**Newsletter for the week commencing 2nd June 2024**

**THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (B)**

**Entrance antiphon: He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.**

**First Reading: Exodus 24: 3-8**

**Psalm 115 Response: The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord’s name.**

**Second Reading:  The letter to the Hebrews 9: 11-15**

**Acclamation:  Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!**

**Communion antiphon:  Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.**

**Father Behr writes:**

Dear Parishioners,

**General Election.**

The Bishops of England and Wales have provided some guidance on the upcoming General Election on July 4.

The Bishops write:

“We seek a society in which all families can flourish and where we care for our common home, where we offer a welcoming hand to strangers in need, where we look out for those struggling to get on. Families are the heart of our communities and society.

We seek, therefore, political leaders who can reflect and share these values. But this is not just about leaders, it is about *us*. We are not merely the passive recipients of politics but active citizens. An election is the best time for us as Christians to speak out, to get involved, and to lead. “

You can read the full document here. [https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/)

This article in the Catholic Herald has a useful summary and can be read here.

<https://catholicherald.co.uk/english-and-welsh-bishops-urge-catholics-to-focus-on-common-good-at-general-election/>

**Fr Behr**

**Your Prayers are asked for:**

**Those recently deceased:**

**Those ill or infirm:** PaulLane, Mara McDermot, June Munton, Ailish Cantwell (Jones), Sylwia Dorosz, Joe Adams, Ellie Lawrence, Patricia Hook, Josie Payne, Pat Holland and all those who are unwell and in need of our prayers.

**Those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time**: Henry Balkham, Dorothy Stewart, Desmond Collins, Paul Lamonte, Annie Smith, Matthew Murphy, Colin Dolman, Agnes Cosens, Fanny Porter, Micheline Orde, Barbara O’Brien, Ron Basher, Eileen Nolan and Richard Charles Brignal.

**Please keep in your prayers Anna, a friend of Andrew Butler (former organist for our Parish). Anna lives in Suffolk.  Her mental health is fragile, and a scan yesterday revealed that the child she was carrying had been dead for up to 2 weeks.**

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| **This week’s services (1st – 8th June), Feasts and Mass intentions during the week.** |
| **Saturday 1st June****St Justin, Martyr** | No public Mass am10.30 -11.00 am Confession6.00 pm Vigil Mass*Private Intention (Margaret)***Reader: James** |
| **Sunday 2nd June****THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI) (B)** | 10.00 am Mass  *People of the Parish***Reader: Brian**12.00 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  |
| **Monday 3rd June**St Charles Lwanga  & Companions, Martyrs | 10.00 am Mass *Michael Scanlon Snr* |
| **Tuesday 4th June**Feria | **No Mass today** |
| **Wednesday 5th June**St Boniface, Bishop & Martyr | 10.00 am Service of the Word and Holy Communion |
| **Thursday 6th June**St Norbert, Bishop; St Luke Kirby, Priest & Martyr | 9.00 am-10.00 am Adoration10.00 am Mass *Mike, Little Mike and Michael Jnr* |
| **Friday 7th June****THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS (B)** | 10.00 am Mass *Reparation to the Scared Heart (Mark)*10.30 – 11.30 am Adoration |
| **Saturday 8th June**The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary | No public Mass am10.30 -11.00 am Confession6.00 pm Vigil Mass*Our Lady and Our Lady’s Intentions***Reader: Liz** |
| **Sunday 9th June****Tenth Sunday (B)** | 10.00 am Mass *People of the Parish***Reader: Frances**12.00 Midday Traditional Latin Mass  |
| **Flowers: for Saturday 8th / Sunday 9th June – Hilary** |

**Confession**

Fr Behr is available for Confession every Saturday from 10.30am - 11am. He is also happy to visit those who are not able to come to church.

**Children’s Liturgy.**

Children’s Liturgy at the 10am Mass is on the first Sunday of every month. All children who have not made their First Holy Communion are welcome to attend.  The next lesson with Lorraine is **this Sunday, June 2nd.**

**Pastoral Reflection on Gender.**

**The English and Welsh bishops** have issued a **pastoral reflection on gender** which is worth reading and passing on to those who have questions about the issues.  [**https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-issue-pastoral-reflection-on-gender/**](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-issue-pastoral-reflection-on-gender/)

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.**

**Archbishop John** warmly invites you to join him as he leads the Southwark Archdiocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, from 23rd to 30th August 2024. Details of this can be found on the Archdiocesan website: [rcaos.org.uk](http://rcaos.org.uk/). Experience the unique spirituality of Lourdes, along with people from parishes around the Archdiocese.

**Aylesford Priory.**

Summer Fayre on 23 June- for details see [thefriars.org.uk/Whats+On/Events/Summer Fayre/](https://www.thefriars.org.uk/Whats%2BOn/Events/Summer%20Fayre/)

**Assisted Suicide.**

Our Archbishop, John Wilson, has issued a pastoral message on assisted suicide.  Archbishop writes “We are called to care for those who are suffering, not to bring about their death. We cannot approve of any form of euthanasia and assisted suicide. Rather, we need to support individuals, families, and those who work in healthcare, so that the fundamental value of life is not eroded.”  More details see <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/archbishop-wilson-every-human-life-is-to-be-cherished/>

**International Exhibition.**

“The Eucharistic Miracles of the World” Designed & created by Blessed Carlo Acutis

25th May to 30th June 2024 St Augustine’s Church, Tunbridge Wells.

Carlo’s exhibition presents a selection of the main Eucharistic Miracles (about 136, collected in 166 panels 60x80, plasticised) which occurred over the centuries in various countries and are recognised by the Church. Through these panels you can “virtually visit” the places where the miracles happened.

<http://www.miracolieucaristici.org/en/Liste/list.html>

**Day for Life.**

The focus this year will be opposition to assisted suicide – euphemistically called ‘assisted dying.’

With the intention of praying and advocating for the establishment of a culture of care at the end of life, the theme for the Day for Life is: *“The Lord is my Shepherd – Compassion and Hope at the End of Life.”*

There will be a second collection for the Day for Life on the weekend of 15/16 June.

**The Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly:**

This will take place on **Sunday 28th July** and is themed “*Do not cast me off in my old age”,*(cf. Psalm 71:9).

**A Lifeline for Marriage!**

Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?  Has your marriage become stressed, unloving, cold?

Do you argue often?  Do you want to improve your communication? Have you separated, divorced, or are you thinking about it?  Do you want to try again?

The Retrouveille programme may be just what you need!

The next programme commences with a weekend in Welwyn Garden City 14-16 June 2024

For more information phone or text: 07887 296983 or 07973 380443

Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com

Website: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk/)

 Complete confidentiality assured.

**SVP and CAFOD working together in the run up to the General Election.**

As Catholics, we know that tackling poverty and injustice are among the most important issues politicians should act on. St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD have produced a guide for Catholics for the General Election, with suggested questions to ask candidates. Please see [cafod.org.uk/encounter](https://cafod.org.uk/campaign/campaign-with-us/a-year-of-encounter-call-for-action-with-your-parish-at-the-general-election) or [svp.org.uk/encounter](https://svp.org.uk/encounter) for more information.

Below is our prayer for this initiative. With our prayers and thanks, Sarah and Celeste

**Sarah Cadwallader** | Community Participation Coordinator | *CAFOD in Southwark*

scadwallader@cafod.org.uk | 07825 734 390 (Working part-time: Monday, Wednesday & Friday)

**A prayer**

Mary, model of encounter,
you heard God’s call.
Teach us to listen deeply
in our polarised world.

Mary, woman of courage,
you sang joyfully of God’s justice.
Inspire us to challenge inequality
and call for fulness of life for all.

Mary, seeker of sanctuary,
you fled violence and persecution.
Be with us as we seek peace
and respect for human dignity.

Mary, mother of community,
you joined the disciples at Pentecost.
Pray that the Spirit will empower us
as we act together for the common good.

Amen.

**Together for the Common Good Podcast Launched.**

Together for the Common Good have launched a new podcast series exploring the common good as a catalyst to spiritual and civic renewal.

Speakers, ranging from Lord Glasman to Sr Helen Alford, draw on the tradition of Catholic Social Teaching to show in practical ways how common good thinking opens up pathways to hope.   These talks address the big questions of our time - economy, work, nature, social peace, civic life, what it means to be human - and much more. You can find the Together for the Common Good Podcast on[*Substack*](https://t4cg.substack.com/)*,*[*Apple Podcasts*](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/together-for-the-common-good-podcast/id1733261245)*,*[*Spotify*](https://open.spotify.com/episode/11I9O1tBVJe1K4O0gPJnM0)*,* or wherever you normally listen to your podcasts.  All are free to download, and are offered in this General Election year as a stimulus for reflection and conversation. Find out more at <https://togetherforthecommongood.co.uk/t4cg-podcast>

**Maidstone Deanery Confirmation Programme 2024.**

Applications are invited from young people in **Year 9 or above,** to join our 2024 Deanery Confirmation programme, who live in the parishes of Maidstone Deanery (St Francis’, Maidstone/ St Peter’s, Bearsted / Holy Family, Park Wood, /St Thomas More, West Malling/ St Theodore’s Cranbrook/ St Andrew’s, Tenterden / Sacred Heart, Goudhurst).

The programme will run on mainly Sunday evenings at St Francis’ Church, Maidstone, **beginning in June**, a break throughout the summer holiday, continuing through September - October, with the **Confirmation Mass scheduled for Saturday 19th October, 3pm.** (Venue TBC)

Applicants must be Catholics, who have made their First Holy Communion.

Applications must come from the candidate themselves.

Applicants will commit to attending all of the sessions.

Applicants must also be willing to participate fully in all aspects of the programme.

To request an application form, which also gives details of dates and times of sessions, please email:

confirmation@stfrancisparish.org.uk

***It is troubling to see how simple and convenient it has become for some to deny the existence of a human life as a solution to problems that can and must be solved for both the mother and her unborn child.”***

**Pope Francis: *25 Sep. 2020 - Speech to the United Nations***

**Charitable Planned Giving.**

Liz Walker, our Gift Aid Co-ordinator is still awaiting the envelopes for the next year.

As soon as they arrive, she will make them available.

**Christian Breakfasts.**

You will be pleased to know that we raised £155 for Christian Aid at the last Breakfast hosted in our Parish Centre.

Saint Andrew's will be hosting the next Breakfast on Saturday 20th July.

The guest speaker will be the Bishop of Dover at Canterbury, Rose Hudson.

Offers to setup on the Friday and serve and clear up on the Saturday would be welcomed.

**Evening Worship Together.**

A big thanks to the choir and Tracey for supporting this service at Saint Andrew's on Sunday evening and indeed to all the church members who attended.

The next joint evening service will be on Sunday June 30th at 6pm in Saint Mildred's Church

**Spirit of Tenterden Festival.**

Churches Together in Tenterden will be having a stall on the Recreation Ground on the Saturday of the event 6th July.

We will be there showing our joint Christian Witness for passers-by. Offers of assistance for the afternoon will be welcomed – volunteers will be needed from 1pm onwards.

**Life Exhibition.**

Zion church will be hosting this popular educational event for younger children which aims to introduce primary school children to Jesus Christ. The date is to follow once the last arrangements are in place but, as always, any volunteers to assist would be welcomed. Look out for future notices!  There are more details online – just google "life Exhibition - evangelision.