

BRINDLE St JOSEPH'S

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Corpus Christi 2nd June 2024

(Sunday cycle year B, weekday cycle year 2, psalter week 1)



"This is my body, this is my blood"

Jesus, Body and Blood, we are grateful for the gift of your life and the way it strengthens us to live our lives. Teach us to draw on the gift of your Body and Blood for energy, renewal, strength and grace. May we never take the gift of your presence for granted. Amen

THIS WEEK

Sat 1 st June	10.00am	CONFESSIONS	St Justin (memorial)
	10.30am	Abbot's Intention - (Anointing of the sick during Mass)	
	6.00pm	For the Parish	Corpus Christi
Sun 2 nd	9.30am	Brenda O'Gorman	
	11.00am	Baptism: Vincent Holland	
Mon 3 rd	No Mass today		St Charles Lwanga and companions (memorial)
Tue 4 th	9.30am	John and Hazel Jones	Feria (week 9)
Wed 5 th	9.30am	Susan Moon	St Boniface (memorial)
Thu 6 th	9.30am	Monica Chatburn	Feria
Fri 7 th	1.00pm	Requiem Mass: Maureen Spencer	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (solemnity)
Sat 8 th	10.30am	First Holy Communions (Dorothy Hoole)	The Immaculate Heart of Mary (memorial)
	6.00pm	Deceased members of the Phelan family	Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sun 9 th	9.30am	For the Parish	

First Saturday of the Month: Confessions at 10.00am, Anointing of the sick during 10.30am Mass

This week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop
Sat 1 st		M Sherry		P Cook		Open
Sun 2 nd		K Snape		J Kitchen		Open
Bidding prayers	J & K Slater	Children's Liturgy	J Grogan, C Snape	Collection counters	C & K Snape	
Next week		Reader		Eucharistic Minister		Bookshop
Sat 8 th		C Williamson		J Hothersall		Not open
Sun 9 th		C Snape		J Slater		Not open
Bidding prayers	C Snape	Children's Liturgy	A Fowler, B Gorrell	Collection counters	P & J Kitchen	

Last weekend: attendance: 95, collection: £327.85 – thank you!

Readings: Exodus 24:3-8, Hebrews 9:11-15, Mark 14:12-16,22-26.

Off in the olden types foreshadowed: in Isaac on the altar bowed, and in the ancient paschal food, in the manna sent from heaven.

The *Sequence*, attributed to St Thomas Aquinas, (13th cent.) from which we are given the last three of its thirteen verses, attempts to describe what lies at the heart of every Mass: the Body and Blood of our blessed Lord given to us in the form of bread and wine.

A dim awareness that all was not well between humanity and God existed from almost the dawn of time and in *types and shadows*, God has gradually drawn humanity back to himself.

The pagan sacrifices of old were an attempt to appease a god or gods, so they believed, who at times, blessed and provided for the people or cursed and deprived them of blessings and provision.

Abraham and Moses also sacrificed but they were the first to respond to the authentic calling of the one true God.

The covenant God made with Abraham, of which Moses speaks in our first reading, along with their sacrifices, were but a *foreshadowing* and a preparation of what was to come: the new and eternal *Covenant* and *Sacrifice* sealed in the sacrificial offering by Jesus Christ in his own body and blood.

And so, the *Letter to the Hebrews* can speak of Christ as the mediator whose sacrifice being perfect, replaces all those of old, and which cancels out the sin, which, as the author concludes, *infringed the earlier covenant*.

In a nutshell, God's love for you and me, mediated through the death and resurrection of his Son Jesus Christ, cancelled out our sin and opened for us the way back to God and our eternal homeland ... *opened up for us* ... because we can choose not to accept this incredible gift.

This revelation of God's love for us through Jesus Christ, we celebrate **as a community of faith** primarily on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation.

We all gather on the day of the sun, for it is the first day after the Jewish sabbath, but also the first day when God, separating matter from darkness, made the world: and on the same day, Jesus Christ our Saviour rose from the dead said Justin Martyr in the 2nd century.

The third commandment is to keep the Sabbath holy.

Sunday is our Christian Sabbath; set aside as a day of rest from servile work, and for the devotion to the Lord who saved us and it still remains a grave or serious sin to choose not to attend if one could have. (CCC 2181)

The *Catechism (CCC)* gives reasons for this. It says: *participation in the Sunday Eucharist is part of our belonging and giving witness and testimony to Christ and his Church.*

If Holy Mass, the source and summit of our communal prayer, is the occasion par excellence of our encounter with God on this earth through his Word and in the Sacrament of his love for us, if it is the celebration from which we receive the priceless gift from God of his Son in such a unique and special way in Holy Communion and if it is the occasion and place where resides the blessings of the Holy Spirit, why would we not want to come.

To choose not to come to Mass does not result in God's rejection of us but our rejection of God.

For God cannot give to us the grace of his forgiveness, his love and all the other benefits he has won for us if we freely choose not to receive them.

To choose not to attend Sunday Mass is like choosing to say No! to the only consultant who can cure us of a terminal illness – mortis (death) follows from which mortal sin gets its name.

Today, after its withdrawal due to Covid, we rejoice at being able to restore reception of the Chalice for those who wish to participate more fully in the words of Christ at the last supper: *take eat ... take **drink**.*

So, on this, the feast of Christ's Body and Blood, let us renew our love and commitment to this greatest of gifts given to us by our Lord and pray with thanksgiving for the generosity of our *Special Ministers of Holy Communion* as they renew their commitment to their ministry which is so vital to our parish - especially those unable to get to Mass

With prayers,

Fr. Raphael.

This week's commemorations

St Charles Lwanga and 22 companions (19th cent) were wrapped in reed mats and burnt alive for criticising the Ugandan King Mwanga for debauchery, murder and gross immoral acts. Most were converts from paganism, the youngest being only 13, and some worked as servants in the King's household. Within one year of their deaths, the catechumens in the country quadrupled. Charles Lwanga is the patron of Catholic Action and of Black African Youth since all of those Martyrs were under the age of 25.

St Boniface (675-754) born in Devon, educated in a monastery in Exeter and became a monk of the Benedictine monastery of Nursling near Southampton.

An enthusiastic teacher and preacher, he ended up preaching the Gospel to the heathens in Germany and became Bishop of Mainz. He founded and restored dioceses and helped reform the Frankish church. At over 70 years of age he was set upon and killed while awaiting some neophytes for confirmation. He is honoured as the Apostle of Germany.

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and **The Immaculate Heart of Mary** might be summarised in the following prayer: ***O Sacred Heart of Jesus, for whom it is impossible not to have compassion on the afflicted, have pity on us miserable sinners and grant us the grace which we ask of you, through the sorrowful and immaculate heart of Mary, your tender mother and ours.***

There is **NO MORNING MASS THIS FRIDAY** – Maureen Spencer's Requiem Mass is at **1.00pm**.

The final **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME** meeting is **this Thursday** at 6.00pm and the children will make their **FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS** at the 10.30am Mass **next Saturday**, 8th June. Please remember them and their families in your prayers.

In the **BOOKSHOP** there is new stock of cards and gifts for **FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS**.

SUMMER FAMILY FUNDAY at the Parish Hall on **Saturday 15th June** from 2.00 to 5.00pm. Free entry, free parking. Fun and games, bar and refreshments, inflatables, raffle, entertainment, market stalls, face painting and much more! We would be grateful for **HOMEMADE CAKES** and/or muffins for our cake stall – please add your name to the list at the back of church if you can help. Also, **RAFFLE TICKETS** will be on sale after Mass each weekend. Thank you in advance!!!

PLEASE PRAY for Maureen Spencer who has died, for those who are sick or housebound including Isaac Wilson, Fr Laurence Mayne and Bill Warbrick as well as for those who have died and whose anniversaries occur about this time.

DURING ORDINARY TIME (SUMMER) ie up to September, we are asked to pray for these intentions: A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews; Those Who Suffer Persecution, Oppression and Denial of Human Rights; Europe; Human Life; Seafarers.

100 CLUB: The winner for week 25 is number 46, Julie Grogan.

The **SPRING MISSIO RED BOX** collection amounted to £403.15. Many thanks to contributors, collectors and those who donate directly.

Bidding Prayers for the feast of Corpus Christi 1st – 2nd June 2024

Priest: Today we honour the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. May we all grow in appreciation of our Communion with Christ and with one another.

Reader: Let us pray for the children of our Parish who are preparing to celebrate their First Holy Communion. We pray also for older students involved in school and college exams. May they and their families know of your support and love. Lord in your mercy...

We pray that we remember those who cannot for any reason receive the sacrament of Christ's body and blood with us. Lord in your mercy...

We pray for those in our Parish who are sick and housebound, for those who care for them and for those who have passed to eternal rest. Lord in your mercy...

We especially pray for anybody who is too ill to come to Mass and for our Eucharistic Ministers who take the body of Christ to them. May they ensure that the parishioners they visit know that we care about them. Lord in your mercy...

Lord God, we pray for the innocent victims of wars currently raging; we pray that you relieve their sufferings and grant them a renewed faith in your protection and care. Lord in your mercy...

Our Lady is the Mother of the Church and shows her care for us all by her prayers. Let us join our prayers with Mary's as we say: Hail Mary...

In silence let us bring our own requests to God.

Priest: Loving Father, you give us lasting food for body and soul. Please answer our prayers as we celebrate this Eucharistic Feast. Amen

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Priest: As we thank God for the gift of his Son in Holy Communion, let us remember those of our Parish who are sick or housebound.

All: May the body and blood of your Son, which we now send to them through our Eucharistic Ministers, bring them consolation and peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord. Amen.