



CARDIFF CATHEDRAL † GADEIRIOL CAERDYDD

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Corpus Christi

14th June 2020

Year A

Psalter Week 3

The Feast of Corpus Christi: Origin and Significance

by Fr. Paul Irikefe

The feast spans centuries. It began in 1246 when the bishop of Liège, Belgium, Robert de Torote ordered its celebration in his diocese. This act in turn was inspired by the vision of St. Juliana, prioress of Mont Cornillon near Liège indicating that our Lord wanted this feast to celebrate his presence in the Eucharist. In 1264 pope Urban IV, who was originally from Liège and was present in the decision to make the feast a diocesan-wide celebration in the diocese of Liege, proclaimed it a universal feast of the church.

In the feast of Corpus Christi therefore we celebrate the real presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Not to mark other ways in which Christ is present as less real - such as his presence when the word of God is proclaimed in the church, his presence when two or three persons are gathered in his name and his presence in the sick, the suffering and the oppressed. On the contrary, as Pope Paul VI says in *Mysterium Fidei* (no. 39), the real presence is meant to show that in the Eucharist, Christ is present in a supreme way, whole and entire as God and man. This also makes the Eucharist a lovelier object of contemplation; holier than all the other sacraments. It is no wonder it is called the Most Holy Sacrament, the highest treasure of the church, and the source and summit of the Christian life.

The Eucharist is simply the perfection of Christian worship. For it not only marks the presence of Christ, his body and blood with his soul and divinity, it marks a memorial and a thanksgiving sacrifice.

Continued inside the newsletter...



e-Newsletter Signup

You can now signup to receive the Cathedral's *e-Newsletter*. Either scan the QR code adjacent, or visit the Cathedral website for the link.

SERVICES DURING THE WEEK

The Masses and other liturgies are now broadcast through the Cathedral website. The Cathedral Camera can be viewed via the website's main page.

Sunday <i>Corpus Christi</i>	11:00am	Sung Mass: the Cathedral Community
	12:00pm	Zoom Coffee Break (<i>login details in the newsletter</i>)
	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Devotions
	4:30pm	Sung Evening Prayer and Benediction
Monday	09:30am	Mass: Intentions of the Celebrant
	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Devotions
	5:00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday	09:30am	Mass: Donor's Intention (Ref. #CC-19)
	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Devotions
	5:00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Wednesday		
Thursday	09:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
	12:00pm	<i>Lectio Divina</i> via Zoom (<i>login details in the newsletter</i>)
	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Devotions
	<i>Eve:</i> 5:00pm	Sung Evening Prayer and Benediction <i>for the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests)</i>
Friday <i>Sacred Heart of Jesus</i>	10:00am	Sung Mass: Holy Souls Principal Celebrant: Archbishop George Stack
	3:00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Prayer During the Day <i>followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
	5:15pm	Sung Evening Prayer & Benediction
Saturday <i>Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>	09:30am	Mass: Holy Souls
	12:00pm	Family Rosary
	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Devotions
	5:00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Sunday <i>Corpus Christi</i>	11:00am	Sung Mass: the Cathedral Community
	12:00pm	Zoom Coffee Break (<i>login details in the newsletter</i>)
	3:00pm	Divine Mercy Devotions
	4:30pm	Sung Evening Prayer and Benediction

INFORMATION

Archbishop:

Most Rev. George
Stack

Priest-In-Charge:

Rev. Daniel
Stanton

Parish Safeguarding:

John Fellows
(029) 20 23 14 07

Hospital Chaplaincy:

If you, or a loved one, are admitted into hospital, please contact the hospital Chaplaincy team:

Contact - (029) 20 74 32 30

Chaplains:

Rev. Peter Davies
peter.davies4@wales.nhs.uk

Rev. David Pritchard
david.pritchard@wales.nhs.uk

Saints of the Week

This week we celebrate the following feast days and memorials:

Saturday, 20th June 2020, The Immaculate Heart of Mary

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary began as early as the twelfth century. During the seventeenth century in France, St John Eudes popularised this devotion along with that to the Sacred Heart. St Luke's Gospel twice mentions that Mary *'kept all these things in her heart'*, pondering the word of God. Mary shows us how to listen to the words the Holy Spirit

speaks to us in the depths of our hearts, and how to respond in faith.

The Feast of Corpus Christi: Origin and Significance, *continued...*

In plain terms, "eucharist", the consecrated species of bread and wine comes from the Greek word "eucharistia" meaning thanksgiving. In it and through it, the church offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God for his mighty works of creation, redemption, and sanctification. Also, through it, the church thanks God for all that is beautiful, good, and just in the world.

Additionally, the eucharist is also a Passover sacrifice of Christ. Like the Passover of Israel which re-presents the Exodus event, the Passover of Christ re-presents the sacrifice of the cross and applies its fruits. The sacrificial character of the Eucharist is manifested in the very words of institution: "This is my body which is given for you" and "This cup which is poured out for you is the New Covenant in my blood." Thus, in the Eucharist Christ gives us the very body which he gave up for us on the cross, the very blood which he "poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins" (Lk 22:19-20). The Catechism of the Catholic Church (no.1367) says: "The sacrifice of Christ and the sacrifice of the Eucharist are one single sacrifice: The victim is one and the same: the same now offers through the ministry of priests, who then offered himself on the cross; only the manner of offering is different. In this divine sacrifice, which is

celebrated in the Mass, the same Christ who offered himself once in a bloody manner on the altar of the cross is contained and is offered in an unbloody manner.”

Finally, the reality which this feast represents cannot be approached without faith. As St. Thomas Aquinas who composed the *Tantum ergo* that we use in the eucharistic adoration tells us, “faith would tell us that Christ is present even when our human senses fail.” This faith manifests itself not only when we receive him as communion but also when we make out time to visit him quietly in the church where he waits for us like a dear friend and an abiding companion.

Lectio Divina via Zoom

Lectio Divina, literally meaning ‘divine reading’ is an ancient practice of praying the scriptures. During *Lectio Divina*, the participant listens to a particular text of the Bible “*with the ear of the heart*”, as St. Benedict says, entering into the depths of an intimate conversation with God.

The virtual *Lectio Divina* Prayer Group continues via Zoom *each Thursday afternoon*, beginning at **12:00pm**. Last week was the first experience of it, and I think it was fruitful for all who participated. Each week we will pray with the Gospel for the following Sunday; a way of opening ourselves up to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and listening to the voice of the Lord

Speak directly to each one of us. You only need to bring yourselves; I will make the Gospel reading available.

To enter the Zoom meeting, the Meeting ID is **868 571 1627**, and the password is **cathedral**.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus

On Friday we celebrate the solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The solemnity is designated as *The Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests*.

The *Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests* is intended to foster opportunities for reflection and meditation on the priestly life and on the pastoral ministry which priests are called to carry out in a wide range of circumstances. This year, the celebration takes place with greater poignancy, as priests face new challenges to priestly life and ministry brought about through the Coronavirus pandemic.

There is extended time of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, with the opportunity to pray for the priests of our Archdiocese.

The *Day of Prayer begins* with Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at **3:00pm**, including Prayer During the Day from the Divine Office. Adoration will continue until 5:15pm, when the *Day of Prayer* will conclude with Solemn Evening Prayer and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

**The Sacred Heart of Jesus ~
Praying for our Priests**

During the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we will pray the Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus each day before the Blessed Sacrament during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Each week we will pray for the priests of a particular deanery, mentioning the priests by name. This will go as follows:

Monday, 15th June 2020
the Herefordshire Deanery

Monday, 22nd June 2020
the North Gwent Deanery

Monday, 29th June 2020
the Pontypridd Deanery
(Our Lady of Penrhys)

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This week, we pray for the priests of the Herefordshire deanery:

- Rev. Dom Andrew Berry, OSB
- Rev. Dom Michael Evans, OSB
- Rev. Dom Stephen Holdsworth, OSB
- Rev. Nicholas James
- Rev. Dom Patrick Lobo, OSB
- Rev. Dom Simon McGurk, OSB
- Rev. Paul Millar
- Rev. Dom Joseph Parkinson, OSB
- Rev. Dom Jonathan Rollinson, OSB
- Right Rev. Dom Paul Stonham, OSB
- Very Rev. Dom Brendan Thomas, OSB
- Rev. Adrian Wiltshire

***A Prayer to the
Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
for Priests***

O Almighty and Eternal God, look upon the Face of Thy Christ, and for love of Him Who is the eternal High-priest, have pity on Thy priests. Remember, O most compassionate God, that they are but weak and frail human beings. Stir up in them the grace of their vocation which is in them by the imposition of the Bishop's hands. Keep them close to Thee, lest the enemy prevail against them, so that they may never do anything in the slightest degree unworthy of their sublime vocation.

O Jesus, I pray Thee for Thy faithful and fervent priests; for Thy unfaithful and tepid priests; for Thy priests labouring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for Thy tempted priests; for Thy lonely and desolate priests; for Thy young priests; for Thy aged priests; for Thy sick priests; for Thy dying priests; for the souls of Thy priests in Purgatory.

But above all I commend to Thee the priests dearest to me: the priest who baptised me; the priests at whose Masses I assisted and who gave me Thy Body and Blood in Holy Communion; the priests who taught and instructed or helped me and encouraged me; all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way, particularly (your priest's name here). O Jesus, keep them all close to Thy heart, and bless them abundantly in time and in eternity. Amen. Mary,

Queen of the clergy, pray for us; obtain for us many and holy priests. Amen.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary ~ *The Family Rosary*

On Saturday we celebrate the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Our Blessed Lady teaches us how to listen to the promptings of the Holy Spirit speak directly to us.

On *Saturday at 12:00pm*, we will pray the Holy Rosary together, ‘pondering in our hearts’ those special intentions which we hold dear at this time.

Mass Intentions

It is an ancient tradition to have a Mass celebrated for our deceased relatives or friends, for someone who is sick, or in gratitude for help received. It is usual in requesting such a Mass to give a stipend (donation); this goes directly for the support of the priest who celebrates the requested Mass. If you wish to have a Mass dedicated, there are Mass offering envelopes available at the back of the Cathedral, where you can note down the intention and also any preferred date you may wish to have this Mass celebrated.

Since the lockdown, very few Mass intentions have come in, and I have very few intentions. This week I will be asking the diocese for any spare Mass intentions available.

If you would like to have a Mass offered, please visit the Cathedral

website which has more information. Visit - <https://www.cardiffcathedral.org.uk/requesting-a-mass/>

If you are requesting a Mass to be celebrated for a loved one, please indicate their name clearly in the comment section.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

If you require the assistance of the Cathedral’s SVP group, please contact Kevin directly on this designated phone number - **07933 720 845**.

Cathedral Zoom Coffee Break

The regular Zoom Coffee Breaks continue each Sunday after Mass, *beginning at 12:00pm*.

All you have to do is to sign-up to the website zoom.us to join in the coffee break, and then, after Mass, make yourself a cup of tea or coffee, log in to zoom.us, and use the meeting ID: **868-571-1627**. The password to enter the meeting is ‘**cathedral**’.

Reopening Our Cathedral

I mentioned in the newsletter last week some information about the phased reopening of the Cathedral. When the announcement comes from the Welsh Government, the first phase of the reopening of churches and places of worship would be based on a traffic light system. In the initial re-opening phase, the light would be at *red*. This means that there would be controlled entry of individuals into our churches for private prayer, subject to the implementation of the Health and Safety regulations being in place.

In anticipation of any announcement about the reopening of places of worship for private prayer here in Wales, lots of work has already begun behind the scenes at the Cathedral, from the initial risk assessments, to putting things in place to facilitate the opening of the Cathedral. The initial reopening of the Cathedral won't be anything like 'normal'. This will take time.

In order for the Cathedral to be able to be opened, I am looking for a team of volunteer stewards to ensure the safety of the individuals entering the Cathedral to pray. Here at the Cathedral, I am looking for at least three volunteers per shift. As per the guidelines issued, the volunteers cannot be over the age of seventy, or be in a vulnerable category. Without volunteers, the Cathedral will be unable to open its doors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the two

people who have come forward in the past week.

If you are able to volunteer as a steward at the Cathedral, I would be grateful if you could contact me at Clergy House either by phone or email. For more information, please visit - <https://www.cardiffcathedral.org.uk/volunteering/>

Lauda, Zion

*The Sequence for
the Solemnity of Corpus Christi*

Sing forth, O Zion, sweetly sing
The praises of thy Shepherd-King,
In hymns and canticles divine;
Dare all thou canst, thou hast no song
Worthy his praises to prolong,
So far surpassing powers like thine.

Today no theme of common praise
Forms the sweet burden of thy lays –
The living, life-dispensing food –
That food which at the sacred board
Unto the brethren twelve our Lord
His parting legacy bestowed.

Then be the anthem clear and strong,
Thy fullest note, thy sweetest song,
The very music of the breast:
For now shines forth the day sublime
That brings remembrance of the time
When Jesus first his table blessed.

Within our new King's banquet-hall
They meet to keep the festival
That closed the ancient paschal rite:
The old is by the new replaced;
The substance hath the shadow chased;
And rising day dispels the night.

Christ willed what he himself had done
Should be renewed while time should run,
In memory of his parting hour:
Thus, tutored in his school divine,
We consecrate the bread and wine;
And lo – a Host of saving power.

This faith to Christian men is given –
Bread is made flesh by words from
heaven:
Into his blood the wine is turned:
What though it baffles nature's powers
Of sense and sight? This faith of ours
Proves more than nature e'er discerned.

Concealed beneath the two-fold sign,
Meet symbols of the gifts divine,

There lie the mysteries adored:
The living body is our food;
Our drink the ever-precious blood;
In each, one undivided Lord.

Not he that eateth it divides
The sacred food, which whole abides
Unbroken still, nor knows decay;
Be one, or be a thousand fed,
They eat alike that living bread
Which, still received, ne'er wastes away.

The good, the guilty share therein,
With sure increase of grace or sin,
The ghostly life, or ghostly death:
Death to the guilty; to the good
Immortal life. See how one food
Man's joy or woe accomplisheth.

We break the Sacrament, but bold
And firm thy faith shall keep its hold,
Deem not the whole doth more enfold
Than in the fractured part resides
Deem not that Christ doth broken lie,
'Tis but the sign that meets the eye,
The hidden deep reality
In all its fullness still abides.

Behold the bread of angels, sent
For pilgrims in their banishment,
The bread for God's true children meant,
That may not unto dogs be given:
Oft in the olden types foreshowed;
In Isaac on the altar bowed,
And in the ancient paschal food,
And in the manna sent from heaven.

Come then, good shepherd, bread divine,
Still show to us thy mercy sign;
Oh, feed us still, still keep us thine;
So may we see thy glories shine
In fields of immortality;

O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best,
Our present food, our future rest,
Come, make us each thy chosen guest,
Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest
With saints whose dwelling is with thee.
Amen. Alleluia.