

SUNDAY BULLETIN

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST, JUNE 14TH, 2020

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN BURSLEM & TUNSTALL,	MASS TIMES	Sacred Heart	Saint Joseph's	Mass Intention
	The Sacred Heart Tunstall Queens Avenue ST6 6EE thesacredhearttunstall@gmail.com www.thesacredhearttunstall.org.uk	Saturday June 13 th <i>Feria</i>		
Saint Joseph's Burslem Hall Street ST6 4BB stjosephburslem@gmail.com www.stjosephsburslem.org.uk	THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST			Mass in Private People of the Parish
Fr. Stanislaus Chukwube, CSSp. Parish Priest parishpriestsht@gmail.com	Monday 15 th <i>Feria</i>			Mass in Private Fr Bernard Amah RIP
<i>Parish Secretariat:</i> Carol Critchlow Office hours: Wed, Thurs and the Fri 10 am to 2pm 13 Queen's Avenue Tunstall ST6 6EE 01782 838357	Tuesday 16 th <i>Feria</i>			Mass in Private Fr Bernard Amah RIP
	Wednesday 17 th <i>Feria</i>			Mass in Private Anne Platt RIP
	Thursday 18 th <i>Dedication of the Cathedral, Feast</i>			Mass in Private End to racial Discrimination
	Friday 19 th THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS, SOLEMNITY	Private Prayers 11am to 1pm		Mass in Private Intentions of Our Parish
<i>Safeguarding:</i> Mrs May Algar 07817212552 Mrs Ellen Churchill 07859916416	Saturday 20 th <i>Immaculate Heart of Mary, Memorial</i>			Mass in Private Intentions of Richard Lusher
	TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Private Prayers 11am-1pm		Mass in Private Anne Platt RIP

REOPENING OF CHURCHES FOR INDIVIDUAL PRAYER

Beginning this week The Sacred Heart Church will be open for Individual Prayer (Friday 19th June 11am -1pm, from Sunday 21st June, every Wednesday and Sunday 11am to 1pm), St Joseph's Church will follow at a later date. By individual prayer is meant "a person or household entering the venue to pray on their own and not as part of a group, led prayer or communal act." Some dedicated parishioners have worked very hard in the past few days to clean up the church and put up markings and signs following the recommended safety measures by the Government and the Archdiocese. Those who come to the church for private prayers have to sanitise their hands at the entry and exit points in the church. Avoid touching or physically venerating the statues or relics. The seating capacity of the church for now is limited to about 25% as you observe the appropriate social distancing (2 meters) following the markings on the pews and as the parishioner on duty directs. The elderly and people with cold or flu-like symptoms are advised not to enter the church.

THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS, TUNSTALL. 90th ANNIVERSARY – JUNE 2020

Last year, we started to make plans to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of our parish church of the Sacred Heart, which occurs this month. Friday the 27th of June 1930 was the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, when a Concelebrated Mass was held to mark the official opening of our parish church.

As it is a moveable feast, occurring nineteen days after Pentecost, the Feast of the Sacred Heart this year falls on 19th June 2020, and this is when we had planned to hold our celebratory Mass.

However, at the time, we had no idea that, by this date, the whole world would be in lockdown after the emergence of the deadly Corona Virus. And so, our plans had to be abandoned, and the Mass postponed to a later date when, hopefully, the world returns to a sense of normality.

The parish has an extensive archive collection which we had hoped to display in the church over the coming months. To enable this to take place, a parishioner with links to a local business generously provided us with four large display boards which were placed in situ around the church. As soon as we are able to gain access to our church again, we will begin to fill the boards to provide the history of our church for all to see and enjoy.

In the meantime, we are providing a separate sheet with the Bulletin for the next two weeks outlining the history of our parish from its creation in 1853, which we hope you will enjoy. If anyone comes across any memorabilia relating to our church which we can add to our archive please contact the parish office, Father Stan, or Don Henshall.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE

SOULS of Margaret Murinas, Marion Ruth Pittaway, Ann Platt and all those whose anniversary occur at this time. May they rest in perfect peace.

BAPTISM AND MARRIAGE

For all enquiries for Catholic Marriage and Baptism, kindly contact the Parish Priest at the parish office.

PRAYER A DAY FOR VOCATIONS

Please email or Facebook Carol to choose a day in June to pray for vocations during the month on behalf of the parish.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE. The Way of the Heart:

We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

SACRED HEART CHURCH, TUNSTALL @ 90 A CALL FOR NOVENA PRAYER

The celebration of the anniversary of any Church building is always a moment of grace. We not only thank God for the gift of faith in our locality, but we call to mind the wondrous blessings that has come to us through this sacred building. We are, therefore, invited to join from our homes the 9 days Novena to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus beginning from Thursday, June 11, 2020. Novena Prayer to the Sacred Heart can be found in any regular Catholic prayer book. We can also assist from the parish office.

Those who have access to the internet can also join the online Annual Novena to the Sacred Heart at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart at Maryvale Institute. There will be a Mass, Sermon and Novena live streamed from Maryvale each evening at 8pm from Thursday 11 June to Friday 19 June 2020 (Feast of the Sacred Heart).

Full details, and how to access each event, are available on the Diocesan website:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/join-online-maryvale-sacred-heart-novena> and Maryvale Institute website: <https://www.maryvale.ac.uk/novena-2020.html>

The Church of the Sacred Heart

Queen's Avenue, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4EE

On Friday 19th June 2020

The Feast of The Sacred Heart Of Jesus

our church celebrates
the 90th Anniversary of its opening.

Beginning on Thursday 11th June,
in our own homes, we can recite

A Novena of Prayer
and, whilst

following strict Government & Diocesan guidelines,

there will be private

Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

in church, between

11.00am and 1.00pm on Friday 19th June



THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

(Deuteronomy 8: 2-3, 14-16; 1 Corinthians 10: 16-17; John 6: 51-58)

Today we celebrate the great feast of Corpus Christi, the Body and Blood of Christ. It was introduced into the church calendar in 1264 by Pope Urban IV. It became a very popular feast because of its central place in Catholic spirituality. It was usually celebrated on Thursday after Trinity Sunday, but moved to this Sunday to afford more people the opportunity to celebrate it. In some countries, it is still accompanied by Eucharistic procession and benediction through some major designated roads in the community.

Why do we need a feast of the Eucharist? A feast like this gives us the opportunity to give God collective thanks for Christ's abiding presence with us in the Eucharist. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the Body and Blood of Christ and to order our attitude towards it accordingly.

To understand this sacrament, we need to ask why Jesus gave it to us in the first place. Jesus promised to be with us until the end of time (Matt 28:20). In the Eucharist he provides a visible sign of his presence to us and us being present to him. In the Holy Eucharist Jesus is really and truly present, we call it 'Real Presence' rather than symbolic presence. His presence is a sign of love and accompaniment of his beloved followers, and calls for adoration.

Jesus also gives us himself as food to sanctify and strengthen us. He says, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me and I in them" (John 20:20). In the Eucharist Jesus provides a visible means of communicating his life to us. As Jesus said, "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" (John 6:53).

The Jews that Jesus was addressing in our Gospel reading from John 6 had gathered to ask him for more bread. Jesus promised to give them the sacramental bread and blood instead. But in their worldly frame of mind they could not understand. They disputed among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus affirmed that "My flesh is true food and my blood is true drink" (v. 55). They ended up distancing themselves from the Eucharist.

The same problem that these early would-be followers of Jesus had is still with us today. If we approach the Eucharist with a materialistic mentality we fail to understand and so lose the benefits of such a wonderful gift of God's love. The Eucharist is true food and drink but at the same time it is very different from every other food and drink. The great difference lies in these words of Christ which St Augustine heard in prayer, "You will not change me into yourself as you would food of your flesh; but you will be changed into me." We transform ordinary food into our own bodies but the food of the Eucharist transforms us into the body of Christ. The more we eat the bread of the Holy Eucharist, the more we should be like Christ. It is food for every Christian who seeks closer union with Jesus. We need it today more than ever.

St. Paul says that the Holy Eucharist is a communion in the body and blood of Christ. That we eat from one bread and drink from one cup should make us one. If the Holy Communion we receive do not change us, the problem is not with the Eucharist but with our weak faith.

Let us today approach the Eucharist with faith in the real presence of Jesus and we shall experience therein God's saving power and transforming love. By receiving the Eucharist may we be transformed in body and soul, through the same Christ our Lord.