



## PARISH NEWS FOR THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, ANDOVER

### NORTH WEST HAMPSHIRE PASTORAL AREA

St John the Baptist, Andover and St John Fisher, Whitchurch

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**Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9.00am - 3.00pm. NB: CLOSED on Wed.**

### 17th and 18th June - The Feast of Corpus Christi

#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, the Body and Blood of Christ, the Eucharist – the source and summit of the Church’s life. It is a central mystery of our Faith, vital to who we are as Catholics, for in the Eucharist Christ left us Himself – body, blood, soul, and divinity – and He invites us to consume Him, to become one with Him in a very intimate, unique and grace-filled manner. It is an astounding privilege and a blessing.

The meal aspect of the Eucharist is probably the most obvious to our human eyes, as we celebrate it at Mass every week. But the element of this heaven-meets-earth miracle that today’s readings emphasize is the sacrificial element. Sacrifice is an aspect of our Eucharistic banquet that is perhaps easy for us to overlook as we sit in Mass together (although if we carefully listen to the prayers and pay attention to what is taking place on the altar we will notice that sacrifice is very much a part of our Eucharistic celebration).

In the Gospel Jesus tells us, “This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many,” a statement that directly correlates with the story we find in the first reading. Moses sacrifices a young bull as a sign of the Israelites response to God’s covenant: “we will do everything that the Lord has told us.”

It was custom whenever a covenant (a type of treaty made between two people or nations) was made for an animal’s blood to be shed. It was a sign of the finality of the covenant. In today’s Gospel, Jesus speaks of His own blood as the blood of the covenant. Through Christ, God is making a new and everlasting covenant with His people. Christ is both priest, the one offering the sacrifice to the Father, and victim, the sacrificial lamb whose blood is being shed.

But it is not just Christ’s sacrifice. He invites us to share in it as well, and as His disciples it is our responsibility to offer ourselves to the Father, wholeheartedly affirming, “We will do everything the Lord has told us.” We give Him ourselves – our time, our talents, our treasure, our very lives – as a participation in the sacrifice of Christ. *Fr Mark H.*

#### DIOCESAN PRAYER INTENTIONS: 18TH JUNE - 23RD JUNE

These are arranged so that in the course of a year we pray for each parish of our Diocese and the Catholic organisations within it. **Sunday:** *This year’s First Communicants, their families and catechists.* **Monday:** *Parish of Corpus Christi, Wokingham.* **Tuesday:** *Military Chapel of St. Alban, Shrivenham.* **Wednesday:** *Parish of Sacred Heart, Bordon; Parish of St Mary, Woolhampton.* **Thursday:** *Parish of St Anne & St Mary Magdalen, Alderney; Communities of St Thomas More at Stockbridge, Hartley Wintney, & Boars Hill; Community of St John Fisher, Whitchurch.* **Friday:** *Community of Sacred Heart, Shanklin.* **Saturday:** *Parish of St John the Baptist, Andover.*



#### FEAST OF ST THOMAS

**You are invited come along and join the Syro Malabar Community in Andover celebrating the Feast of St Thomas on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July at St John the Baptist Church, Andover.**

Programme Schedule: Flag Hoisting at 2.45pm followed by Mass.

After Mass, which should end by approximately 4.30pm, there will be a procession and an Indian Meal in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome to come to Mass or just for the procession and meal – if you would like to join us for the Indian Meal, please text your name to 07930931296 or give your name into the parish office by 26<sup>th</sup> June for catering purposes.

All donations welcome to support our **Parish SVP** (St Vincent de Paul Society).

**ANDOVER FOODBANK** Thank you, as always, for your support, it is greatly appreciated. Your donations whether food, money or non-food products provide really valuable assistance to people in our community who are in or facing crisis.

The foodbank distribution figures for the month of May are: 51 family boxes, 55 single boxes and 8 limited cooking boxes. We have also given out 28 packs of toiletries, 6 welcome boxes and 15 packs of cleaning products.

We are in need of the following NON -FOOD items: **Shampoo; Deodorant; Saucepans and Frying pans**

We are also in need of the following FOOD items: **Coffee ; Rice; Tinned Rice Pudding; Tinned fruit; Tinned fish and Tinned Meat - URGENT**

A reminder for your diary: Don’t forget that our charity day at the famous Longstock Water Gardens is coming up soon.

A great day for all the family. The date is 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017 from 1.00pm to 4.00pm.

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FROM 17TH JUNE - 30TH JUNE**

*Reconciliations each Saturday in Andover from 5.15pm - 5.45pm, and in Whitchurch before Sunday Mass.*

*Congratulations to Lucas Monteiro who is to be baptised this weekend.*

**Sat. 17th**      **Andover Mass 6.00pm**      *Roseanna Flynn RIP*

**Sunday 18th June - Feast of Corpus Christi**

**Whitchurch Mass 9.00am**      *For the People of the Parish*

**Farleigh School Mass 10.00am**      -

**Andover Mass 10.30am**      *Special Intention for First Holy Communion.*

**Mon. 19th**      **Andover Mass 10.00am**      *Rita Casey - Birthday Blessings, and for recovery.*

**Tue. 20th to Thursday 22nd - No Masses or Services.**

**Friday 23rd - The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.**

**St John the Baptist School Mass at 9.30am**      *Norah Bulner - 100th Birthday Blessings.*

**Please note: there will be no access to the Church from 11.00am on Mon. 19th (after Mass) to Sat.24th, as work is being done to rewire the lights in the Church. Thank you.**

*Congratulations to Clemency Jane Frances Hanlon and Maja Peplinska who are to be baptised this weekend.*

**Saturday 24th - The Nativity of John the Baptist.**

**Andover Mass 6.00pm**      *Pat and Ted Minns RIP—Anniversary*

**Sunday 25th June - The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Whitchurch Mass 9.00am**      *For the People of the Parish.*

**Farleigh School Mass 10.00am**      -

**Andover Mass 10.30am**      *Rita Casey - Birthday Blessings*

**Andover Polish Mass 6.00pm with Confessions (Polish) from 5.00pm**

**This weekend there will be a collection for Peter's Pence.**

**Mon 26th**      **Andover Mass 10.00am**      *Eileen Morrell RIP*

**Tue. 27th**      **Andover Mass 10.00am**      *John Woodward and Gladys Good RIP - Birthday Memoriam.*

**Andover Healing Prayers 7.00pm - 7.30pm**

**Wed. 28th**      **Andover SOW 10.00am**      -

**Thursday 29th June - Feast of Saint Peter and Saint Paul - A Holy Day of Obligation.**

**Andover Mass 9.30am**      *Mary Kate Synnott RIP*

**St John the Baptist School Mass 11.00am**      *For the children of the Parish.*

**Andover Mass 7.00pm**      *For Rita Casey and Family.*

**Fri. 30th**      **Andover Mass 10.00am**      *Mary and Percy Stephenson RIP—Anniversary*

Please pray for Eva Boshier, Patrick Pacini, Daphne Channing, Audrey Stephenson, Jo Parker, Nan Mundy, Esmé Coveney, Maureen Bennett, Sheila Cuffley, Bill Hayes, Doreen Burke, Rita Lane, Valerie Muir, Kath Neuen, Mary and Alan Daws, Jess Dukes, Fr Gerry Mackrell SMM, Betty Twist, Mary Bullough, Cynthia Manning, Margaret Williams, Patrick Arnold, Patricia Hillier, Pat Moore, Ann Scicluna, Tom Wilkins, Diane Banks and all those in need of our prayers.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Marie Allen.

May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

NEXT WEEKEND THERE WILL BE A **SECOND COLLECTION FOR PETER'S PENCE**. Peters Pence is the name given to the financial support offered by the faithful to the Holy Father as a sign of their sharing in the concern of the successor of Peter for the many different needs of the Universal Church and for the relief of those most in need. The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father are destined to Church needs, to humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See. The Pope, being Pastor of the whole Church, is attentive to the material needs of poor dioceses, religious institutes and of faithful in grave difficulties (the poor, children, the elderly, those marginalized and the victims of war or natural disasters; concrete aid to Bishops or dioceses in need, Catholic education, assistance to refugees and immigrants, etc.). *Please remember to Gift Aid your offerings!*