

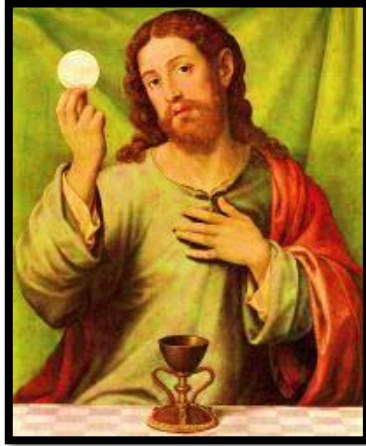


# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY & ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



PP: Fr Denis Sarsfield. Parish Office: 01462 893127. Email: Baldock@rcdow.org.uk

## THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023



### O PRECIOUS AND WONDERFUL BANQUET

This Sunday we celebrate *The Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ* also known as *The Feast of Corpus Christi*. We commemorate in a special way what the Eucharist is all about.

We remember the new covenant in Christ's death and resurrection and the institution of the Eucharist by Jesus himself when he pronounces the mysterious words during the last supper: "This is my body. This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many." However, the Eucharist is not only *memorial*, but *renewal* and *presence*. It is a renewal because we are invited to renew the covenant with God in Christ. In taking the 'cup of salvation', we participate again and again in the once-for-all sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary and we partake in the saving event of redemption. And it is presence because we believe that the Eucharist is not only a theological concept or a symbol, but a living person with the name Jesus.

But it is still more. The Eucharist transforms us in what we truly are: Body of Christ. The Eucharist leads us into communion with God and with one another. Just as the blood that flows from the heart to unite all the members of our body, so too are we united intimately with God through the precious body and blood of Jesus. The deepest nature of the Eucharist is this bond with God and with the community as we can read in Paul's letter to the Corinthians: "The bread which we break, is it not a communion in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one

bread" Saint John Chrysostom's commentary on these words is very profound: "For what is the bread? It is the body of Christ. And what do those who receive it become? The Body of Christ not many bodies but one body." Through the Eucharist we become what we truly are: Body of Christ. We become what we eat and drink: Body of Christ. The mystery of the Eucharist transcends our rationality. It leads us into awe and adoration. In his body and blood, Jesus gives himself to us to be with us always. In the Eucharist we have Jesus, we have his redemptive sacrifice, we have his resurrection, we have the gift of the Holy Spirit, and we have adoration, obedience and love of the Father." Let's ponder on this great feast the great gift of the Lord himself in our midst. Fr Denis

### PRAYER TO CORPUS CHRISTI

Jesus, Bread of Life,  
feed our faith,  
help us to share fairly,  
to find joy in our differences,  
and to love one another  
as you have loved us.  
Amen.

### Page number for Parish Mass Book 83-

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST - this Feast was historically known as Corpus Christi and celebrates the presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. The Feast dates from the Middle Ages when Pope Urban commissioned St Thomas Aquinas to compose a Mass and hymns. The hymns *Tantum Ergo*, *O Salutaris Hostia* and *Panis Angelicus* are still sung during Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, as well as during processions in many parts of Europe to celebrate the Feast.

### ANNUAL OPEN-AIR MASS & PARISH BARBEQUE



This year will be held at 10.30am on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Please remember that, as there will be **ONLY ONE MASS DURING THE WEEKEND**, we hope that the whole parish will come together and celebrate. Tickets will soon be on sale, with adult tickets priced at £10. A vegetarian option will be available. Tickets for children aged 5 to 12 years will be priced at £5, under 5's are free but must have a ticket to help us to cater for the numbers on the day. Please bring your own drinks

### RC HOSPITAL

**CHAPLAIN:** John O'Neil. Please call the Chaplaincy office at the Lister Hospital  
Contact Tel: Mobile: 07876 526935 Lister 01438 285518,

### FOR ALL GENERAL PARISH ENQUIRIES

**CONTACT:** Parish Office: Tel: 01462 893127

**CHURCH HALL HIRE:** Please contact parish office 01462 893127

### BAPTISM

**PREPARATION:** For further information please contact the parish office on 01462-893127 .

**RCIA COURSE:** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults programme consists of regular weekly meetings; if you would like to find out more please speak directly to Fr. Denis.

**ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL** is our Catholic Parish Primary School. Parish families are welcome to visit and have a tour of the school. Contact the School Office or the Head teacher, Mr Tom Timson 01462 892478

The school website is <http://www.stjohns4.herts.sch.uk/index.html>

### NEWSLETTER

Please submit items for inclusion, preferably by Tuesday evening, by either emailing the parish email address ([baldock@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:baldock@rcdow.org.uk)) or handing them to Fr. Denis. Thank you

### VATICAN NEWS

Remember that you can keep up with all the latest news from The Vatican at the Official Vatican Network [www.news.va/en](http://www.news.va/en).

### Your SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

have responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people, and adults at risk. Please Contact: Patricia Cusack & Colette Murphy  
[Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  
[Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

and your own chairs for the day. We would appreciate the help of volunteers on the day. It would be a good time to invite family and friends and please pray for good weather.

### First Holy Communion 2024 Programme (Open to any child in Year 3 or above) Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September

**between 10.00am - 11.30am:** for parents to drop in to the Parish Rooms during this time where you will meet with Fr. Denis and complete your child's application form for First Holy Communion. If your child was not Baptised in Baldock please bring their Baptism Certificate with you. The sessions will commence in November 2023 and the children will make their First Holy Communion in May 2024. If you have any questions please contact Fr. Denis.

### CHURCH CALENDAR

#### MEN'S GROUP

Men of the Parish are welcome to come and join our regular Men's Breakfast sessions. These take place once a month on a Saturday morning with tea/coffee and a Danish served at 8.30am. We finish at 10.30am. Come along and meet friends old and new. See Richard M or John B for more details.

#### BLESSING OF THE GRAVES IN BALDOCK CEMETERY

On Sunday 13th August, Father Denis will lead a small service at Baldock Cemetery, which is just off The Sycamores, next to The Orange Tree Pub. He will bless the graves

of all our loved ones. If you wish to attend, please be there at 12.30

### YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:



We pray for the sick in the parish especially, Fr. Philip Law, Mairead Kirke, Patrick Sarsfield, Peter Gray and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, and those whose anniversary occurs at this time: Idris Long; Brenda Taylor; Wilfred Byrne; Marcel Wolsey; Michael Gryboniez; Joan Penny; Mary Ann Leech; Stephen Kerr; Sheila McLaughlin; Helen Francis; Raffaella Picillo; Patrick Tierney; Margaret Casserly; Margaret Casserly and Margaret Casserly.

Sat 10 <sup>th</sup>	6.30pm	Madge & Frank Wearden RIP
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>	8.30am 10.30am	P McGrevery Paddy Aheran Kay & Tom Arthur RIP
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>	No mass	
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup>	No mass	St Anthony of Padua Priest & Doctor
Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Leo Penrose RIP
Thu 15 <sup>th</sup>	No mass	
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>	No mass	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Please note that mass intentions as set out above may not always be read out, but the intention is offered.

Holy Hour: Saturday 5.15 - 6.15 pm

Confessions: Saturday 5.45 - 6.15 pm

Or by appointment with Fr. Denis.

Family Mass: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 10.30 am

Fr. Denis is still celebrating the Vigil Mass online at 6.30 pm every Saturday night & Sunday Mass at 10.30am. All are accessible through the Parish Facebook page: **Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury**. For more information, please go to the Parish website. **THE WEDNESDAY WORD IS AVAILABLE VIA** <http://www.wednesdayword.org/school/index.htm>

### DAY FOR LIFE

The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. In England and Wales, Day for Life is celebrated on the third Sunday of June each year. This year it falls on **18 June**. Next week there will be a collection at each mass.

