The Solemnity of The Body and Blood of Christ

In 1263 a german priest called **Peter of Prague** made a pilgrimage to Rome. He stopped off at Bolsena, Italy to celebrate Mass. Not only was the priest having grave doubts about the validity of the Real Presence but the Church was also experiencing a time of major doubts about the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. While celebrating Mass something astonishing took place. As the priest recited the words of consecration **blood seeped** from the Host onto the altar and the Corporal. This '**miracle**' was reported to Pope Urban IV who sent delegates to examine this phenomenon and remove the blood stained linens to the Cathedral at Obvierto. It was Pope Urban who established a feast.

Of all the great treasures of the Church this is the most precious, the most sacred: Jesus Christ whole and entire in the Blessed Sacrament, the Real Presence, Holy Communion, the Bread of Angels. On each of us is also placed a great responsibility to treat this great gift with utmost honour and respect, never to treat the gift in an irreverent or irresponsible manner. Perhaps it might be wise to examine ourselves this weekend of Grace and to make our Holy Communion one of the greatest honour and respect.

The parish welcomes **Fr Kevin Ryan** this weekend as he celebrates his **40th anniversary** of priesthood in the parish which nurtured and encouraged him. To Father Kevin we send our warmest good wishes and congratulations. May the years ahead be full of great joy and blessing. We thank all those who have worked so hard over the last weeks to prepare for this weekend's joyful events to which everyone in the parish is most warmly invited.

This week sees the celebration of two beautiful feast days: the **Birth of John the Baptist** on Monday. The feast marks the half way point in the year. Slowly but surely the days will start to become shorter until the birth of Jesus when they will start to lengthen again. Friday is the feast of the **Sacred heart of Jesus** celebrated nineteen days after Pentecost. The first feast day occurred on August 31st 1670 in Rennes, France through the efforts of St John Eudes. However, following the visions of St Margaret Mary Alacoque the devotion really grew in popularity. In 1756 the feast was officially adopted in France and in 1856 Pius IX at the request of the french Bishops extended the feast to the universal Church. The devotion is surely one of the the most popular in the Catholic Church.

Next Sunday the Church celebrates the **feast of Saints Peter and Paul** the great saints of Rome. From Anglo-Saxon times in England a voluntary collection was taken in England to support the work of the Pope. It was called **Peter's Pence**. Though discontinued by Henry VIII in1534 the practice was reinstated in 1860. The collection of Peter's Pence will take place next weekend. The feast day takes place at the same time as the old Roman celebration of the foundation day of the city of Rome by Romulus.

Thank you to the generosity of the parishioners of St Teresa's parish supported by Fr Bergin, £500 will be donated to the Cancer Transport Charity on behalf of Neilly Tierney.

Anniversary of: Thomas Nugent and Family, Susan Walsh

Attendances: 269

Thank you to the parish for their generosity.

A Prayer For The Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ.

We come as guests invited when Jesus bids us dine, his friends on earth united to share the bread and wine; the bread of life is broken, the wine is freely poured for us, in solemn token of Christ our dying Lord.

We eat and drink, receiving from Christ the grace we need, and in our hearts believing on him by faith we feed; with wonder and thanksgiving for love that knows no end, we find in Jesus living our ever-present friend.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Response to the Psalm:

You are a priest for ever, a priest like Melchizedek of old.



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The Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ

Weekly Schedule	Time	Intention
Sunday 23rd June Solemnity of the Body & Blood of Christ.	10:00am	Celebration of 40th Anniversary of Fr. Ryan
Monday 24th June Nativity of John the Baptist	9:30am 1:30pm	Fr. Kevin Ryan Mass in the State Hospital
Tues 25th June	9:30am	Mass in School
Wed 26th June	9:05am 9:30am	Short Morning Prayer Thomas Nugent and Family
Thurs 27th June	9:05am 9:30am	Short Morning Prayer Susan Walsh
Friday 28th June The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	9:05am 9:30am 11:00am	Short Morning Prayer Private Intentions Mass in St John Ogilvie School
Saturday 29th June Immaculate Heart of Mary	4:00pm 4:30pm	Holy Rosary People of the Parish

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday 29th June.	C Scullion	A M Lynn, C Dabernig, P Cullion
Sunday 30th June.	E Smith	J Mullen, T Walsh, M Green