

THE ORATORY—dedicated to THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

141 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 8UE

Registered as a Charity

Parish Weekly Newsletter

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June 6th 2010: SOLEMNITY OF CORPUS CHRISTI



THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Last Sunday we celebrated the “most ancient of all mysteries” -- the Holy Trinity—God as He is in Himself. It was a looking back towards the origin of everything. The whole of our life and salvation come directly from God the Father, through His Son, in the Holy Spirit.

Today we celebrate another great mystery—one that unites us most wonderfully with the life of God—the Blessed Sacrament of Holy Communion. On Maundy Thursday, Our Lord gave his Apostles the gift of the Mass, the Priesthood, and the Blessed Sacrament of His Sacred Body and Blood *“which would be given up for us”* on the following day on the Cross. Christ told the Apostles how He had longed to celebrate this Last Supper with them because in it He would at last fulfil the promise He made at the feeding of the Five Thousand to give them *“living bread from heaven”*, His very own flesh to eat and blood to drink.

When Christ said *“This is My Body”* and *“This is My Blood”*, He meant that this was the fulfilment of that promise. He was about to leave them to return to His heavenly Father, but He *“would not leave them orphans, He would come back to them”*. This He did in the Blessed Sacrament, ***so that in Holy Communion we are closer to Our Lord than anyone who ever knew Him in His earthly lifetime***, except only for our Lady.

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT PROCESSION

This afternoon we invite everyone to join us in the annual outdoor procession of the Blessed Sacrament. This is a tradition which is nevertheless highly relevant to modern life. The Blessed Sacrament is the living Lord Himself. When we take the consecrated Host around our streets we are not only witnessing to the Church’s faith in Christ’s presence but also calling down a blessing on our parish and on all those whose homes we pass.

Cardinal Newman foresaw a time when the world would be “simply irreligious”. That time seems to have come upon us. Even in the ancient world, pagans still believed in divine powers and authority, so that it was easier for them to come to believe in the One True God. Now most people do not know whether they believe in God at all, or if they think they do, they do not know if it makes any difference to their lives.

This is why our Blessed Sacrament Procession is so important. It is a sign to a world which ignores God’s presence. Even if people do not recognise Him, this does not limit our Lord’s love for them, or the power of His living presence in their midst. Let’s help to call down our Lord’s blessing on all our fellow citizens by bringing Christ out to them today.

Sunday June 6th: The Most Body & Blood of Christ, *Corpus Christi* (White)

- 8.30 a.m. **Low Mass**
- 9.30 a.m. **Latin Low Mass—1962 Missal**
- 10.30 a.m. **High Mass**
- 12.00 p.m. **(Families with young children)**
- 5.30 p.m. **Sung Congregational Mass**
- 7.30 p.m. **Solemn Vespers and Benediction**

Liturgical Calendar

Year 2 of the Lectionary at Weekday Mass and Psalter Week 2 in the Divine Office
Monday to Friday: Masses at 7.30 a.m., 12.45 p.m. and 5.45 p.m. Rosary 7.45 p.m.
Holy Hour: Each Weekday except Monday from 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Benediction on Tuesday at 8 p.m..
Confessions are heard from 12.30 p.m. and from 5.30 p.m. until the end of Mass.

<p>Monday 7th June: Feria. (Green)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m. Blessing with St Philip's relic at 8 p.m. 	<p>June 13th: the Eleventh Sunday of the Year: (Green)</p> <p>Mass & Service Times:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8.30 a.m. Low Mass 9.30 a.m. Latin Low Mass 1962 Missal 10.30 a.m. High Mass 12.00 p.m. (Oratory Primary School First Holy Communion Mass) 5.30 p.m. Sung Congregational in English 7.30 p.m. Vespers and Benediction <p>Please pray for the sick: Sr Catherine Murphy, Patrick Sharkey, May Colquhoun, Sandra Green, Kevan Bleach, Maurice Hynes, Pat Cartwright, James Foynes, Michael McCann, Philip McCann, David Pritchard, Carolyn Knight, Denis Grigg and Tony Farmer. Of your charity please pray for those who have died recently: ; and of the souls of those whose anniversaries occur about now: Fr Paul Eaglesim, Fr Francis Morgan and Fr Denis Shiel, all of this Oratory, James and Patrick Kearney, John Nulty, Maria Nederpold, and Anna Flynn.</p>
<p>Tuesday 8th June: Feria. (Green)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m. Benediction at 8 p.m. 	
<p>Wednesday 9th June: Feria. (Green). Optional Memorias of St Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church. (White); or of St Columba, Abbot. (White)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m. <p>St Ephrem (303-73) Thought to have been a Syrian convert, he was a Deacon in Edessa (Iraq) and was famed for his wonderful writings, in particular his hymns, composed to counteract various heresies. He is one of the great teachers of the Syrian Church. St Columba (c. 521-97) He founded several monasteries in Ireland before founding the famous one at Iona, destined to play a very important role in the rapid spread at this time, of Catholicism in Scotland and England .</p>	
<p>Thursday 10th June: Feria. (Green)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m. 	
<p>Friday 11th June: Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. (White)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Hour 8 a.m.—9 a.m. Solemn High Mass at 8 p.m. Vigil of Reparation in Honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary (see below) 	
<p>Saturday 12th June: The Immaculate Heart of Mary. (White).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low Mass at 8 a.m. Latin Mass 1962 Missal at 9.30 a.m. in St Philip's Chapel Low Mass at 11 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8.30—10.45 a.m. Benediction at 10.45 a.m. Confessions from 11 a.m. to 12 noon & from 5.30 p.m. First Mass of Sunday (Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time) at 5.45 p.m. <p>The Immaculate Heart of Mary: The Gospels make reference to how Our Lady's Heart would be pierced, and how she pondered Our Lord's words and actions 'in her heart'. In 1855 the office and Mass of the Pure Heart of Mary were introduced and more recently, during the third apparition at Fatima in 1917, Our Lady told the visionaries that "God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart".</p>	<p>The following are requested to read at Mass next weekend, June 12th/13th Corpus Christi:</p> <p>Saturday 5.45 p.m.: Jenni Hardwick Sunday 8.30 a.m.: Peter Bateman 12.00 p.m.: Dulcie Robinson 5.30 p.m.: Simon Stacey</p>
	<p>Collections:</p> <p>Trinity Sunday: 30th May, 2010 Offertory: £1,480 Second: Diocesan Development Fund: £433</p> <p><i>Thank you</i></p>

<p>TODAY</p> <p>CORPUS CHRISTI ANNUAL OUTDOOR PROCESSION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT takes place at 4 p.m. today. Please do your very best to attend with your families, and encourage friends in other parishes to join us in this act of love and homage to Our Lord. Childen who have been confirmed this year, or who have made their first Communion (or are soon to do so) are encouraged to wear their Confirmation or First Communion clothing.</p> <p>THE SECOND COLLECTION will be for the Maintenance of our Church.</p> <p>THE PIETY STALL is open after all Sunday Masses.</p> <p>THIS WEEK</p> <p>VIGIL OF REPARATION IN HONOUR OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY will take place in the Cloister buildings on the night of the 11th June. High Mass will be at 8 p.m. on Friday (the Feast of the Sacred Heart) and the Vigil will be held in the cloister chapel until 3 a.m. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, prayers and Benediction, and the Vigil will end with Mass of the Immaculate Heart of Mary at approximately 2.20 a.m. The Vigil will end after the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3 a.m.</p> <p>There will be A HOLY HOUR from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. each weekday morning (except Monday this week, as it is a Bank Holiday) until further notice to pray for the success of Cardinal Newman's beatification and the Pope's visit.</p> <p>ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT in the Cloister Chapel will take place on Monday beginning at 3 p.m. and ending with Benediction at c. 5 p.m. (There will be no Mass.)</p> <p>ORATORY YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (open to those aged 20—35) meet on Thursday 10th June at 7.30 p.m. in the Oratory House. The talk "Finding Love in a Superficial Age: the true meaning of Chastity" will be given by</p>	<p>Robert Colquhoun. For more information about the Young Adults Group, please call Richard on 07905 601 721</p> <p>DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO EVESHAM with blessing of the sick, takes place on Saturday 12th June. Please see the poster for details.</p> <p>SOCIETY OF ST HUGH OF LINCOLN will meet on Saturday 12th June at 2 p.m. in the Oratory House. All are welcome.</p> <p>FORTHCOMING EVENTS</p> <p>FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS: The children of Year 3 of the Oratory Primary School will make their First Holy Communion at the 12 noon Mass next Sunday, June 13th. Please remember the children and their families in your prayers</p> <p>THE BEATIFICATION OF CARDINAL NEWMAN will be on Sunday 19th September and it is essential that you book on a coach in order to gain access to the Beatification site. Travel to and from the site will be £15. Coaches will leave from and return to the Oratory at times to be announced. Forms are to be found at the back of church and completed forms must be returned to the Oratory in an envelope marked "Beatification". Please do not send to Pax Travel.</p> <p>AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED will be hosting an event on Saturday 27th June in the Upper Cloister Hall. "The Light of The World" will be an opportunity to hear first-hand accounts of the challenges facing Christians around the world. Talks will begin at 2 p.m. and will end with the 5.30 p.m. Mass. The main guest speaker will be Fr Samir Kahil Samir SJ who will speak on Christianity and Islam in the Middle East. The event is free but you must reserve a seat. (You cannot turn up on the day having not done so as space is limited) . To reserve a place, please call 0208 642 8668, or at www.acnuk.org/birmingham. (The Oratory will not be taking bookings).</p>
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Now that Paschaltide is over, we return to praying the "Angelus" in the morning, at midday, and in the evening:

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary. R. And she conceived by the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary....

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord. R. Be it done unto me according to your word. Hail Mary...

V. And the Word was made flesh. R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God. R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the Glory of His Resurrection.

Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.