

ANNIVERSARY MASS FOR BOB BARRON

Next Sunday the mass intention will be for Bob Barron. Some seats will be reserved for the family. Please stay in your seats at Communion as Father and Eucharistic Ministers will bring communion to you.

PLEASE REMEMBER MALACHY CONLON IN YOUR PRAYERS. He sadly died on Friday. He was a true gentleman who has given so much to our Parish community over the years. He was an initial member of the church Property group where his great knowledge and experience were put to good use. Our thoughts are with Mary and all the family. May he rest in peace. Malachy's funeral will be on Friday 11th June at 1.30 p.m.

GARDENING: LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH As new life emerges in the natural world, our beautiful grounds need more work to keep them as lovely as they are. Our small team of gardeners need your help. No experience is needed. A sense of humour and working knees would be useful. Meet at 10am on the last Saturday of each month.

REQUEST FOR READERS We are looking for more people to read the readings and bidding prayers at Sunday mass. If you would be willing to help – please contact Mary Doran or Joe Naylor.

PARISHIONERS WHO ARE UNWELL If you would like the parish to pray for someone who is currently unwell, please email news@stfrancisgoosnargh.org.uk or ring Father Sony on 01772 865229. It will be then be included in the newsletter. We have an area in church where you can write a prayer intention on a card and hang it up if you prefer it not to go on the parish newsletter.

CHURCH DONATIONS With many people still unable to attend church we still need to maintain an income for maintenance. There are several ways you can still make your contributions including by cheque or direct debit. For details please go to the church website or contact Tom Smyth on 017722 865689.

Attendance and Collection

Sunday 23rd May – : £135.50

Attendance - 43

Feast Days this Week:

Wednesday: St Columba and St Ephraem

Friday: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Saturday: The Immaculate Heart of Mary

Daily Mass live at 9.30am from St Clare's in Preston can be accessed on their YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch/>



St Francis Hill Chapel Parish Newsletter

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In case of emergency (and unable to contact Father Sony) please ring Father Dutton on 01772 782641 or Canon Doyle on 01772 782244

CORPUS CHRISTI 6 June 2021 (Readings: Year B)

Parish Mission Statement

Our Parish, guided by the example of our patron St Francis of Assisi, seeks to be a welcoming Catholic Community, by living, sharing and growing in faith. We strive to deepen our own relationship with Christ and meet the needs of others.

Mass today is for the members of the Rogerson and the Dewhurst families. Please pray for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time, especially Thomas Anthony Coupe.

Church is now open again for Sunday mass at 10.30am. **Please only attend mass if you feel safe to do so. The dispensation for Sunday mass is still in place.**

SAFETY RULES FOR MASS

Stewards will be on duty to ensure that safety procedures are followed. Full details are on our website. Please do read them. **Face masks will need to be worn** as specified by the government. **Please follow these guidelines once entering church:**

- * **Sanitise hands** on entry.
- * Please do **keep your distance** – use the high visibility tape on floor as a guide.
- * Place your collection on the collection plate **as you enter**.
- * Please take a mass sheet & newsletter on entry and **take away when you leave**.
- * **At Holy Communion** (given in silence):

Please wear a mask as you go up the aisle to communion and remove their mask before they receive the sacrament.

People from upstairs will go first down the right-hand side and return down the opposite aisle to maintain social distancing.

People on the right-hand side will then receive Holy Communion, followed by people on the left-hand side – guided by the stewards.

BIDDING PRAYERS

As we celebrate the presence of Christ in the Eucharist, may we always know the peace of Jesus, the light of his love and the joy of his life within us.

On this feast of Corpus Christi, we pray especially for the nine children in our parish who will be receiving their First Holy Communion on July 4th. We pray that they will continue to grow in God's love with the help of their family to guide and support.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray that local leaders will successfully work together to suppress the Indian Covid variant spreading across key regions in the UK. We pray that hospital cases remain low and that the most vulnerable will be protected.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who in the world who have little access to food or clean water. May nations work together to enable all people to have the chance to live life to their full potential.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.

We give thanks for your never ending presence in our lives. May your love and compassion be constantly with us as we face the week ahead, through Christ our Lord Amen.

From next Sunday – the Bidding prayers will be read out at mass again so will no longer be in the newsletter.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Following a discussion with one of our Hill Chapel parishioners, and in the light of my recent articles concerning pilgrimage shrines in France and Ireland, I thought it appropriate that I focus this week on the local shrine of Our lady of Fernyhalgh.

Historical records show that devotion to Our Lady of Fernyhalgh goes back through the ages to the 11th century. The name Fernyhalgh is thought by some historians to mean Ancient Shrine. Professor E.J. Popham suggests that the place was called “ancient shrine” by Anglo Saxons because on this site was a shrine which even in their day was considered ancient. However, it was not until the reformation that a devotion to Our Lady as Queen of Martyrs was developed. This is reflected in the present shrine at Ladyewell in the Reliquary, the presence of the Burgess Altar and the chapel of the English Martyrs. There has never been an apparition of Our Blessed Lady at Fernyhalgh, just continued prayer and petition over seven centuries. Even during penal times, apart from a period of five years, the shrine attracted pilgrims and was the focus of local Catholic prayer. The name Ladyewell, which was spelt originally, Ladye Well, appears to have developed following the rebuilding of the present house in 1685. Another Ladyewell, the site of an old friary, which has long ceased to exist; is remembered by the present day Ladyewell Street in the centre of Preston just off Marsh Lane.

The main Ladyewell pilgrimage season, (in normal pre-Covid years), runs from May to the end of October when our own Lancaster Diocese and the neighbouring dioceses of Liverpool and Salford hold their annual pilgrimages. Pilgrims attend in large numbers and are usually led by the Archbishop or Bishop of the visiting group. However, the devotion at Ladyewell is ecumenical, attracting members of other Faiths. The Anglican community come all year round and usually hold a large pilgrimage at the beginning of June (Forward in Faith and the Society of Mary). Members of the Orthodox churches also visit and hold their services at the Shrine. The Kerala Indian population, living in this part of Lancashire, hold a service each month in their own vernacular. They have a great devotion to Our Blessed Lady and never a day goes by without members of this Catholic Indian community visiting. They pray often for the blessing of children and come back to give thanks usually on the way home from the maternity ward. Ladyewell is a place of reflection, meditation, calm and spirituality. It is a beautiful local, tranquil, sacred shrine dating back hundreds of years and is known by many as Lancashire's "Walsingham". Well worth a visit.

Mike Bryan

Readings for the Feast Day of Corpus Christi

First reading

Exodus 24:3-8

This is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

Second reading

The blood of Christ can purify our inner self

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than the one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

Jn6:51

Gospel 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

Gospel

Mark 14:12-16,22-26

This is my body; this is my blood

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.