

Parish of St Peter and St Paul

ARCHDIOCESE OF WESTMINSTER

THE PRESBYTERY
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The MOST HOLY TRINITY

4th June 2023

SUNDAY MASS: 9:45am & 12noon

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday & Friday 12.30pm; Tuesday & Wednesday 8am

CONFESSIONS: (on request)

The month of June is traditionally dedicated to the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**. This Solemnity is kept on the **Friday** after the second Sunday after Pentecost, **16th June**. It is a special day of prayer for the sanctification of Priests. Holy Mass as usual is at 12:30pm followed by the Litanies to the Sacred Heart. The **Blessed Sacrament** will be exposed for the afternoon for silent prayer.

On **Sunday 11th June** is the Solemnity of the Body & Blood of Christ, **Corpus Christi**. In a recent letter, the Bishops of England have expressed their agreement to resume the reception of Holy Communion under both species, body and blood, consecrated host and precious chalice. We will have Communion under both forms on this day.

On **Sunday 2nd July** we will keep the Solemnity of **Saint Peter & Saint Paul**, our Patronal Feast. It falls on Thursday 29th but we can move it to the following Sunday so to mark it as a community feast. As we have done in the past years, we will have one sole Mass, at 9:45am, followed by social gathering in the Parish Hall. If you can offer help and/or contribute, speak with Nicola Panara or contact her on 07877 091122.

ASSISI, in Umbria, Italy, is the home of many Saints, past and present. Two of them are 'coming' to London... **Saint Francis** and **Blessed Carlo Acutis**.

A guided tour of '**St Francis of Assisi**' exhibition at the **National Gallery** has been offered with no charge, but donation would be greatly appreciated to support the Franciscan Friars Minor of the Custody of the Holy Land through <https://www.proterrasancta.org.uk/>
<https://www.custodia.org/it/help-us-support-franciscans-affected-earthquake-syria>
If you wish to join, on Saturday 17th June 10:30am (max 10 people) let Fr. Ivano know.

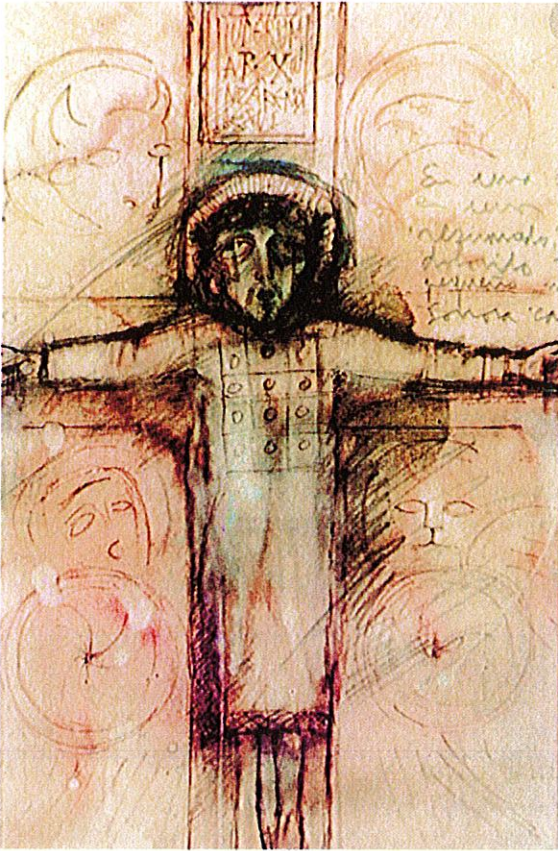
Antonia Salzano, the mother of **Blessed Carlo Acutis**, is making a short visit to London. On Thursday 1st June at 6.30pm at Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane, there will be a Sung Mass after which Antonia will also talk about her son, his life and his relationship with the Lord. There will be the opportunity to venerate a relic of Blessed Carlo.

Note: next week the only weekday Mass celebrated will be on Friday 16th
The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.



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Sunday donation.
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as precious stones on his breastplate



According to the Book of Exodus, the High Priest wore a breastplate when praying and interceding on behalf of the people before God. Worn on top a linen white tunic, this priestly garment featured precious gemstones arranged over four rows and three columns. The twelve precious stones represented the twelve names of the sons of Jacob, the tribes of Israel. This enabled them to be brought before God "as a continual memorial".

The 'breast' of the High Priest meant the heart of God, the bosom of God, intimacy with God. The names of the children of Jacob were not inscribed on a book or a holy building, but on the breast of the High Priest, the bridge between God and his children.

Is this simply Old Testament stuff? No. In fact, last Thursday we have celebrated the **Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest.**

The field of the priest - wrote Saint Charles Borromeo to his brother priests of Milan - is the parish. The vineyard the souls entrusted to him. If a priest is lazy and sleepy, the parish soon fills up with weeds and thistles, abuses scandals and corruption take root there. The stone enclosure is crumbling, the observance of the commandments by which souls are protected as by a wall is destroyed. Consequently, disorder and the debauchery amongst the faithful are indicative of the laziness and torpor of the parish priest. This is a very grave and mortal sin, brothers. Each one of us must be vigilant as we await for judgement saying: I must account for these souls. The Lord has entrusted them to me. But if the parish priest, who is like the eye of his parish is plunged into darkness, in what condition will the whole house be? If the salt becomes bland, what will give it taste? If the one who is to lay a firm foundation, give light and guidance, is afflicted with the gravest of evils, how will it be possible to care for the poor parishioners?

Friday 16th June, Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, is the World Day of Prayer for the sanctification of priests.

Pray for your 'High-Priest', your Parish Priest.

May the "eye" of the parish remain vigilant;

may the "salt" not lose its taste;

may the "vineyard" be defended from the boar of the forest;

may the "house" rest on firm foundation;

may the High-Priest carry his poor parishioners as "precious stones".

In manus.

Father Ivano