

Catholic Parish of Walsingham

ST PETER, BLAKENEY ✠ ST HENRY WALPOLE, SJ, BURNHAM MARKET ✠ OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION, WALSINGHAM ✠ OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA, WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA

(1836)

Parish Mass Book, Readings & Prayers 83-86 Prayer of the Church, 3

CORPUS CHRISTI
YEAR OF ST MATTHEW
JUNE 14TH, 2020

Today we celebrate the solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, known for centuries simply as Corpus Christi. It was made a feast day for



the whole Church by Pope Urban IV in 1264. At one time he had been Archdeacon of Liège where the feast had been celebrated for some time before that. The purpose of the feast, which in many ways can be seen as a duplication of the celebration of the Lord's Supper during Holy Week, was to deepen Christians' awareness of, and belief in, the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine used to effect the sacrament of the Eucharist. He invited St Thomas Aquinas to prepare a liturgy for use on the feast. Thomas wrote several hymns which provide a rich source on which to focus our attention when meditating on the mystery of Christ's sacramental presence. One of these, *Lauda Sion*, is used as the

'sequence' of today's Mass. Since the liturgical reforms of the sixteenth century sequences are used only on a few solemn occasions. (You can read it in the *Distanced but Together* section of the website.) The mystery St Thomas reflects upon is not, of course, an invention of the thirteenth century. In his gospel St John has Jesus describe himself as, 'The living bread which has come down from heaven' (John 6:51) and says that this 'bread' is his flesh, given for the life of the world. It is, he says, 'real food' that is food for eternal life, and his blood 'real drink' (6:55). From the very beginning our brothers and sisters have reflected on the mystery of the presence of Christ in the breaking of the bread. People sometimes ask, "How can this be proved?" as if everything in this life can be demonstrated to the experience of the senses and that the senses can never be deceived. The only 'demonstration' of the mystery is to be found in those who meet, and have done down through the centuries, to partake of the Eucharistic celebration and whose faith is supported by its fellowship. This year, of course, most of us are unable to, "eat my flesh and drink my blood." We can, however, give thanks for the gift of food for eternal life until we meet again.

...from CHRISTUS VIVIT

"(Vocation) gives greater value to everything you do. Your work stops being just about making money, keeping busy or pleasing others. It becomes your vocation because you are called to it; it is something more than merely a pragmatic decision. In the end, it is a recognition of why I was made, why I am here on earth, and what the Lord's plan is for my life. He will not show me every place, time and detail, since I will have to make my own prudent decisions about these. But he will show me a direction in life, for he is my Creator and I need to listen to his voice, so that, like clay in the hands of a potter, I can let myself be shaped and guided by him. Then I will become what I was meant to be, faithful to my own reality. To respond to our vocation, we need to foster and develop all that we are. This has nothing to do with inventing ourselves or creating ourselves out of nothing. It has to do with finding our true selves in the light of God..." (256-257)

PARTICIPATION IN THE LITURGY

You can take part in the liturgy via the internet at the Catholic Shrine webpage:
www.walsingham.org.uk

CAFOD

CAFOD launched its coronavirus emergency appeal on 30 April. The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are likely to be devastating. To find out how you can help, see the CAFOD item on the parish webpage (www.catholicparishofwalsingham.org) in the section called *Distanced but Together*.

"He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me"

Because of restrictions imposed by the government in response to the Covid19 virus emergency, there will be no Masses or other services in any of our churches until further notice.



THE YEAR OF THE WORD

Befriending the Scriptures cannot, of course, meet at present. We can, however, keep reading Matthew's gospel and the readings appointed for the Mass of the day even though we cannot meet.

Sunday:	Deuteronomy 8:2-16; Psalm 147;	1 Corinthians 10:16-17;	John 6:51-58
Monday:	1 Kings 21:1-16; Psalm 5;		Matthew 5:38-42
Tuesday:	1 Kings 21:17-29; Psalm 50;		Matthew 5:43-48
Wednesday:	2 Kings 2:1-14; Psalm 39;		Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Ecclesiasticus 48:1-14; Psalm 96;		Matthew 6:7-15
Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus			
Friday:	Deuteronomy 7:6-11; Psalm 102;	1 John 4:7-16	Matthew 11:25-30
Saturday:	Isaiah 61:9-11; Psalm 1 Sam 2:1-8;		Luke 2:41-51

CHARLES DE FOUCAULD

Little Sister Kathy writes: "Our founder Charles de Foucauld is going to be canonized since a miracle has been attributed to him. It involves a work accident of a 21 year old who fell off the scaffolding and crashed through the vaulted stone ceiling of an old chapel in Saumur where Br Charles had studied to be a cavalry officer. He impaled himself on the benches below but survived without any consequences. Pretty spectacular, eh?!"

NATIONAL MASSES

Each Thursday, at 7.00pm, a Catholic Bishop has been celebrating a live-streamed Mass in his Cathedral for people to join in. Last week I announced the last of these on Thursday 28th. Apparently that was not the last; there are more. By visiting the Cathedral webpage, or the Bishops' Conference Webpage (cbcew.org.uk) links for the live-streaming of these Masses can be found.

18 th June	Archbishop Bernard Longley	St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham
25 th June	Bishop Alan Hopes	St John the Baptist Cathedral, Norwich
2 nd July	Archbishop John Wilson	St George's Cathedral, Southwark
9 th July	Bishop Tom Williams	Christ the King Cathedral, Liverpool

OPENING OF CHURCHES

The Government has decided that church buildings may be open for individual prayer from Monday June 15th. This does not mean that we may open our churches in the way we were used to before the covid 19 outbreak; there are stringent conditions attached to this permission. In order that we might comply with these I have decided that, for the time being, our churches will be open only between fixed times, as follows:

Our Lady of the Annunciation, Walsingham:	Monday to Friday inclusive, 10 – 11.30
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Wells-next-the-Sea:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 - 11
St Peter's, Blakeney:	Closed for building and garden work
St Henry Walpole, Burnham Market:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10 – 11.30

Hand sanitiser will be available at each church but you should provide your own mask. There will be a steward there to ensure that the various safety regulations are maintained.

ST PAUL in ACTS

During the Easter period we have been hearing excerpts from the Acts of the Apostles at the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. It is from Scriptures such as these, which point to the priorities of Christian faith lived in the world, that we can reinvigorate our faith as we go forward from Pentecost to face new problems for the world and for the Church. Fr Adrian Graffy, Scripture scholar and parish priest of Gidea Park, has prepared a new talk 'Paul in Acts' which can be accessed by going to: www.whatgoodnews.org/faith-talks

Parish Clergy: Revv. Keith Tulloch, SM, (Parish Priest), Thomas Goonan, SM,
Steven Leeder (Deacon)

Contact Parish Priest: 07538 130655; 01328 713044

Web page: www.catholicparishofwalsingham.org

annunciation22@gmail.com

Newsletter contributions: annunciationnewsletter@gmail.com