ST MARGARET'S PAGE

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI) - 11 June 2023 - Year A

In Peter writes:

This Sunday the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, a feast that originates from the Middle Ages when the Pope of the time in reaction to the doubts of a travelling priest in Bolsena, Italy, charged St Thomas Aquinas to create the prayers for the Feast along with some new texts for Eucharistic Adoration. These texts for Mass and Benediction would emphasise the real presence of Jesus in the consecrated host and have now become staples for Eucharistic worship. Bolsena today, is a small lakeside town about 100 miles north of Rome, and the chapel where the miracle took place has become a shrine. Last year, the walking group of priests which I lead in September stayed in the town and the shrine was the daily place where we said Mass each morning. That miracle was one for its time, in response to doubts about the real presence of Jesus in the bread and wine that becomes his body and blood. This has always been the constant tradition of the Church and had never been questioned before until new forms of philosophical thinking about logic came to question what 'real' meant if it could not be obvious to the eyes.

Though the Solemnity was instituted in reaction to doubts about the real presence, the use of the term 'substance' a philosophical term to describe the interiority of everything that exists. Transubstantiation described what happened when the interiority of something changes while the outward obvious appearance did not. The outward look, texture and taste of the bread and wine remain constant. This explanation of the change from bread to body and wine to blood involving ancient Greek philosophical terms and stretching them to the limit took reflection on the Eucharist in a particular direction.

Explaining the change in this way, using terms from philosophy generated further questions as when the change took place and how to ensure a valid change and thus morphing the use of reason into the act of faith engendered within the ritual of Mass. All those questions asked about when is the last permissible moment to come to Mass to ensure validity stem from this sort of thinking and lie at odds with seeing Mass as a complete ritual and primary location to encounter Jesus Christ, in the community, through the Scripture readings and in the Eucharist. The real presence of the Church found in its multitudinous communities, the real presence of Je-

sus Christ proclaimed through the readings situate the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Try as I might to explain that 'transubstantiation is not the faith of the Church but the best human explanation of what the Church believes on the command of Jesus Christ that 'This is my body; This is my blood', I most often fail.

Reasons for failure are probably many, but trying to explain something so fundamental is like trying to explain what I hope for in life. It is not that we do not know. It is just that our words dissolve into stammering. The task of any academic subject, whether English, history or theology is to try and establish some order in our thinking that can be shared with others. An essential task, but the more rarefied and rational the language, though it brings clarity to the eucharistic presence, it shrinks the depths of the original experience of the ritual of Mass. The Church needs philosophy and theology to explain how Jesus Christ is truly present, but any such explanations just seem to pale in front of the lines of parishioners coming up for communion, those kneeling in front of the Blessed Sacrament, and the logic of seeking forgiveness, listening to the Word of God, hearing it being broken open, offering gifts, taken through the eucharistic prayer, recognising our solidarity under the one Father, gathered together through His Son, the Lamb of God, receiving Christ then being sent into the world.

Plato famously wanted to ban the poets from his ideal city as they would only upset its citizens unduly with false hopes about the state in life and what they might legitimately hope. Those dangerous poets are like those unknown individuals who helped craft the prayers of the Mass and other sacraments, and gathered together to vocalise the drama of Mass. Every Sunday we are listening to prayers written at the dawn of the Church, and responding in words taken from the Bible and hallowed by years of use. Today Thomas Aquinas' great eucharistic hymns stimulate the imagination to see how the real presence of Jesus Christ might change my vision, change my ways and give me hope. The Church is the place for right thinking about the presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist but that same presence is also the place for imagination and hope, of what life might be in the presence of Jesus Christ.

Mass Intentions Sat 10 June – Sun 18 June

10/06 Sat 10.00 am | For you the people

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF

CHRIST

11/06	Sun	8.30 am	Maura Jane Even-	Gavin Even-
			huis RIP	huis
		10.30 am	Matthew Green RIP	Maggie Thom-
			& the Green family	son
		6.30 pm	Marta Phillips RIP	Una Byrne
12/06	Mon	10.00 am	Deceased members of St Margarets	
			Parish	
13/06	Tue	10.00 am	The families of St Margarets Parish	
14/06	Wed	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
15/06	Thu	10.00 am	Eucharistic Service	
16/06	Fri	10.00 am	Edward Winter RIP	Maz & Bernard
17/06	Sat	10.00 am	Missionary spirit of the Parish and	
			the Church	
18/06	Sun	8.30 am	For Cooper, Hobbs	Elizabeth Hobbs
			& Hornikova fami-	
			ly	
		10.30 am	In thanksgiving for	Gill Gould
			Gill Gould	
		6.30 pm	For you the people	

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Cathy McKendry, Rose Blackman, Rachel Rose, Arthur Mathewson, Pat Friel, Mary Regan, Pauline Slawson, Ben, Carol Samba, Colin Bartram, Gerry McEntee, Rose Williams, Peter Coughlan, Hilary Sudell, Rose Lorden, William Hamilton, Mary Arnold, Cesar Juan Urrutigoity, Mary Ethel Arnolda, Sydney Parkes, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Carmen Ruibal, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Tony Tucker, Dr Christopher Khoo, John Wood-Collins, Eleanor Drew, Jim Polland, Theresa Bulpitt, Sue Rolph & Dick Cotter.

Anniversaries - Richard Drew, Edward Winter, Bobby Deitz, Stephen Boland, Roma Hammerton, Evelyn Rowland, Frederick Balmer, Ethel Van Kuylenburg, Daniel Buckley, Dominic Seddon, Richard Doherty, Vincent McKeown, Dominic Bruce, Mary Bruce, John Anthony (Tony) Lopes, Mary Bailey, James Kearney, Cardinal Basil Hume, Mary O'Connor, Margaret Edwards

<u>Recently deceased</u> - Judith Thomas RIP. Maura Jane Evenhuis (Gavin Evenhuis' sister)

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the Mercy of God rest in peace.

Entrance Antiphon:

He fed them with the finest wheat.

and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

Response to the Psalm:

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!

Mass Times	(12/06—18/06)	
Weekend	Saturday	10.00 am
Mass	Sunday	8.30 am, 10.30 am
		& 6.30 pm
Weekday	Monday, Tuesday &	10.00 am
Mass	Friday	
Eucharistic	Wednesday & Thurs-	10.00 am
Service	day	
Confessions	Saturday	10:30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00–10.20am

Call out to be an Altar Server

Calling all young people who have made their First Com-

munion. They are now able to serve on the altar if they would like. 'In fact anyone of any age are welcome! Come and join the altar server training on Sat-



pm. If you would like to know more, please get in touch with Pat as below.

Pat Keane pat@hotmail.com

Judith Thomas RIP

A long term parishioner, Judith passed away on Sunday 21st May 2023.

Her funeral will be held at St Margarets on Tuesday, 20th June 2023 at 10.30 am followed by cremation at 12.00 noon at Mortlake Crematorium, Townmead Road,



Richmond TW9 4EN Committal.

Judith's family would like to invite all who knew her to join us at either or at both services.

Wearing black is optional - Judith loved colour Family flowers only please but there will be a collection for the Royal Marsden after the service.

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST - 11 JUNE 2023

Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16

Psalm 147

1 Corinthians 10:16-17

John 6:51-58

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18 JUNE 2023

Exodus 19:2-6

Psalm 99

Romans 5:6-11

Matthew 9:36

-10:8

Richmond Sunday lunch scheme

Our next Sunday lunch for those in need is on 25 June.

Can you spare some time to help us? We are on a rota with other Richmond churches, and



cater for around 20 guests each time.

We need help with:

- Welcome and chat
- Making a veg soup
- Cooking a main meal for 6-8 people (eg shepherds pie, pasta bake, lasagne (meat plus veg option)
- Making a desert
- Clearing and washing up.

Food is prepared off site and guidance will be given as needed.

Please join our easy signup sheet for any of our upcoming dates:

25th June 6th August 17th September 29th October 10th December

https://volunteersignup.org/

or feel free to call me on 07754 893 846 and I will add you to our group of amazing volunteers.

Thank you in advance for continuing to help make this happen.

Cath Brizzell (on behalf of Fr Peter & The Parish Pastoral Council)

Mob - 07754893846,

Email - Cathmcdee@yahoo.com



After 10.30 am Mass, 11 June, we will be showing the trailor for the film 'The Letter' which will show Pope Francis' Laudate Si, which is all about our role in caring for our planet.

Fr Peter will also give us a short chat on how our efforts could become an Eco Church.

We will be showing the whole film on Tuesday, 27th June at 7.00 pm with the opportunity to reflect and brainstorm on ideas on how our parish can help achieve a just transi-

tion to a low carbon world.

Please join us in the hall.



"ECO church is an interdenominational Christian environmental award for churches.



The awards work by completing

an online survey to gauge where our church is in: worship and teaching, building and land, how we engage with our local community and the personal lifestyles of our congregation."

We have decided to approach this by having a focal point each month:

May: Water Butt - already installed

June: Compost bins - reallocate the 5 old bins at the back of the church garden.

July: Recycling in hall

August: Change hall light bulbs for energy efficient units The following months' focal points will be decided shortly.

This is a great opportunity for our church community to become more environmentally involved. For instance by reduction of car use or reducing personal energy consumption.

We are also looking for people to become more involved by becoming a champion to lead one of the areas. Do contact the parish office if you would like to be more involved.



ST. MARGARET'S FAIR Saturday 8th July

The church has booked a stall at the above event. The main aim of the stall is to advertise our presence in the community.

We shall be selling religious items and bric-a-brac. If you can donate any unused religious items or bric-a-brac for sale at the stall, please contact the parish office or Jimmy Green.

We will need volunteers to erect and operate the stall.

If you can volunteer please give your name to the parish office or Jimmy Green on 07400 475 950.

It is also a day full of fun for the entire family, so join in for a fun day. Please find more details on the website of St Margarets Fair — www.stmargaretsfair.org Thankyou.



FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY - St Paul's Catholic College, which continues to develop with the support of our excellent staff and governors, and is in the top 10% of schools nationally, is currently looking to appoint a Foundation Governor to join our Governing Body. All applicants must be practising Catholics.

For further information with regard to this role, please contact our Clerk to the Governors, Jo Chappell, directly on 01932 704119 or email jchappell@st-pauls.surrey.sch.uk

Please note this position is not applicable to existing parents of St Paul's children.



Parish Quiz Night
Saturday 17th June 7:30
pm
Tickets at £15 per head
includes a fish & chips
supper



Tables of 8, or you

could join with another team. Please contact the parish office to be allocated to a team.

Interval raffle - with lovely prizes to be won. Tickets on sale after Mass or through the parish office.

Can you or your company help please?

St Richard Reynolds Catholic College needs some careers help with Year 12s in July.

Can your company/organisation host around **20 Year 12s (Lower 6th)** for an insight morning on **Tuesday July 4th**? We would need the company to present what they do, discuss what clients they work with and how they work and how the YR12's can differentiate themselves in the employment market in the future.If you can help please call Lucy Timms on 07913546129 or

email lucyntimms@gmail.com

St. Mary's University, Twickenham – Catholic Mission would like to invite you to a **benefit concert for Ukraine on 28th June 2023, 7:00pm** organised by the Religious of the Assumption sisters and Strawberry Hill Overseas and Community Concern. The event will feature young Ukrainian Musicians from the London Performing Academy of Music (LPMAM), violinist Marina Ravievska accompanied by Richard Black, singer Maryiana Bondar, and the Stefania dance ensemble. Please see the attached poster for details.

To register: https://estore.stmarys.ac.uk/product-catalogue/conferences-events/external-conferences/shocc-concert-for-ukraine-relief-28th-june-2023

To donate: https://www.justgiving.com/shocc