

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE SICK

Roxine Callow, Trudy Eastwood, Caroline Williams, Christine Rogers, Craig Millward, David Noble, Patrick Hullinson, Barbara Murphy, Florence Ward, Peggy Sugrue, Dale Broom, Jackie Berry, Bernard Holt, Patricia Greene, Bernadette Greene, Brenda Neiles, Joseph Arnfield, Nonie Brehony, Henry Marron and Johnny Falloon.

PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE DEAD

Recently Deceased: Mary Josephine “Jo” Feeley, Robert Broe, John Leach, Freda Wilner, David Lawrence and Michael Clyne.

Anniversaries: Terry Connor and Amias Savill.

WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS

“You’re burning me but it’s like water that you’re pouring to wash me.”

St Charles Lwanga

“Let us trust Him who has placed this burden upon us. What we ourselves cannot bear, let us bear with the help of Christ who said my yoke is easy.”

St Boniface



“As to persons living in the world, they shall find in this devotion all the aids necessary to their state in life: peace in their homes, consolation in their work, the blessing of heaven on all their enterprises, comfort in their sorrows, a secure refuge during life and especially in the hours of death. It is plainly evident that there is no one in the world who will not receive all kinds of heavenly blessings if they have a true love of Jesus Christ manifested by devotion to the Sacred and Eucharistic Heart of Jesus.”

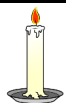
St Margaret Mary Alacoque



Last Week’s collection was: £1077.13. Thank you

£££

The monthly figure for Standing Orders: £1373.00



This week, the Sacred Heart Lamp burns for all the intentions of the 40hrs.



This week, Our Lady’s Lamp burns for a Special Intention.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER—2ND JUNE 2024



OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH, PRESTWICH

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CORPUS CHRISTI SUNDAY

Sunday 2nd June	Holy Masses 9am & 11am
Monday 3rd June Ss Charles Lwanga & Companions	Holy Mass 12 noon
Tuesday 4th June	Holy Mass 12 noon
Wednesday 5th June St Boniface	Holy Mass 12 noon
Thursday 6th June	Holy Mass 12 noon
Friday 7th June Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	Holy Mass 12 noon
Saturday 8th June Immaculate Heart of Mary	Exposition 11.30pm—1pm Confessions 11.40am-12.50pm, 4-4.40pm Holy Mass 11am Vigil 5pm

Quarant'ore—Forty Hours Devotion

Thank you to everyone who helped to prepare the altar for the Forty hours and to those who signed up to ensure there was always someone in the church; day and night. It was wonderful to see people coming and going and spending some time with the Lord—a good thing to remind ourselves that this is a house of prayer and praise where the Lord is with us.

The monstrance used to expose the Blessed Sacrament is a silver-gilt piece made by Kunst Werkplaatsen Esser, Belgium and was presumably bought by the parish in the 1930s. The seven-branch candelabra were also in the sacristy and have recently been given a good polish.

Confirmation

Bishop John Arnold will visit our parish to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for our young people on Thursday 27th June at 7pm. Any young people who do not attend St Monica's need to register with me in order to be Confirmed on that day. **There will be a preparatory meeting for all those being confirmed on Sunday 9th June at 10am in the Hall.**

Tablet Magazine

The *Tablet* Catholic magazine have asked that we pilot selling their publication on the piety stall over the next few weeks. The parish will receive 15% of sales. If you're interested copies are available at the piety stall from this weekend.

Baptism Meeting

The next meeting for those who would like to have their child baptised at Our Lady of Grace will be on Wednesday 5th June at 7.30pm in the Hall.

Retreats

In the next few weeks I will be working away on a couple of occasions. I'm giving the retreat to the Wrexham clergy at St Beuno's first of all. Then, later on, I'm providing some input at a clergy on-going formation week for the Archdiocese of Southwark. I'm grateful to the priests who will cover for me while I'm away. You'll be well looked after.

Parish Social Committee

If you recently volunteered to help form a parish social committee would you let me know if you could make a meeting at the presbytery on Thursday 13th June at 7.30pm? At this meeting we could decide on our terms and discuss some events to bring the parish together and raise some funds.

Capturing an Eternal Moment

The Church gives two reasons for reserving the Eucharistic Bread, the Blessed Sacrament. Principally, so that Communion can be given to the sick and dying, and only secondarily so that the Sacrament can be adored. For some, what we are doing now can seem far removed from Jesus's simple sharing of himself at the table in the Upper Room. To hold the Sacrament, whole and up high, in precious metal and amid all these candles seems a travesty of his breaking and giving at that poor supper: A straight contradiction of what was commanded by the simple actions of our Saviour in the Breaking of Bread.

So what are we doing, here, in this lavish celebration of his Body and Blood—keeping his Body whole and on high, and worshipping it solemnly over forty hours? The readings give us clear instruction: we are seeking to capture a moment in time of God's eternal goodness to us in this Sacrament: A moment of God's faithful presence among us. A full and complete moment of all he has done, continues to do, and will ever do for us. We are capturing an eternal moment and like the people of the Exodus, today, we are giving answer to God's goodness in bringing us home. The cup of salvation we have raised, so as to call on the Lord's name.

There is another moment, isn't there, when the Cup and the Bread are raised whole, just before they are given: The moment at the Last Supper, that today's Gospel records and the moment of consecration in every Mass, when the Eucharist is shown to the people. We are capturing that moment in these hours to meditate on it for a while. We need to do this because it is a complete moment, full and whole—before the Bread is broken.

What is it we see in that moment? Who is it we experience? We sometimes forget it is our Lord's risen Body—whole and complete—and that we encounter our risen Saviour, whose work is all finished. Yes, continuous with the Body bloodied on the Cross but now glorious in eternity. It's this that the beautiful passage from Hebrews teaches us: That the moment we capture, today, is a moment in which all the blessings: past, present and future, are gathered up and given to us by our Eternal High Priest—Who has gone beyond the poor tabernacle we have here, to the perfect tent where all is new, full, complete.

Now is the time to hold back from the breaking for a moment, just a moment—because the breaking and giving is his purpose—to consider the whole of Who and what is given: Like the moment before the cutting of the cake, when all the candles are burning and we see and appreciate, before we taste, all the goodness of the Lord. A moment of appreciation and anticipation of all that has been done and all that is to come. This is the unique and beautiful moment that Corpus Christi captures and celebrates.