



St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Stephen Harding Catholic Church

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Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday 19 June <i>Psalter week 4</i>	Mass 11am	THE BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST Day of Special Prayer for Life	Priest's Intention
Monday 20 June		Monday of Week 12 <i>St Alban</i>	
Tuesday 21 June		<i>St Aloysius Gonzaga</i>	
Wednesday 22 June		SS JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MORE	
Thursday 23 June		NATIVITY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST <i>St Richard of Chichester</i>	
Friday 24 June		MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS	
Saturday 25 June		Immaculate Heart of Mary	
Sunday 26 June	Mass 11am	13th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Kieren Bonner

There is a 5.30pm Mass on Saturday at Newport

We welcome Cn Chris Matthews who will be celebrating Mass with us today

There will be a **Second Collection today for Day for Life**. Next week for Peter's Pence.

No Rosary, Evening Prayer or Service of the Word – Deacon Wilf is working abroad and unable to hold any Prayers or Services for the next 2 weeks.

Day for Life is the day in our calendar set apart to celebrate life from conception to natural death. The Covid pandemic highlighted the desperate plight of many older people, especially those in care homes and those struggling with long-term conditions such as dementia. His Holiness Pope Francis sends cordial greetings and good wishes to those participating in the 2022 day for life to be celebrated in Scotland, England and Wales, and Ireland under the theme "Caring for the Older Person". His Holiness prays that the efforts in the defence of the God-given value and dignity of every human life, in all its stages, will be fruitful in drawing attention to the particular worth of our elderly brothers and sisters, for they "are not outcasts to be shunned but living signs of the goodness of God who bestows life in abundance". He likewise trusts that a greater awareness of the essential contribution the elderly make to the spiritual and material wellbeing of every society will help to counter the "throwaway culture" and foster the bonds of charity and fraternity between the generations.

Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent. Psalm 71:9

Fathers' Day God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old. We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the god of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.

We remember fathers, grandfather, and great-grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen.



Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Mary Patricia Frearson** and for her family and friends.

Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **Fedelma Cronin**, and for her family and friends.

Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of **John O'Dwyer**, and for his family and friends.

Please keep the following Parishioners in your prayers ... Fr Anthony Wild, Mary Burt, John O'Rourke, David Smith, Pam Lovett, Niall Gallivan, John McGrath, Doreen Dodd, Faye Hargreaves, Mary Goodwin, Julian and Dawn Huxley, Shane McGroggan, Doreen Warrilow, Sylvia Mary Stanworth, & all sick and housebound of the parish.

The Pope's Universal Intention for June: We pray for **Christian families** around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

 We pray for the **people of Ukraine**, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need. May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world. Amen.

Gospel Luke 9:11-17 The feeding of the five thousand Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing. It was late afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, 'Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.' He replied, 'Give them something to eat yourselves.' But they said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.' For there were about five thousand men. But he said to his disciples, 'Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.' They did so and made them all sit down. Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected, they filled twelve baskets.



Commentary On the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ should we not have the gospel reading about the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper? No, the Church puts before us this reading of the wonderful gift of food by Jesus. It is a sort of open-air picnic Eucharist. So it begins with Jesus talking to them about the Kingdom of God; this is what happens in the earlier part of our Eucharist, as we listen to the readings and the homily on them. Then he heals those who are in need of healing, and that means all of us, for we are always in need of healing in various ways. If you don't think you need to be healed, don't come to the Eucharist. Only then does he raise his eyes to heaven, bless the bread and distribute it, just as Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist. A sign of the generosity and plenty of Jesus' gifts in the Eucharist is given by the twelve baskets of leftovers, ready for consumption by the twelve tribes of the new Israel. In the same way, on the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ we share joyfully in the sustenance which Jesus gives to us and to the huge numbers of his followers across the world. *Henry Wansborough OSB*



Feast of the Week St Alban, Britain's first Saint. Died c209. Alban was a soldier and leading citizen in Verulamium (now St Albans, Hertfordshire) probably in the Third Century, He gave hiding and shelter to a priest, and was so impressed by his faith that he converted. When the emperor's men came searching for the priest, Alban changed clothes with him, and was executed in his place on Holmhurst Hill. His shrine became renowned for miracles, (it is said that when he declared that he was thirsty, a spring sprang up at the site) and a Benedictine Abbey was later founded there.

Used Stamps *Message from the Jesuit Refugee Service* Thank you again for all your help. We have a huge backlog of stamps at present thanks to Covid (but please do keep sending them!). You have asked how we make money from the stamps. Well, we cut and trim them and divide them into about 30 different categories: Definitives, Commemorative, high value, Commonwealth, foreign, Irish, Vatican etc. We then sell them to a stamp dealer by the kilo. When we have enough stamps to fill the boot of a small car, that brings in about £200-300. We can make as much as £2,000 a year for the missions, but this is greatly helped by the sale of older albums of stamps which are also donated.



Market Drayton Foodbank



Items urgently needed, please: UHT MILK, LONG-LIFE CARTONS OF FRUIT JUICE, TOILET ROLLS, SHAMPOO, Rice pudding, Custard, Dry Dog and Cat Food, Laundry Powder/Tabs, Washing up Liquid, Sponge Puddings, Slab Cake. THANK YOU!