



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



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## The Solemnity of The Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025



### Blessed and Given

At the dawn of salvation history, God revealed our future in figures. That's what's going on in today's First Reading: A king and high priest comes from Jerusalem, offering bread and wine to celebrate the victory of God's beloved servant, Abram, over his foes. By his offering, Melchizedek bestows God's blessings on Abram. He is showing us, too, how one day we will receive God's blessings and in turn "bless God" - how we will give thanks to Him for delivering us from our enemies, sin and death. As Paul recalls in today's Epistle, Jesus transformed the sign of bread and wine, making it a sign of His body and blood, through which God bestows upon us the blessings of His "new covenant."

Jesus is "the priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek," that God, in today's Psalm, swears will rule from Zion, the New Jerusalem. By the miracle of loaves and fishes, Jesus in today's Gospel, again prefigures the blessings of the Eucharist. Notice that He takes the bread, blesses it, breaks it, and gives it to the Twelve. You find the precise order and words in the Last Supper in His celebration of the Eucharist on the first Easter night.

The Eucharist fulfils the offering of Melchizedek. It is the daily miracle of the heavenly high priesthood of Jesus. It is a priesthood He conferred upon the Apostles in ordering them to feed the crowd, in filling exactly twelve baskets with leftover bread - in commanding them on the night He was handed over: "Do this in remembrance of Me." Through His priests He still

feeds us in "the deserted place" of our earthly exile. And by this sign He pledges to us a glory yet to come. For as often as we share in His body and blood. We proclaim His victory over death, until He comes again to make His victory our own.

### O Precious and Wonderful Banquet

Since it was the will of God's only-begotten Son that men should share in his divinity, he assumed our nature in order that by becoming man he might make men gods. Moreover, when he took our flesh he dedicated the whole of its substance to our salvation. He offered his body to God the Father on the altar of the cross as a sacrifice for our reconciliation. He shed his blood for our ransom and purification, so that we might be redeemed from our wretched state of bondage and cleansed from all sin. But to ensure that the memory of so great a gift would abide with us for ever, he left his body as food and his blood as drink for the faithful to consume in the form of bread and wine.

O precious and wonderful banquet, that brings us salvation and contains all sweetness! Could anything be of more intrinsic value? Under the old law it was the flesh of calves and goats that was offered, but here Christ himself, the true God, is set before us as our food. What could be more wonderful than this? No other sacrament has greater healing power; through it sins are purged away, virtues are increased, and the soul is enriched with an abundance of every spiritual gift.

It was to impress the vastness of this love more firmly upon the hearts of the faithful that our Lord instituted this sacrament at the Last Supper.  
*St Thomas Aquinas*

**Mary's Meals** wants to collect all your foreign currency and turn it into cash to feed hungry children in the 17 countries it works in. You will find envelopes at the back of church today, please take one and put all your foreign coins and notes\* into it. Then bring your envelope back into church next weekend. \*We will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender



## Extra-Ordinary Eucharistic Ministers' Day

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September from 10am - 12.30pm finishing with lunch. Please save the date as you need to be recommissioned each year.

## Pilgrimage to Walsingham - Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>

**September** A wonderful opportunity to be part of this year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham. Ticket options: adult £35; child 6 to 12year old £15; child 0 to 5year old, free. The ticket is inclusive of travel by coach and the pilgrim's levy. The coach will be leaving from St. Hugh, Letchworth at 8am. We expect tickets to sell fast due to it being the Jubilee year, so please **email** Jo in the Parish Office now to book your place to avoid disappointment.

## Annual Open-Air Mass & Parish BBQ

Will take place on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am. We hope that the whole parish will come together as one.



Tickets for the BBQ: Adult £10; Child (5-12 years) £5; Under 5's are free but need a ticket to help us cater for the numbers on the day. A vegetarian option will be available. Please bring your own drinks and chairs for the day. We do need some volunteers, if you are able to help please speak to Fr. Denis. *Do invite family and friends to come along and please pray for good weather.*

## Pilgrimage to St Edmund's College, Ware

is on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July, 11am to 4pm. Cardinal Vincent Nichols will be leading the Jubilee Year pilgrimage. Please email the Parish Office if you would like to attend.

### 2025 Parish Dates for your Diary

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July - Open Air Mass:** 10.30am in the church grounds.

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August - Blessing of the Graves:** 12.30pm at Baldock Cemetery.

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September - Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham:** 8am, leaving from Letchworth.

*Please speak to Fr. Denis if you have any questions regarding these events.*

### Your Prayers Are Asked For:

We pray for the sick and housebound in the parish, especially Tara Ferrissey, Ray Carter, Peter Comiskey,

Sally-Ann Riegel and for those who care for and support them. We remember those who have died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

*Florence Langford, Mary Rodgers, Thomas Aldridge, Louis Launay, Helen Plumb, Edward Stryjski, John McNally, Joseph McCabe, Catherine Fitzgerald, James McGee, Netta Summers, Nerina Aldridge, Stanislaw Sacha, Alison Ash Noble, Daisy Restall, Sheila Rigley.*

## Mass Times and Intentions

Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	6.30pm	The Body and Blood of Christ
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>	8.30am 10.30am	The Body and Blood of Christ
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00am	
Tue 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Saint John the Baptist
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	
Thu 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	
Fri 27 <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.

**Children's Liturgy:** Takes place during the 10.30am Mass except on the First Sunday of the Month (Family Mass) and during school holidays.

The Vigil Mass (6.30pm) and the Sunday Mass (10.30am) can be watched online via the Parish Facebook Page: **Catholic Church of the Holy Trinity and St Augustine of Canterbury.**

### Contacts

**Parish Safeguarding Officers** have responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people, and adults at risk within the Parish.

Patricia Cusack: Baldocksg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk  
Colette Murphy: Baldocksg3@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

### Our Catholic Schools

**St. John's Catholic Primary School, Baldock**  
T: 01462 892478 W: stjohns4.herts.sch.uk

**The Saint John Henry Newman School, Stevenage,** T: 01438 314643 W: jhn.herts.sch.uk

**John O'Neil is the Lister Hospital RC Chaplain**  
Mob: 07876 526935 or T: 01438 285518

**Baptisms, First Holy Communion, Confirmation, Weddings and Funerals** for further details please speak to Fr. Denis, look at the website or contact the parish office.

**Church Hall Bookings** the church hall is available to be booked for groups or celebrations. Please contact the parish office for more details.

**Baldock Catholic Scout Group** for boys & girls aged 6-14. Contact: enquiries@2ndbaldockscouts.org.uk

To receive an email copy of the Newsletter, please visit our website:

[parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/baldock) and click on 'Subscribe to Alerts' at the bottom of the page.