

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

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Parish Centre website with details re hire: www.trinityfocus.org

Parish Team: Fr Richard Andrew (Parish Priest), richardandrew@rcdow.org.uk

Fr Mark Dunglinson; email: MarkDunglinson@rcdow.org.uk

Sister Jenefer Glencross OSU (Catechetics Co-ordinator)

Sr Jenefer's email: srjenefer@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Mrs Anja Huynh

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Cilla Gibson email:

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Eighteenth Sunday of the Year 2nd August 2020

Today's Readings p.543-546

Is 55:1-3; Paul 8:35,37-39; Mt 14:13-21



Service Times

Saturday Vigil Mass 6 pm, Sunday at 8.30 am, 10 am, 11.30 and 6pm

Sunday at 1 pm Syriac Rite, in Arabic and Aramaic

Mass daily 9.30 am & 6 pm Benediction: Sat. 5-5.40 pm

Rosary: prayed in church Mon-Fri at 6.30pm, after Mass

Confession: Saturday 10-10.30 am and 5.15-5.40pm

First Friday Adoration: 6.30-7.30pm

OFFICE HOURS: The parish office is closed until further notice.
Please email or telephone us.

Today's Gospel

describes the feeding of the five thousand, one of the best-known miracles of Jesus. The narrative starts off by describing how Jesus is grieved to hear of the death of John the Baptist, and so he withdraws by boat to a lonely place in the country to have a quiet time with his disciples. Jesus shows his true humanity which he shares with us – like us he also needs space to grieve when someone close to him dies. But the people of the whole area hear about where he is heading, and arrive on foot before him. He immediately lays to one side his own needs, and he takes pity on the crowds and heals the sick people they have brought with them.

As evening draws on, the disciples suggest that Jesus should send the people away to buy food in the local villages. Jesus suggests the disciples give them something to eat, and they explain they only have five loaves and two fish – hardly enough to feed a crowd of thousands! However, Jesus, having got the crowds to sit down, takes the bread and fish, raises his eyes to heaven, says the blessing, and gets the disciples to distribute the bread among the people. Miraculously the whole five thousand and more people are fed. Not only that, but twelve baskets of scraps are collected up afterwards.

Jewish readers of St Matthew's Gospel were intended to see this miracle as an even greater miracle than that by which God fed the children of Israel with manna in the wilderness at the time of the Exodus. This occasion is also the fulfilment of the invitation in the prophets which will come true in the messianic age, like today's words from Isaiah in the first reading, in which God says, 'Listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy...and your soul will live.' This promised age has arrived with Jesus Christ.

Christian readers of St Matthew are also meant to see today's miracle as an anticipation of the even greater miracle by which Jesus feeds us with the Bread of Life in the Mass, which Jesus will institute at the Last Supper, to be described later in the Gospel. The taking and blessing, and distribution of the bread and fish all hint at similar actions with the bread of the Eucharist. In the Mass, as at the Feeding of the Five Thousand, in the words of St Thomas Aquinas in the Corpus Christi sequence, the Lauda Sion:

Thousand are as one receivers,
One as Thousands of believers,
Take the food that cannot waste.

Both the feeding of the five thousand and the Eucharist are a promise of that coming feast in the kingdom of God. As St Luke will tell us in his Gospel, (12:37), 'Happy are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table, and wait on them.' Again in the words of the Lauda Sion:

Thou...who on earth such food bestowest,
Grant us with thy saints, though lowest,
Where the heavenly Feast thou showest,
Fellow-heirs and guests to be.

There is an unexpected link between the feeding of the five thousand and the second reading, in which St Paul assures us that nothing can ever come between us and the love of Christ, even if terrible things happen to us, one of which is 'if we are lacking food....' The miraculous feeding is surely an assurance of the truth of Paul's words, 'nothing can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

COMING TO MASS AT HOLY TRINITY IN TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

Should I come to Mass or not? While we would all love for everyone to be able to come to Mass, we should think about our own wellbeing and the good of other people. You should not come to Mass if you have symptoms or feel unwell in any way. You should not come to Mass if you are very elderly or have health conditions that may mean you are particularly vulnerable. Think carefully about how you will travel to church and whether you can get there and back safely. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is still lifted. You could come to a weekday Mass instead or as well as a Sunday Mass. The number of seats available in the church is limited: 46 places for individuals/couples/household units. Couples and family units who live in the same

house can sit together without observing safe social distancing from each other, but of course must all be 2 metres away from anyone else in the church.

What will I have to do? Everyone will be asked to use the hand gel on the way in and out, and on arrival wait to be seated by the stewards. A collection is not taken: please place your envelope or offertory gift in the donation boxes in the entry and exit porches, as we need and welcome your kind gift! The stewards will usher you up to the altar for Holy Communion or a blessing. Holy Communion will be given in silence, and only on the hand. Please do not drop any litter or tissues.

What things will not be available? The toilets have to remain closed. There will be no access to the sacristy, parish centre or the parish office. Bookstand and repository are closed. Please bear all these factors in mind before deciding whether you should come to church. There is no holy water.

What will the Mass be like? We are following the instructions for Mass issued by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. These instructions are there to help keep the whole operation as safe as possible. Because we want to reduce the amount of time spent indoors, Mass will be shorter. There will be no singing or other ministries (e.g. no altar servers or choirs). But we do need a parish Reader for each Mass.

What times will Mass be celebrated this month of August?	Church open
Saturdays: 6.00 pm (First Mass of Sunday)	5.45 – 6.45 pm
Sundays: 8.30 am	8.15 – 9.15 am
11.30 am	11.15 – 12.15 pm
Wednesdays: 10.15 am (but not on 5th August)	10.00 – 11.00 am
Thursday 10.15 am (only on 6th August)	10.00 – 11.00 am

Why is there no public Mass on most weekdays of August? For each Mass we need four adult stewards who are welcomers, and who ensure that the government guidelines are being followed, and who after Mass do the hygienic cleaning. We are tremendously grateful to those who have in this holiday month of August volunteered for this ministry for the Masses of Saturday evening and Sunday, and one weekday each week. But in this holiday month volunteer stewards are not available on a daily basis. Without the stewards we are not allowed to open the Church or to have Mass.

The Priests will still say Mass daily in private for the needs of the parish, and for the requested Intentions. It is still possible to request Mass intentions – please leave a phone message.

Keeping everyone safe at Mass

For everyone's protection, we must observe the required hygienic and cleaning rules in the church, and always maintaining a safe social distance. We are most grateful to our volunteer stewards/cleaners who are enabling us to do this.

The Diocese of Westminster wishes to bring two particular points to our attention:

- (1) Before and after Mass we must limit our interactions with anyone outside of our household/family group, wherever possible, and in all circumstances maintain a safe social distancing with others.
- (2) The wearing of face coverings in church, in line with shops, is strongly encouraged.

What about going to confession? Confessions can be heard Saturdays at 6.30 pm, Sundays at 12 noon – both these times are immediately. Please wait for the priest to sanitise the confessional after the previous confession, before entering it. As always, we confess all the sins we remember since our last confession, but at this time try to do so as briefly as possible.

Now that Mass is available in church once again, the live streamed Masses from Holy Trinity are being discontinued. However, for those who wish to continue to participate in Mass this way while the Sunday obligation remains lifted, or who are unable to come to Mass in church, there is a large number of churches all over the diocese which are still able to provide live streamed Masses: please use this link to the Westminster Diocese website to discover them: <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/how-to-participate-in-mass-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/>

This is the last Weekly Newsletter before the summer break. It will be resumed on Sunday 6th September.

The Parish Office is closed in August. For urgent matters only, contact one of the priests. Please leave routine enquiries until September, when the Parish Administrator can again respond to enquiries. The date of full reopening of the Parish Office will depend on what coronavirus restrictions are still in place in the autumn.

Pope's Prayer Intention for August

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

Thursday 6th August is the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

Mass at 10.15 am.

Sunday 16th August is the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady

Masses at 8.30 am and 11.30 am.

Mass of the Vigil of the Assumption on Saturday 15th August at 6.00 pm.

Sr Jenefer is now away on holidays. She can be contacted again in September by the parish phone, or by email to: srjenefer@rcdow.org.uk.

As usual we welcome children with special needs who wish to prepare for **First Holy Communion or Confirmation.** If you have not already contacted Sr. Jenefer it is important that you see her today Sunday, so you can meet Anita our special needs catechist who will support you through the preparation.

The Registration for Holy Communion 2021 will be after Sunday morning Masses on 6th September. Please come and meet Sr. Jenefer on 6th, no appointments via phone or email. See back page.

Confirmation registration to be announced soon.

We look forward to resuming the interrupted preparation for the Sacraments of Holy Communion & Confirmation.

PROVISIONAL DATES for meetings and for First Holy Communion & the Sacrament of Confirmation have been sent to all concerned.

NB: Numbers in church will be limited for the sake of everyone's safety.

Interested in becoming a Catholic? Are you searching for God? Attracted to the Catholic Faith? Wanting to know more? Why not join our **Journey in Faith** and see if God is calling you to belong to the Catholic Church? For more details speak to Fr. Richard or Fr. Mark or leave an email at srjenefer@rcdow.org.uk

Children's Liturgy is closed for the holiday but will resume in September.

Children's activities can be found at www.wednesdayword

'I'm waiting for my First Holy Communion' by Anne Joachim £6.99

The publicity material for this book tells us:

'This book is intended for children who are preparing for their Catholic Sacrament of First Holy Communion. With the current pandemic, many children are finding that their First Holy Communion celebration has been delayed indefinitely. This book seeks to help children remain connected to their First Holy Communion classes, and keep on looking forward to receiving Jesus. It revises some of the key catechetical ideas relating to First Holy Communion, and gives ideas as to how to structure a day with a prayer timetable, as well as watch Mass on TV or online, and make a spiritual communion.'

Some parents whose children are in our First Communion Programme may like to purchase it to use with their child.

Support is invited for the Cardinal's Appeal

Normally this is a major focus in Lent, as the Lenten Alms go to the Cardinal's Appeal. But much of Lent was during lockdown, when our churches had to be closed. But a gift today will help fund initiatives in parishes, schools and charities in the Diocese.

You could help provide food for hungry families. You could help ensure no one feels forgotten or alone as they battle illness, disadvantage or homelessness. You could help mend broken marriages and inspire faith in our young people.

You could help create another tile in our mosaic, another precious piece of hope, at a time when it is greatly needed.

Pope Francis is often reminding us of our duty to 'reach out': "We are called to reach out to those who find themselves in the existential peripheries of our societies and to show particular solidarity with the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters, the poor, people with disabilities, the unborn and the sick, migrants and refugees, the elderly and the young who lack employment."

The three areas which the Cardinal's Appeal supports are:

- **Marriage and Family Life:** enriching and supporting marriages, the essential building block of society and the Church.
- **Youth and Evangelisation:** supporting young people, the future of the Church, as they grow in their relationship with God and deepen their Catholic faith.
- **The Church's Service in Society:** putting our faith into action by serving poor, lonely and marginalised people.

Further information at: www.CardinalsLentenAppeal.org.uk

Thank you to all who have been able to continue giving in these difficult times. If you wish to make a one-off donation, please use the link on our website: holytrinityw6.org. We have installed a **Virgin Money Giving** button which allows you to donate by debit or credit card. This is a mobile friendly button. Please make sure to label your donation as Planned Giving (when you normally use envelopes) or simply donation (if not gift aiding).

Alternatively, you may make any offering via bank transfer to:

HSBC

Acc Name: Westminster Roman Catholic Diocese Trustee, Brook Green Holy Trinity

Acc no: 01308173

Sort Code: 40-05-20

Thank you for remembering that without your donations the parish cannot run. A lot of expenses remain whilst our income has been drastically reduced. We are very grateful for your continued support.

NEEDING AND OFFERING HELP IN THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

Some older people confined to home during the coronavirus emergency may not have anyone to get food shopping or prescriptions for them. If this is you, or someone close to you, please contact the Parish Office by phone or email and we will try and match you up with a parishioner who may be able to help.

If you are one of our adult parishioners willing to volunteer in this way, please also let us know. (A number of you already kindly have done so – thank you!) We will then contact you to acknowledge your offer, attempt to match you with someone who would like help, and give you a few guidelines.

Mass Intentions

Requests for Mass intentions can be made by e mail, or by phone to one of the priests. It is customary to make an offering when requesting a Mass intention. This has always been a contribution to the support of the priests of the particular parish where the Mass is being said. The Diocese of Westminster suggests the figure of £10 as a guideline, but it is of course entirely the free choice of the donor to decide this. In the present period when the parish office is closed, please make your requests for Mass intentions which can be celebrated now and make your donation online when possible (details above and on our website.) Otherwise you may drop your donation into our letterbox, in an envelope marked Mass Intention.

Each Thursday Mass is being offered for all working in the NHS and all Hospital Chaplains

Please pray for the sick, especially: Hannah Gallis, Agnes Walopo, Margaret Carney, Mary Scherer, Charley O'Neill, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Marie Duffy, Irene Macneil, Joan Canning, Ethan Hollyman, Francis Brady, Heather Marcille, Breda Moloney, Edward Atkinson, Ray Collins, Christina Sweeney, Jenny Majumdar, Claudia Jaksch, Lyda Franco and Eddie Hughes. **We commend to God those who died recently and those with anniversaries around this time:** Adiam Zeraie-Yohanes, Thomas and Delia Horkan, Ana Delia Norena de Morales, Mary Matthews, Claude Gastrein, Patrick Curtain and Joseph and Betty McWilliams.

**ALL CATHOLIC PARENTS
WHO ATTEND MASS AT HOLY TRINITY
EACH SUNDAY
AND HAVE A CHILD IN YEAR 3 OR 4 AT SCHOOL THIS
SEPTEMBER**

**ARE INVITED TO REGISTER FOR THE
HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION**

**PLEASE SEE SR. JENEFER AFTER MORNING MASS
SUNDAY 6th SEPTEMBER**



**PLEASE NOTE: CHILDREN NEED TO HAVE COME TO
MASS IN THIS PARISH FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS.**

**NB: MAKE APPOINTMENTS AT MASS ON 6TH SEPTEMBER
NOT VIA PHONE OR EMAIL**