

From the parish priest's desk

The Feast of Corpus Christi was instituted in the fourteenth century by Pope Urban IV and the office for the feast was composed by St. Thomas Aquinas - it is one of the most beautiful. It gives us an occasion to celebrate this mystery when on Maundy Thursday during Holy Week we are preoccupied with the passion of Our Lord.

A few thoughts to help us meditate on this mystery:

- Jesus offers his body and blood—what does this mean? His body represents his whole complete self. In Hebrew it is more than just the physical body but the total person. His blood represents his life. Jesus thus offers everything to the Father. What does this mean for us? We must offer our body: our time, our resources, our leisure and all that we are. We must offer our blood: not just our life, but our illnesses, physical difficulties etc. Both must be done in union with Christ.

- At mass Jesus wants us to join in with his offering. It is a bit like an older brother buying a present for his parents and getting his younger siblings to sign the card. This is why the “Amen” at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer is so important. It is our pledge: we agree, we accept, we join with this mystery.

- What does our participation in receiving Our Lord's body and blood mean? Firstly, Jesus lived his life as a man, not as a mother or old person etc. But by communion with us, our eyes, body, minds, hands become his. He absorbs our life. Everything we have becomes his. Therefore, we know that everything we live through has already been lived and experienced by Christ. He truly knows our sufferings, our successes, our failures, our difficulties. What we have is more properly Jesus' than ours.

- Secondly, this sharing also happens the other way around. Through communion we participate in Jesus' life. His mysteries, his life—including his graces and virtues—becomes ours as well as his. What Jesus has is more properly our own than what we have. St. Bernard of Clairvaux and Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity both knew how important this “appropriation” is. We can claim for our own what is Jesus'.

- However, an important consequence of this is that through the grace received at communion, we try our best to live our lives in the way Jesus would choose to live in us.

- This is why St. Paul compares in Ephesians marriage to the mystery of the church and communion. In marriage the couple give themselves totally to the other and become one body. This deep, deep unity is still but a sign of the unity that occurs in communion. There is no deeper union possible or imaginable that the union between Christ and a person in Holy Communion. This is also why to receive communion whilst not in a state of grace is so deadly—it brings life not death. Likewise, to receive communion without thought or preparation is very unfitting.

- Lastly, this intimate union formed in Holy Communion must bear fruit in our lives. We must really desire to give ourselves over totally to the Lord so that no longer are two separate lives being lived but just one.



Sacred Heart, Skegness
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Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Spilsby

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Day	Date	Prayer Time	Place	Liturgical Calendar	Mass Intention
Sunday	6	9.00am 11.00am 3.00pm 4.00pm	SP SK Pol	Corpus Christi (Week 10) Benediction	Pro Populo NDL
Monday	7			Feria	NDL
Tuesday	8	12.00 noon	SP	Feria	NDL
Wednesday	9	10.00am	SK	Feria	NDL
Thursday	10	10.00am	SK	Adoration	NDL
Friday	11	11.00am 6.00pm	SK SK	Sacred Heart	NDL
Saturday	12	10.00am	SK	Immaculate Heart	NDL
Sunday	13	9.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	SP SK Pol	Eleventh Sunday	Pro populo NDL

SP = Spilsby SK = Skegness Pol = Polish Mass at Skegness

SUNDAYS YEAR B GOSPEL OF SAINT MARK WEEKDAYS: CYCLE 1

Prayers

Those who are sick: Ralph Booth; James Whittle

RIP Ann Collins

Mass Intentions: There have been many requests for mass intentions but except for those already agreed, Father needs to catch up on masses to be offered for the November Dead List.

PPC MEETING MONDAY 7TH JUNE 6.00PM CHURCH HALL

Bishop Patrick would like to hear from you! The Diocese of Nottingham has launched a short survey in order to deepen its understanding of Covid-19's impact on all Catholics across the diocese. Bishop Patrick is eager to know more about peoples' experiences of the pandemic, with a view to ensuring that the faithful are well supported and understood in the years ahead. Please visit WWW.dioceseofnottingham.uk/whats-on/news/share-your-story and fill out the short questionnaire. Please encourage other parishioners to do so. **The deadline for submissions is July 4th 2021**

Fr Brian Dazeley will be celebrating mass here at the Sacred Heart on the 11th June at 11.00am to celebrate his Diamond jubilee.

Change of Parish Priest:

Father Dominic as announced will be taking up a new assignment from the 21st June as Parish Priest at St. Mary's, Boston. There has been a parish priest appointed for this parish who will take up his position by the beginning of August.

During the interregnum:

From the 26th June inclusive the Spilsby mass will be a vigil mass at 4.00pm. Fr. John O'Donnell has kindly volunteered to supply.

From the 27th June the mass at the Sacred Heart will be at 11.30am and will be supplied by Fr. Dominic and Fr. Alex, who has kindly volunteered to help out.

NOTES ON LITURGY

For services at Spilsby: Please contact either: Mary Flynn 01790 754563 or Patrick Doyle 01507 481072

For Services at Skegness:

For Sunday and Wednesday Please contact Jacinta as follows: 01754 820644 email: jacintalewis21@aol.com

Pope Francis proclaims “Year of St Joseph”

With the Apostolic Letter “Patris corde” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” from today, 8 December 2020, to 8 December 2021.

CONFESSION and/or need to speak to Father

Please ring and book a time. Normally Father will be around in the church at the weekend times if you just simply want to catch him.

Prayer outside of normal times

Sometimes people will have an urgent need to visit the Church, light a candle and say a prayer. If this is the case again please give me a ring and it can be easily arranged. Even in lockdown, priests are available to help, absolve and fortify so please feel free to contact me.

A Couple of Reminders

If you have been to Church and subsequently contract the coronavirus could you please let myself or one of the stewards know so that we can notify the attendees.

The Sunday obligation by the authority of Bishop Patrick is still not in force which means you are not obliged to attend Sunday mass or an holiday of obligation.

If the priest is singing only the choir should make the responses and not the congregation.

Many thanks.