

## *St Michael and All Angels Catholic Church*

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### **Newsletter for the week beginning Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June** **Corpus Christi, The Body and Blood of Christ**

This weekend we celebrate the great feast of the **Body and Blood of Christ, *Corpus Christi***. Bishop Robert Barron gives wonderful teaching on the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

This is available on this YouTube link:

[The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist Bishop Barron at 2020 Religious Education Congress - YouTube](#)

Whether you made your First Holy Communion decades ago, or are a parent or prayer partner of one of our children receiving Jesus in Communion for the first time in these coming weeks, this teaching is a wonderful affirmation of our faith.



**Photomontage: Marie Cooper**

*Tantum ergo Sacramentum  
Veneremur cernui:  
Et antiquum documentum  
Novo cedat ritui:  
Praestet fides supplementum  
Sensuum defectui.  
Genitori, Genitoque  
Laus et jubilatio,  
Salus, honor, virtus quoque  
Sit et benedictio:  
Procedenti ab utroque  
Compar sit laudatio. Amen.*

Down in adoration falling,  
Lo! the sacred Host we hail,  
Lo! o'er ancient forms departing  
Newer rites of grace prevail;  
Faith for all defects supplying,  
Where the feeble senses fail.  
To the everlasting Father,  
And the Son Who reigns on high  
With the Holy Spirit proceeding  
Forth from each eternally,  
Be salvation, honour blessing,  
Might and endless majesty. Amen.

**Prayer of the Church: Week 2**

**Our Liturgies this week**

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> June, St Boniface**

10 am Mass for the intentions of the Parish

6 pm Mass Bernard Hadley RIP at the request of Paul & Debra Concannon and Margaret Judge and Philomena McEntee RIP at the request of Alice Judge

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June, *Corpus Christi*, The Body and Blood of Christ**

10 am Mass for the people of the Parish

11.30 am Mass for world peace *The additional 11.30 am Mass continues until a review late in July.*

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June, Feria**

10 am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion, led by Deacon Nick O'Neill

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June, Feria**

10 am Mass Sarah and Zack (request of Eileen Brawn)

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June, Feria**

10 am Mass Di Legg (Request of Judy Stringer)

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June, Feria**

10 am Mass for the intentions of the housebound

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June, The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

10 am Mass Sr Anne Kavanagh FMDM RIP

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June, The Immaculate Heart of Mary**

**9.30 am** Mass with First Holy Communion for Victoria, Natalia and Iga

**11 am** Nuptial Mass for the wedding of Megan Watkins and Richard Adams

6 pm Mass for the intentions of the Parish

**13<sup>th</sup> June, Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time**

10 am Mass Ann Varghese RIP (family request)

11.30 am Mass Lewis Parkin RIP (priest's intention)

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available during the half hour before Mass.

We livestream on Facebook and our website.

<http://www.stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk/>  <http://www.stmichaelsleighpark.org.uk/>

Thank you for helping us all by adhering to the requirements to wear a face-covering, to use sanitiser & to sit where our stewards & the seat signs indicate.

**Please pray** for all those who are sick, bereft or in any particular need.

**First Holy Communion** Twenty nine children receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time at many Masses during these weeks. Please pray for them and for their families.

**CAFOD**

Maureen Thompson has arranged a Zoom meeting with local MPs about the world's poorest people, the climate crisis & unjust debts on 24<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30 pm. Maureen hopes that many parishioners will join the meeting. Please let Philip know if you can attend: [philiphayllar@hotmail.com](mailto:philiphayllar@hotmail.com)

**A Prayer for Vocations**

*Lord Jesus, you called chosen men to be with you;  
to preach the good news of salvation and to have authority over the powers of darkness.  
Send your Holy Spirit upon the men you have chosen for the priestly ministry.  
May they answer your call and follow you with generous hearts. Amen.*

### First reading Exodus 24:3-8

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

### Psalm 115(116):12-13,15-18

*The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name.*

How can I repay the Lord  
for his goodness to me?  
The cup of salvation I will raise;  
I will call on the Lord's name.

*The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name.*

O precious in the eyes of the Lord  
is the death of his faithful.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds.

*The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name.*

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;  
I will call on the Lord's name.  
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people.

*The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name.*

### Second reading Hebrews 9:11-15

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than the one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God. He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

### Sequence

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.

**Gospel Acclamation** Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

## Gospel Mark 14:12-16, 22-26



*The Last Supper, Frans Pourbus, the younger, 1618*

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover. And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.' After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

### **The Year of the Eucharist**

Bishop Philip has written a Pastoral Letter for us this weekend celebrating the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. You will find a copy with this newsletter. Audio and Video links will also be available.

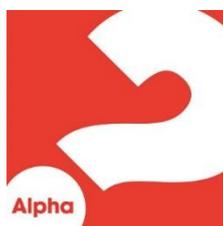
### **First Holy Communion**

This weekend here at St Michael's we begin weeks of celebrating First Holy Communion, the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, with twenty-nine children who have been preparing for the past six months. Many of them made their First Confession during the half-term break. Please pray for them and their families. It is good for all of us to try to recapture something of the eagerness and excitement which we ourselves felt when we were waiting for our own First Holy Communion! Please also pray for those people who still endure a Eucharistic Fast, for all sorts of reasons, including persecution in some parts of the world, health problems, lockdowns or psychological or spiritual reasons.

**Refugee Week** is coming, and there all kinds of ways children and young people can take part from 14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> June. We're delighted to share with you the new **Refugee Week Children + Young People's Pack** for 2021, full of ideas and resources to help young people of all ages understand what it means to be a refugee, and inspire them to help build a more welcoming world. The resources are produced by a range of different organisations and include films, books, learning packs and creative activities. **For teachers** – whether you're looking for a short activity, lesson plan, material for assemblies or inspiration for an ongoing project, we hope you'll find something to suit your classroom. **For families** – pick an activity to explore with children at home, or share the pack with their school and invite them to take part in Refugee Week. Thousands of young people take part in Refugee Week every year – and it wouldn't happen without you. Thank you!

[Explore the pack](#)

### **Covid: If God exists, why...?**



Has the Covid crisis shaken your faith in God? Has it made you wish you had a faith? Has it made you think deeply about what really matters in life? Has it made you ask, "Is it all worth it?" We are pleased to offer Online Alpha to those curious about God, Jesus Christ and His message to all of the Good News. To anyone feeling "There must be more to life than this," or for renewal of your Faith, we start on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 7.45 pm to 9.15 pm**, for 11 weeks. All the elements of Alpha from the comfort of your own home! So, if you wish to join us email: [alphawaterlooville@gmail.com](mailto:alphawaterlooville@gmail.com) or call and we will take your details or leave a message to contact you on 07948 205237.

**CAF+D**

Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

Maureen Thompson has arranged a Zoom meeting with one of our local MPs about the world's poorest people, the climate crisis & unjust debts on 24<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30 pm. Maureen hopes that many parishioners will join the meeting. Please let Philip Hayllar know if you can attend: [philiphayllar@hotmail.com](mailto:philiphayllar@hotmail.com)

### **Another thought from Pope Francis in *Gaudete et Exsultate***

*The presence of constantly new gadgets, the excitement of travel and an endless array of consumer goods at times leave no room for God's voice to be heard. We are overwhelmed by words, by superficial pleasures and by an increasing din, filled not by joy but rather by the discontent of those whose lives have lost meaning. How can we fail to realize the need to stop this rat race and to recover the personal space needed to carry on a heartfelt dialogue with God? Finding that space may prove painful but it is always fruitful. Sooner or later, we have to face our true selves and let the Lord enter. #29*

***Deacon Nick O'Neill***, our Deacon and Senior Area Port Chaplain, South of England and Wales for Stella Maris shares news of recent events at sea...

A foreign man arrives in the UK. He is bundled into some transportation and taken to an unknown location. His identity is stripped from him. He has no way to prove who he is other than his voice. He is ordered to work. He doesn't know this job. It is hard, hard work. Long hours. Little rest. Inadequate food and water. Dangerous..... so dangerous. He is abused. Verbally, racially, mentally, emotionally and physically. He is working so hard and is so tired, he is literally a broken man. Fear in his eyes as the life seeps out of his heart and soul. This man is trapped. This man is a prisoner. This man is considered worthless. This man thinks he will die soon.

Is this a story of the slave trade in the UK from 18th century? No, this is a story of migrant fishermen from Ghana, India and Sri Lanka that were cared for, supported and loved in November 2020 by chaplains from Stella Maris. Five fishermen bravely contacted Stella Maris asking for help. Working collaboratively and closely with the police, Borderforce and the port authority, these men were taken off the boat and given some hope. After interviews etc. they were accommodated, given access to dental treatment, hearty meals, given money, access to WiFi, guidance on next steps and finally referred in the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) which is an ongoing process to determine if these men can stay in the UK because they are deemed to be victims of Modern Slavery and/or Human Trafficking.

Chaplains for Stella Maris (from the Portsmouth Diocese) gave time to these men. They gave dignity to these men. They gave hope to these men. Mr. Charles Stuart, Mr. Gregory Hogan, along with myself and Fr John Lavers served these five migrant fishermen humbly in love. Please pray for all people of the sea.



Deacon Nick's article first featured in our Diocesan e-newsletter:  
[Portsmouth Diocese e-News Issue 323 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

## **A reflection from Canon Gerard Flynn, Vocations Director**

I have rejoiced at a good number of ordinations to the Sacred Priesthood of men I have accompanied, in my slight way, for six and seven and even more years. We never step into the same river twice, as Heraclitus famously noted! So too, every seminarian's path is unique. Formation is different for every man, every year, and, in fact, every day. One of the great priests of Portsmouth Diocese, with whom I was glad to work when he was a seminarian, used to say that he knew that he had one person to convert and that was himself, every day. Like all of our students he was keenly aware that the Holy Spirit worked with him as the principal agent of his formation.

The seminary and the Diocese have great responsibility in supporting that work. But, we are a little bit like the scaffolding that was removed to reveal Michelangelo's completed statue of *David*. Apparently a little boy observing the occasion is supposed to have asked how Michelangelo had known that *that man* was inside the marble. I simply endeavour to keep by the seminarians' path, trying to ensure that obstacles are cleared from the way. And at ordinations I sometimes feel as if I see, at last, *that priest* emerging from the marble!

My work is made easier by the prayers of so many kind people throughout the Diocese who pray daily for our seminarians. One wonderful example is Vivien Ungoed-Davies, of St Colman's, Cosham, who worked for eleven years, in the Parish Vocations Group, praying for the students and writing generous letters to them all. Such kind and heartfelt efforts are really appreciated by the men in formation. Vivien has just been awarded the Diocesan Medal in thanksgiving for her work.

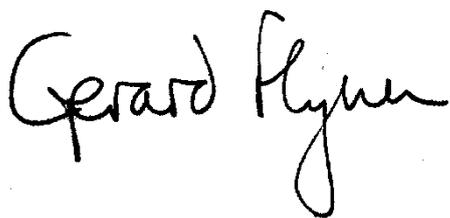
More men have recently taken the early steps on their path. They attended the Diocesan Discernment Conference. The panel of interviewers, each bringing particular expertise, include a clinical psychotherapist, a former seminary rector, a female theologian and an experienced parish priest. Their advice to Bishop Philip will be complemented by the outcome of an intensive psychological assessment and each man will have a full medical assessment as well. Bishop Philip will make his final decisions in the light of all of this. In September we hope to see this work come to fruition as men commence seminary studies.

One of the other great joys of my work this past year has been working with Francis Ezeani and Nathan King, two students resident at Sacred Heart House in Fareham. Their work of formative discernment has included learning about Diocesan History from Monsignor Canon Nicholas France, Latin from Mrs Fionnuala Quinn of Oaklands School and some aspects of liturgical and pastoral life from Canon John Cooke, their host priest.

Please join me in praying for them all and, most especially this year, for Revv Deacons Anthony Fyk and Paul Nwune who will, please God, be ordained to the Sacred Priesthood at 11 am on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> July at St John's Cathedral and for James Lewis who will be ordained to the Diaconate at the same Mass.

I am always glad to hear from anyone interested in finding out more about the priesthood. Just call me on 023 9248 4323 or email [gerardflynn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:gerardflynn@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Canon John Cooke is always ready to help anyone interested in promoting Vocations and can be contacted at [jcooke@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:jcooke@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Thank you for all your prayerful support and God bless you,



This article first featured in the June edition of the Diocesan Vocations Newsletter.

