincible hope is given to all Christians everywhere, whatever we are facing.

## WELCOME!

If you are worshipping with us for the first time today, welcome. Please make yourself known to parishioners and to one of the clergy. If you are returning to Mass after a period of time away because of the pandemic, welcome back! It is lovely to see you again today. If you are a new student at Coventry or Warwick University, welcome to Coventry and to our parish. Welcome too to returning students whose digs this year are in our parish. We would love you to make your home with us during your time at university.

This past year has brought us to a dangerous place. We have, of course, all faced the physical danger and threat of covid-19. But the collective response of government and faith communities to covid-19, while an understandable attempt to keep people physically safe, has brought us to a dangerous place **spiritually**. Catholicism is a sacramental religion, ie, one that involves the **physical**. I don't say that it was deliberate, but stringent government lockdowns and restrictions on public worship have struck hard at Catholicism, and other churches where sacramentality is important, and other religions where the physicality of worship is important. The Church and the sacraments are an essential part of being a Catholic and being away from them is detrimental to our spiritual health. Catholics don't subscribe to the idea that Christianity is a private religion in which we can worship our personal Saviour in the privacy of our own homes and thoughts. We need the sacraments, and we need each other. It's very good that you are here today!

To parishioners who have not yet returned to public worship in church, I commend your willingness in the past year or so to change how you have practiced your faith, but urge you to return to Mass as soon as you are safely able. Although it is still not a matter of obligation for us to attend Sunday Mass in person (unless prevented by illness or frailty), we feel it is safe to return, given the rate of take-up of a vaccination and the measures in place in church. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need further reassurance about worship at the moment. We would love to see you again in church very soon. The pattern of public worship from next Sunday, 12 September, is as below.

Let's continue to pray for all those who have been impacted by covid-19; those who have died; those who have lost loved ones to the pandemic; those who are still struggling to regain health as a result of having contracted the virus; those whose livelihood has been greatly impacted by the effects of the pandemic and those who still live in fear of this virus.

Yours in Christ, Fr Paul

### PATTERN OF WORSHIP FROM NEXT SUNDAY

Sunday	9.30am Family Mass (with Children's Liturgy)	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
	10-11am Confession & Adoration (note new time)	

**TOILETS & BABY CHANGE** Toilets are available in the entrance porch; disabled access toilets and baby change facilities are available at the back of church.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** Children's Liturgy will resume at the 9.30am Family Mass on Sundays from next Sunday. We very much look forward to welcoming more of our young families back to Sunday Mass soon. Children's Liturgy begins in church at the beginning of Mass, then continues in the parish room. The children return to church at the offertory.

**PRAY & PLAY AREA** Within a couple of weeks we will also have a "Play & Pray" area in church for parents & toddlers/babies to use during services if they wish. It will be resourced with age-appropriate religious books and quiet toys and provide an area where our youngest parishioners and their parents will feel comfortable.

**THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS** We pray for the children, families and staff of our school as the new school year begins for the children this week. We look forward to welcoming classes into church in the coming weeks.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** The Pastoral Council meets in the parish room at 7.30pm on Monday 13 September.

**SpRed**, our parish group working with those with special needs will meet again, for the first time in 18 months, on Saturday 11 September for lunch from 11.30am in the parish room. We hope to plan together our programme for the coming months. We would welcome any member of the parish with special needs. Our meeting together provides us with a wonderful opportunity to deepen our faith. If anyone feels they would like to be a faith friend - someone who accompanies - you will be most welcome to come along.

**PLAYGROUP** The Playgroup for parents and babies/toddlers begins again tomorrow. It takes place Mondays 10.00 - 11.30am. Recently parents and children have really appreciated coming together. We hope now to be able to integrate singing, stories and snacks as part of the sessions. Do join us!

**SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS** Following both Masses from next Sunday refreshments will be served in the parish room. We encourage parishioners to drop in before heading off home. This will be an opportunity to spend some time together and acquaint ourselves with people we haven't seen in a long time! Thank you to those who have offered to serve refreshments. If you would like to join a rota to serve refreshments after one of the Sunday Masses, please contact Fr Paul.

**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.

**OPEN DOORS** As part of the City of Culture "Faith Weekend", church will be open for visitors 10am-4pm next Saturday, 11 September. Please add your name to the list in the entrance porch if you are able to be in church to welcome visitors and/or serve refreshments in the parish room.

**ALTAR SERVERS' PIZZA DINNER** Deacon Paul is contacting all our altar servers and their families to invite them to a pizza dinner and get-together on Saturday 25 September at 5pm in the parish room. Altar servers play a very important part in the liturgy of the Mass and we very much look forward to seeing more of our servers in the sanctuary soon. If your child is interested in becoming an altar server, you're very welcome to come along too. Please let Deacon Paul know.



### THE SACRED HEART CHAPEL LAMP

burns this week for

**Andrew & Amanda Taylor in thanksgiving for 30 years of marriage**

### THE LADY CHAPEL LAMP

burns this week for

**Peace in Afghanistan**

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 RECENTLY DEPARTED** Of your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of **Jade Fitzpatrick** (funeral Wednesday 8 September) and **Peter Heath** (funeral Monday 6 September) and **Fr Bengt-Ove Jakobsson CHS**

**SAMARITANS PURSE** There are leaflets in the porch about Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child, an annual effort to send shoe boxes of Christmas gifts to the poorest children of the world. The Inner Wheel Club of Coventry is meeting in our parish room at 11am on 14 September to make up boxes to send. Please leave any donations of toys in the box in the porch. The leaflet gives more information about suitable donations. All welcome to help pack.



## CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

### Statement from the Catholic Bishops of England

#### *Sunday – it is our Day<sup>1</sup>*

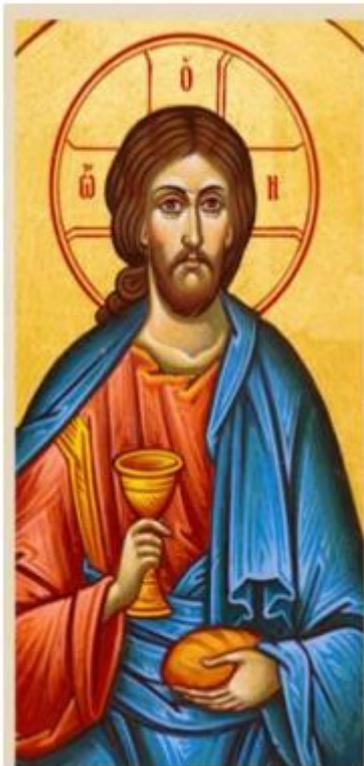
On 19 July, the current legislative powers which assist the mitigations against the Covid-19 virus transmission will be rescinded by HM Government. Nevertheless, there will be an encouragement to personal and corporate responsibility in this area; as the Prime Minister said in his most recent statement “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.