

ALL SAINTS CHURCH BOYNE HILL MAIDENHEAD

PARISH NEWS

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CORPUS CHRISTI

Thanksgiving for Holy Communion

Dear Parishioners and Friends of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

These weeks following the celebration of Easter are a particularly rich part of the Church Year. We have celebrated the Ascension of Christ, the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, then last Sunday, Trinity Sunday, we celebrated the nature of God himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Now this coming Sunday we offer up our thanks to God for the gift of Christ's presence with us in Holy Communion (Eucharist, Mass, Lord's Supper). And Holy Communion is a gift to us – it has its origins in the words of Christ himself "on the night before he died" when, as he broke bread and shared wine, he said to his disciples (and through them, to us) "do this in remembrance of me". St Luke tells us in the Acts of the Apostles (2:42) that even on the day of Pentecost the believers "held to the Apostles teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers." And so it has been for over 2,000 years.

The Anglican Monk and liturgical scholar Gregory Dix lived just down the road from us at Nashdom Abbey in Bucks. Whilst there in the 1940's, he wrote an important study of the origins and history of the Eucharist. In it he wrote:

"Was ever another command so obeyed? For century after century, spreading across every continent and country, and among every race on earth, this action [Holy Communion] has been done, in every conceivable human circumstance, for every conceivable human need from infancy and before it to extreme old age and after it....And best of all, week by week and month by month, on a hundred thousand successive Sundays, faithfully, unfailingly, across all the parishes of Christendom, the pastors have done this just to *make the plebs sancta Dei* – the holy common people of God."

So when we come to the Eucharist we are taking our place amongst God's People, obeying Our Lord's command, and participating in the purest form of worship of Almighty God. It is Christ's gift to His Church – to us – His very life and being presented to us in the form of bread and wine for us to take into our hearts and minds. And it is transformative – as we participate in it together week by week, devotedly and lovingly approaching God and seeking his grace, then as Gregory Dix wrote it “makes us the Holy People of God”. Note “us” and “people” – this is not just an individual, personal activity. Although through it Christ does change and mould us as individuals, its fullest purpose is to build the People of God, the Body of Christ. Note again the words from the Acts of the Apostles - the believers “held to the Apostles teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.”

In other words, Eucharist, Holy Communion, belongs within the fellowship and communal life of the Church, it builds that communion, and it empowers us to be the Church, the People of God in this place.

So much to give thanks for – and so much to think about, reflect upon and celebrate in our Eucharist on Sunday as we explore together some of the depths of understanding and grace within the Eucharist, Mass or Holy Communion. It matters less what we call it – it matters much more that we do it, that we do it together, and that we do it often. Just as the earliest believers did.

***With my love and prayers,
Fr John.***

RESOURCES THIS WEEK

From last Sunday we have begun to offer the Chalice alongside the consecrated bread, for those who would like to receive communion in both kinds. This is entirely optional and don't feel obliged to receive the wine; as is now well known, taking the bread only is a full participation in Holy Communion. We are also now resuming the pew collection of money at the Offertory for you to contribute to the work of the church at All Saints, though we do recognise that many will already be contributing financially directly from their bank account.

Thursday 16 June	9.15am Morning Prayer 11.30am Marriage of Nick Macchia & Riz Diwata in Church <i>3.00pm Open the Book at All Saints School</i> 8.00pm Choir Practice in the Church
Friday 17	9.15am Morning Prayer 10.00am Tiny Saints in the Parish Centre
Saturday 18	12.30pm Marriage of Matthew Pearce and Emily Owen in Church
Sunday 19	10.00am The Parish Eucharist for Corpus Christi Celebrant & Preacher: Fr John 7.00pm Renaissance Voices Concert in Church
Wednesday 22	10.00am Eucharist Celebrant: Fr John

PRAYER INTENTIONS

We give thanks and praise to God for the gift of Holy Communion. We pray that we would be obedient to Our Lord's command to "do this in remembrance of me" and would make coming to the Eucharist a priority in our lives.

We pray for those not able to be with us in Church Sunday by Sunday, and who receive communion from us in their own homes or in care homes. We pray especially for residents and staff of Normanhurst and Larchfield Care Homes, who will be visited by clergy and lay people this week for worship and communion.

We remember with thanks all those who contribute to our worship in Church in whatever way – those who serve by welcoming us into church; those who contribute to our music or who serve at the altar; those who clean the church and decorate it so beautifully with flowers, and those who generously sponsor our flowers in church; those who read and lead our intercessions; those who prepare and serve refreshments afterwards; and our churchwardens and Deputy Churchwarden who oversee it all.

We pray for the couples being married this week in our churches – for Nick and Riz, and for Matthew and Emily.

We continue to pray for peace with justice in all places of conflict or oppression, including the Ukraine, Sudan, Afghanistan, Libya and the Middle East, and we pray for those who have been made homeless or otherwise have become refugees as a result of warfare or terror. We pray for the international community, and especially our own Government, that they would find compassionate and generous ways of bringing peace, safety and well-being to refugees across the world.

In our own country, we pray for all in authority, that this country would be served by leaders of integrity and compassion and that the needs of the poor, the marginalised and the disadvantaged would be protected. We pray for all organisations serving our local community, especially Maidenhead Foodshare, People to Places, and Street Angels.

Among those who have asked for our prayers, we pray for Suzette, Danielle, Fr John Chadwick, Dave Hill, Eliza, Dave's parents and Anne and Chris, Paul Latham, Doris Winn, Mikhail, John Hicks, Roger and Jane Baldery, Birmta Zadinane, Kirsty Banner, Carol Atkin, Harrison Hawkes, Heidi Webb, Florence Harrison, Rene Wilson and Roderick Maclennan.

May they know God's loving and healing presence. We pray for any in our parish who need God's loving grace and healing touch at this time.

We remember the recently departed including David Buckland, Maureen McTavish and Doreen Hill and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 19 JUNE CORPUS CHRISTI

COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament you have given us the memorial of your passion: grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood that we may know within ourselves and show forth in our lives the fruits of your redemption; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 11: 23 - 26

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

GOSPEL John 6: 51 - 58

Jesus said to the Jews: 'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.' The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

MUSIC

Prelude: Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele BWV 654 *J S Bach*

Opening Hymn: AM 291 (Pt 2, 3 & Dox) Christ is made the sure foundation

Gradual: AM 464 Sweet Sacrament divine

Offertory: AM 460 O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray

Communion: AM 452 Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Closing Hymn: AM 421 All for Jesus, all for Jesus

Postlude: Prelude on Bryn Calfaria *R Vaughan Williams*

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR POST

All Saints has a vacancy for an Assistant to the Parish Administrator; full details attached with the covering email and also on the Church website.

SUNDAYS AT 4

Please note the next Sundays at 4 service in the Quadrangle with barbecue following will now be on 3rd July, not 26th June as previously advertised.

RENAISSANCE VOICES

Madrigals for Summer – A selection of English and Italian madrigals for voice and recorder – performed by Renaissance Voices and Turpins Consort. This concert will be held in church on Sunday 19th June at 7pm. Tickets £15, including refreshments, available from rvmailings@btinternet.com or call 01628 624429

YOGA

Hatha Yoga Course for Beginners – every Wednesday in the Parish Centre, 9-10am. Please contact Kate Horsburgh for details – caramayawellbeing@gmail.com or tel: 07508 066749.

TAI CHI

Coming soon – Tai Chi for Seniors, Parish Centre, Wednesdays 10.45-11.45am - details to follow.

AND FINALLY, CONGRATULATIONS

To Ken on the birth of his great-granddaughter, Nina Octavia, born on 11th June to Joana and Tom, weighing in at 7lbs 3ozs.

FOODSHARE

In these hard times Foodshare are more in need of our help than ever. Each week in the Maidenhead Advertiser there is a list of items most wanted.