

SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

30 Park Lane, Corsham, SN13 9LG

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Fountaine

Tel 01249 712136

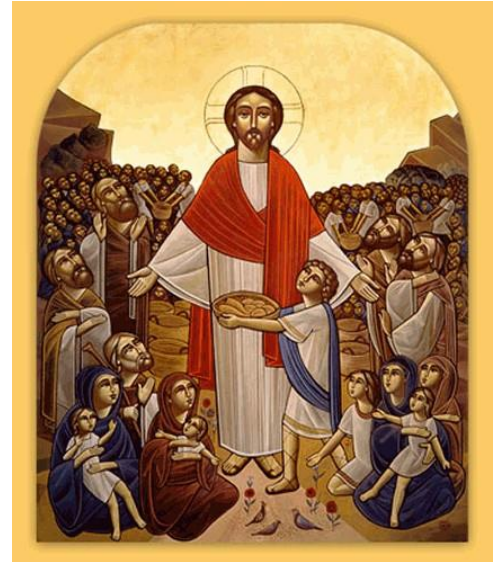
michael.fountaine@cliftondiocese.com

www.stpatricks-corsham.org.uk

Saint Patrick's School Lacock Road, Corsham,

SN13 9HS Tel 01249 713125

www.stpatricks-wilts.co.uk



LATEST NEWS

THE WORD THIS SUNDAY

2 Kings 4:42-44. The Books of Kings were meant to keep Israel faithful, using lessons from history. The books describe the misfortunes of their unfaithful kings, and the good fortunes of their faithful kings. Elisha is a faithful prophet who criticised unfaithful kings. Several miracles bolster Elisha's credentials.

Ephesians 4: 1-6. The Letter to the Ephesians is about God's long-secret plan, now revealed, to reconcile Jews and Gentiles. These ancient enemies have been united in Christ. Today's passage instructs a Gentile Christian community on some finer points of living together.

John 6: 1-15. In prior weeks, we've been reading Saint Mark's gospel, up to the miracle of the loaves and fishes. We switch today to Saint John's more detailed version of that story. For the next four Sunday's we'll hear from John on Jesus' whole teaching about the bread of life.

BOOKING FOR MASS PAUSED We are thankfully seeing a gradual return to Mass now that so many have been vaccinated. For the next few weeks, we are pausing the requirement to book for Mass via Eventbrite as we do not expect numbers to exceed capacity over the holiday period.

CARRIAGEWAY SURFACE DRESSING WORKS are being carried out in front of the Church in Park Lane commencing Monday 26th July for 1-2 days. Please do not park on the road or the verges during this period.

25TH JULY 2021 SEVENTEENTH
SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

5pm Eucharistic Adoration

5.30pm Vigil Mass (Sat)

10.30am Sung Mass (Pro Populo)

Mon 26th July - Ss Joachim & Anne,
Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tue 27th July - Weekday in OT

Wed 28th July - Weekday in OT

11.30am Eucharistic Adoration.

12noon Mass (Peter Morea RIP)

Thur 29th July - Ss Martha, Mary
and Lazarus

Fri 30th July - St Peter Chrysologus,
Bishop, Doctor of the Church

Sat 31st July - St Ignatius Loyola, Pr

1ST AUGUST 2021 EIGHTEENTH
SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

5pm Eucharistic Adoration

5.30pm Vigil Mass (Sat)

10.30am Sung Mass (Pro Populo)

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY This Sunday 25th July has been dedicated to a World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly. You can find more information about the day by going to this link: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-01/pope-establishes-world-day-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly.html> and to see what Cardinal Nicholas has written, please go to this link: <https://rcdow.org.uk/marriage-and-family-life/worldday-for-grandparents-and-the-elderly/>

FAMILY PRAYER RESOURCES FOR SUMMER - CAFOD will be offering a prayer focus for each week of the summer holidays with some simple ideas, designed to help parents explore faith with their children, in solidarity with our global family. This will be available from mid-July at <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources>



SS MARY, MARTHA & LAZARUS Pope Francis has added the memorial of Ss Mary, Martha, and Lazarus to the General Roman Calendar, giving the siblings the combined feast day of 29th July. They were added to demonstrate “the important evangelical witness they offered in welcoming the Lord Jesus into their home, in listening to him attentively, in believing that he is the resurrection and the life.” Ss Martha, Mary, and Lazarus were three siblings living in the town of Bethany outside of Jerusalem during the time of Christ.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE 2nd OCTOBER - Bishop Declan is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 2 October (12 noon) and is inviting all married couples to join him. He sends a personal invitation to those couples who are celebrating significant anniversaries during 2021 or those who will marry this year. If there are any marriages in our parish this year or any couple celebrating significant anniversaries ie 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 65th or 70th anniversaries during 2021. The names of these couples – engaged and anniversaries – need to be sent to this email: (adult.education@cliftondiocese.com) so that personal invitations can be sent to them.

STEP 4 GUIDANCE FOR COMMUNAL WORSHIP DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC The Government rules changed on 19th July and our Bishops have issued guidelines for Mass. In view of the rising numbers of Covid cases and the number of clinically extremely vulnerable people at Mass in a relatively small space, we will continue to proceed with care. Our Bishops still recommend that face coverings be worn at Mass, that we also adhere to safe social distance regulations and that Communion is still given in one kind only. Sanitising of hands is to continue (available at the entrance of the church) It is also recommended that singing should be phased in gently as part of worship over the summer period and that face coverings should be worn by members of the congregation whilst singing together, until infection levels reduce. We will continue to use recorded music and gradually reintroduce the most important parts of the sung liturgy, the Gloria, Gospel Acclamation, Holy, holy, Lamb of God and the Great Amen. Hymns will be introduced later on when the risk from aerosol or droplet spread is lessened in a small space. Stewarding will be a little less rigorous as we move forward but will continue at Sunday masses. We thank all our stewards, cleaners, servers, sacristans and music organisers who have kept us safe over the past eighteen months...may the good work continue. Full details of the Bishops Conference Guidelines are available at <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/step-4-guidance-for-communal-worship-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/>

HOME VISITS can now take place by priests, deacons and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and other volunteers. The new guidelines from our Bishops state that ministers to the sick or housebound person must take care to ensure that a minimum number of visits takes place to different homes in a single session of visiting. There are three important steps to avoid possible spread of the virus, especially if someone is infected but asymptomatic:

- It is recommended (outside hospital and hospice chaplaincies who have infection control in place) that only one morning and one afternoon visit is made in a day to minimise risk of infection.
- The use of regular freely available [Covid-19 Home Test Kits](#) is recommended for those doing pastoral visits, to ensure they are not potential vectors of infection to those who are sick and medically vulnerable.
- Careful hand sanitisation

If you would like a visit or would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact Fr Michael or Jane Wragg and we will arrange this for you. Fr Michael is also available to administer the sacrament of anointing of the sick.

PIANIST/ORGANIST NEEDED As we return gradually to a sung liturgy, we are in need of someone to lead our song, accompanying the Mass setting, Psalm and Hymns at Sunday Mass. Please see Fr Michael for more details. As with many parishes today this may need to become a salaried post. We will also begin to regather our group of Cantors to lead worship. If you sing and would like to help, please do come forward. Other musical instrumentalists are also very welcome. We need your talents!

FIND OUT ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH Are you interested to know more about the Catholic Faith? Do you wish to be baptized? Do you want to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church? Do you know anyone who would like to know how to become a Catholic? If so, Journey in Faith or RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) might be just the thing. During these sessions we explore different aspects of the Catholic faith and the teachings of the Catholic Church. We listen to God's word in Scripture, and we pray together. For more information, please contact Fr Michael with a view to starting a journey in the autumn.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021 Due to the pandemic our first Holy Communion programme did not really get off the ground last year. We are hoping to begin preparation again in school in September with a view to celebrating First Communions on the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe on Sunday 21st November. These preparation sessions will be for children who briefly started the course last year and for other children in Yr 3 or above in Primary School. Preparing to receive Reconciliation (Confession) and the Eucharist for the first time can be one of the most memorable experiences parents share with their children. Beforehand it is important that the family attend Mass regularly so that the child understands more fully what the Eucharist is about. If you would like your child to resume/begin preparation for the sacraments, we look forward to seeing you at Mass each week. Please email Fr Michael with the names of any children wishing to (re) commence the programme. We look forward to seeing you soon.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT It is a very hopeful sign of the new "springtime of holiness" for the Church that, in ever more places, people are participating in regular adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Early in his pontificate, St John Paul II established adoration chapels in the major patriarchal basilicas in Rome, realising that the holy Eucharist is the source and summit of life in the Church. Pope Francis has also continued to encourage us in Eucharistic Adoration. When there is faith, devotion and reverence for the Eucharist, the faithful grow in charity and holiness, and the community is blessed with a variety of vocations that serve the Church and all souls with joy and simplicity. The Eucharist is the source of life for the Church. We now have the wonderful opportunity to come before the Lord in quietness and in peace twice a week, Wednesday at 11.30am and Saturday at 5pm before Mass. Come and rest with the Lord a while in his healing presence in the Eucharist.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession) As we gradually make a return to the Sacraments, we may wish to celebrate this sacrament of God's mercy. Confessions are heard after each Mass or by appointment. It is good to see people returning to this beautiful sacrament of God's love. If you haven't been for some time and have forgotten the words, don't worry. There are some cards at the entrance to assist you or the priest will gently guide you through. There is great rejoicing in heaven when we return to this amazing sacrament!

RUH If you or a loved one is going into the Royal United Hospital, please let the RUH Chaplaincy know on 01225 428331 or email ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Ann Saba: Coleen Milne, Tony Tredgett, Richard Keat, James Gallagher, Karen Lucas, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Julia Wright, Pauline Feeney, John Hunt, Margaret Brown, Lindsay Price and Christopher. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

The Holy Father's July Prayer Intention: Social Friendship: That, in social, economic and political situations, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Dominic, Dursley & St Joseph, Nympsfield

Christians in Corsham Prayer Link: The Baptist Community

July - Month of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus



The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood. The feast of the Precious Blood of our Lord was instituted in 1849 by Pius IX, but the devotion is as old as Christianity. The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through His Blood.

"The Precious Blood which we worship is the Blood which the Saviour shed for us on Calvary and reassumed at His glorious Resurrection; it is the Blood which courses through the veins of His risen, glorified, living body at the right hand of God the Father in heaven; it is the Blood made present on our altars by the words of Consecration; it is the Blood which merited sanctifying grace for us and through it washes and beautifies our soul and inaugurates the beginning of eternal life in it."

The 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 Your wounds hide me.
Suffer me not to be separated from you.
From the evil one defend me.
In the hour of my death, call me.
And bid me come to You,
That with all Your saints,
I may praise You forever and ever. Amen.

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion



My Jesus, I believe that You are really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul. As I cannot receive you sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And, as You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You.
Let me never be separated from You.

An Act of Contrition



O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you: and I detest my sins most sincerely because they displease You, my God, who are so deserving of all my love for Your infinite goodness and most amiable perfections: and I firmly purpose by Your holy grace never more to offend You, to avoid all occasions of sin and amend my life. Amen.
I further resolve and promise to go to sacramental confession as soon as practicably possible.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Also available to download in 13 different languages at www.virc.at



First reading

2 Kings 4:42-44

A reading from the second book of the Kings

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear.' 'Give it to the people to eat', Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some left over, as the Lord had said.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 144(145):10-11,15-18

*You open wide your hand, O Lord,
and grant our desires.*

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.
They shall speak of the glory of your reign
and declare your might, O God.

The eyes of all creatures look to you
and you give them their food in due time.
You open wide your hand,
grant the desires of all who live.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts.

Second reading

Ephesians 4:1-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

cf. Jn6:63,68

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 6:1-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, ‘Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?’ He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, ‘Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.’ One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said, ‘There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?’ Jesus said to them, ‘Make the people sit down.’ There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough, he said to the disciples, ‘Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.’ So, they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, ‘This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.’ Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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