



Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Holy Trinity is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust

Sunday 11 August 2024 – Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Year B

Dear Parishioners

We continue in the Sixth chapter of St John's Gospel and again it is food on the Menu! A fortnight ago, Jesus fed the 5,000 in what the Gospel writer calls a "sign", but the deep significance of this miracle has clearly gone unnoticed by the crowds. Last week Jesus spoke the first of the "I am" sayings..."I am the Bread of Life." This clear self-identification with the Divine did not pass without comment, however, and this week the people are openly "murmuring" about what Jesus is saying He is. The Greek verb used to describe this is the same as in the Septuagint (Greek) Old Testament when the people of Israel "murmured" against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness...and that was about food too!

Jesus is very clear this week: "I am the living Bread which has come down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever. And the Bread I will give is my flesh for the life of the world." This was too much for some of the crowds and they began to fall away, appalled at these sayings. It has proved too much for many over the centuries but the plain meaning of the Scripture cannot be doubted. Jesus gives us Himself as the Bread of Life, the only truly satisfying nourishment for our souls, the eternal element of our being. Yes, we need food for the body and the mind, but the soul requires regular and life-giving sustenance if it is to remain healthy and strong. In the Holy Eucharist the Bread of Life is given in a supreme act of self-sacrifice as we recall His Death, Resurrection and Ascension.

This is why the Holy Mass is so important to Catholics and why in these two parishes there is a Mass offered every day of the week. Our forefathers and mothers died for the Mass in this country, remaining faithful "usque ad Mortem"...even unto death.. to obey Jesus's command to "do this in memory of me".

God bless everyone and please keep praying for the sick and struggling. Father Clive

Parish Notices

Two good and faithful Catholic men who served their families and Church throughout their lives, Thomas Cantwell and Gerard Frost, have Requiem Masses next week. Eternal rest grant to them O Lord and let perpetual Light shine upon them. May they rest in Peace. Amen.

Next week Masses – Monday 9:15, Tuesday Requiem Mass for Thomas Cantwell 11.30 am in Holy Trinity. He will be lying in church from 5pm Monday. Thursday is The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy day of Obligation. Mass at Holy Trinity 9.15am and St Teresa's 7pm. Rosary for Peace on Friday at 9.15am in Holy Trinity.

A week Monday (19th) at 1.30 pm in St Teresa's, there will be a Requiem for Gerard Frost.

On Wednesday 14 August there is another Day for Life. Please pray for the protection of the unborn and the support of mothers.

Activities such as Catechism/Children's Liturgy etc are on hold through August with so many people away, coming and going. A huge thank you to all Father Clive's helpers. We will start up in September once we are all back on board.

In August we pray with Pope Francis for Political Leaders: We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

Please continue to pray for our sick, housebound and frail parishioners of both our Parishes.

Please also pray for all who can no longer be with us at the Lord's Table: Lynette, Gerard, Paula, Serita, Catherine, Richard, Tom, Mary, Carol, Betty, Audrey and Peggy.

In addition to your own daily prayers please remember: All those who mourn the loss of loved ones: The repose of the souls of those who have died: People whose anniversaries occur at this time: The people of the Middle East, Morocco, Ukraine, Turkey and Syria.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Tammy Lawson**. Alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.