

ENGLISH MARTYRS, Alvaston. Tel: 01332 574474 and St GEORGE's Derby . Tel: 01332 767038

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Mark Brentnall

**Assistant:** Canon Alan Burbidge Emeritus

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2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST – CORPUS CHRISTI

9<sup>TH</sup> WEEK OF CHURCH YEAR

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

Sat 01 June	5.30 pm	SG	For the Repose of the Soul of Johnny Reilly RIP in Ireland
Sun 02 June	9.30 am	SG	For all our children preparing for their 1st Holy Communion and their families.
	11.15 am	HS	People of the Parish
Mon 03 June	9.30 am	SG	Eddie O'Rourke RIP
Tues 04 June	9.30 am	SG	For all the sick of our community of St George's and Holy Spirit and English Martyrs
Wed 05 June	9.30 am	SG	For Hilary Crosbie for good health
Thu 06 June	9.30 am	SG	For Muriel Graham and for all our families
Fri 07 June	9.30 am	SG	For Yvonne Clarke for continuing recovery
Sat 08 June	11.00 am	SG	First Holy Communion Mass
	5.30 pm	SG	Deceased members of the Geelan family
Sun 09 June	9.30 am	SG	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	HS	Jackie Murphy for good health

SG St George's HS Holy Spirit

**GOSPEL REFLECTION:**

The celebration of the Eucharist was the source and summit of the early Church's life as it is today. The Passover Meal of the Hebrews celebrated their miraculous deliverance from Egypt. 'The Lord will pass over that door and not let the destroyer come into your house to strike you down' (Exodus 12:23). The religious leaders perceived Jesus as a threat to the nation and their religion, whereas Jesus was the fulfilment of the Law and the Prophets. The first Eucharist, the Last Supper, instituted the new Passover. Jesus' saving death and resurrection was God's new and perfect way of delivering his people.

The Last Supper was in many ways the First Supper because since then the Eucharist has been celebrated all around the world in all manner of places; in prisons, on mountains tops, in palaces and in churches and basilicas great and small – from Antioch to Aberdeen! When we eat the bread and drink the cup we proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection and receive his Body and his Blood.

JRR Tolkien has a great devotion to the Eucharist. Could you put into words or writing what the Eucharist means to you? Literary giant that he was Tolkien did, 'Out of the darkness of my life, so much frustrated. I put before you the one great thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament. There you will find romance, glory, honour, fidelity and the true way of all your loves, upon earth.' St Bernard of Clairvaux echoed this. 'The Eucharist is that love which surpasses all loves in heaven and on earth.' The Eucharist re-presents (makes present) Jesus' Passion, Cross and Resurrection, the Paschal Mystery, through which we receive every grace and blessing: the forgiveness of our sins and the gift of eternal life. On this most holy and special feast day we give thanks. For the word Eucharist derives from the Greek *eucharistein* meaning 'to give thanks.' The Eucharist is the perfect prayer of thanksgiving and praise.

*Father, thank you for the lavish, inexhaustible and priceless gift of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY ONLY: 10:15 – 10:45**

**NB: Our Parish First Holy Communion celebration is on next Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> June. The Church will be very busy with preparations from 10 am onwards, therefore Confessions will be postponed for that week's Saturday morning, 8<sup>th</sup> June.**

**ADORATION** before the Blessed Sacrament daily before the 9.30 am Mass and then other times as announced.

**SAINTS THIS WEEK:**

- Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> June: Sts Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs of Uganda
- Wed 5<sup>th</sup> June: St Boniface of Crediton, Bishop & Martyr
- Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> June: St Norbert, Bishop
- Fri 7<sup>th</sup> June: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- Sat 8<sup>th</sup> June: The Immaculate Heart of Mary

**Eucharistic Hunger**

**Take it; this is my body.** Mark 14:22

Every great saint whose history I have read had an intense devotion to the Eucharistic presence of Christ. I believe it is a sign of sanctity. There is even a charism that some of the mystics had called "heirognosis". When the Eucharistic species was present although not visible, these mystics knew that Jesus was present.

We do not have such a special gift. Despite the fact that we do not "see", yet we believe. We express this belief when we genuflect in front of the tabernacle. When the minister of the Eucharist says, "The Body of Christ," we respond, "Amen". We, like the mystics, have a Eucharistic hunger that draws us to celebrate the Mass and to receive.

*Jesus, we reverence your Eucharistic presence. As we feed on your Body and Blood, draw us into a more intimate union with you.*

**THE SEASON OF ORDINARY TIME RUNS FROM NOW**

**THROUGH THE SUMMER:** During this time we are asked by our church leaders to pray for the following intentions:

- a ] For a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews
- b] For those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights
- c] For Europe
- d] For Human Life
- e] For Seafarers

**HOLY SPIRIT ACTIVITIES**

Coffee mornings and socialising on Mondays and Wednesdays at 12 noon.

And on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> July, a Parish Picnic in the Park at Redwood Park, Sinfyn, Derby from 2.30 pm. There will be fun activities for the children. All welcome.

Also, at Holy Spirit there will be a Rosary Prayer Group beginning on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> June at 3 pm. Church opens at 2.45 pm. All welcome. Please speak to Helen Wright / Denise O'Neill for details.

And at St Georges, Mother's Prayers continues every Monday after Mass. All welcome. Details from Helen Wright.