

**Newsletter of the
Parish Church of St Peter,
Jersey**



**CORPUS CHRISTI
(A Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of Holy Communion)**

Newsletter, Issue 12: 14 June 2020

Dear Friends,

Before reading my Homily, please read this prayer and the short piece of scripture:

Collect:

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you that in this wonderful sacrament you have given us the memorial of your passion: grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your body and blood that we may know within ourselves and show forth in our lives the fruits of your redemption; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

1 Cor 11.23-29

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread,²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. ²⁷ Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord.²⁸ Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. ²⁹ For all who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgment against themselves. (pause)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 6:51-58

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**



Sermon for Corpus Christi

Corpus Christi, (or in English known as ‘A Day of Thanksgiving for the Institution of the Holy Communion’) which is the Thursday following Trinity Sunday, is being remembered and celebrated today so that we all of us can observe it together on line and through this Newsletter.

At the heart, at the center, of Christian life, there is one service, one observance which, by Christ’s own *command*, we are to faithfully keep, in order to strengthen our relationship with God and with each other. This Service is known by a number of different names, the six most common being...Holy Communion, Holy Eucharist, Holy Mass, The Lord’s Supper, The Liturgy, Breaking of Bread. It was instituted by Christ himself with his Apostles on Maundy Thursday, the night before he died.

The names each have a particular emphasis in relation to the Sacrament, which when used interchangeably help to discover the fullness of what it is, in totality. Used in this way they become a source of richness giving a wealth of perception, understanding and knowledge. Each, in other words, describes and highlights one aspect of this marvelous gift given to us by Jesus. Briefly...

Holy Eucharist, emphasizes that it is a service of ‘Thanksgiving’

Holy Communion, strengthens our communal relationship with God and each other

The Lord’s Supper, reminds us that it is a looking back to the original event

The Liturgy, underlines the continuity of the service down the ages

The Breaking of Bread stresses the coming together of God’s family around the same table

Holy Mass, emphasises that we are not just to practice our faith in church, but to take it out into the world, since the word ‘mass’ comes from the last sentence in the service, which in Latin is ‘Ita missa est’, from which is derived the word ‘dismissal’ and the word ‘mission’. In other words ‘the service is ended go out and take the experience of the service and the message you have heard from God, out into the world in a missionary way and practice it.

Queen Elizabeth the First once famously and indeed cleverly, summed it all up, when asked during the reign of Queen Mary, for her view as the Eucharist, thus:

*“Christ was the word that spake it.
He took the bread and break it;
And what his words did make it
That I believe and take it.”*

I close with one of my favorite and intensely moving quotations about the Eucharist, from 'The Shape of the Liturgy' by Dom Gregory Dix, which speaks for itself:

"Was ever another command so obeyed?

For century after century, spreading slowly to every continent and country and among every race on earth, this action has been done, in every conceivable human circumstance, for every conceivable human need, from infancy and before it, to extreme old age and after it, from the pinnacle of earthly greatness to the refuge of fugitives in the caves and dens of the earth.

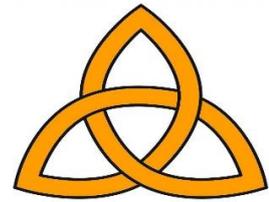
Men have found no better thing than this to do, for kings at their crowning and for criminals going to the scaffold; for armies in triumph or for a bride and bridegroom in a little country church; for the proclamation of a dogma or for a good crop of wheat; for the wisdom of the Parliament of a mighty nation or for a sick old woman afraid to die; for a schoolboy sitting an examination or for Columbus setting out to discover America; for the famine of whole provinces or for the soul of a dead lover; in thankfulness because my father did not die of pneumonia; for a village headman much tempted to return to fetich because the yams had failed; because the Turk was at the gates of Vienna; for the repentance of Margaret; for the settlement of a strike; for a son for a barren woman; for Captain so-and-so wounded and prisoner of war; while the lions roared in the nearby amphitheatre; on the beach at Dunkirk; while the hiss of scythes in the thick June grass came faintly through the windows of the church; tremulously, by an old monk on the fiftieth anniversary of his vows; furtively, by an exiled bishop who had hewn timber all day in a prison camp near Murmansk; gorgeously, for the canonisation of St Joan of Arc

—one could fill many pages with the reasons why men have done this, and not tell a hundredth part of them. And best of all, week by week and month by month, on a hundred thousand successive Sundays, faithfully, unfailingly, across all the parishes of Christendom, priests have done this, just to make the 'plebs sancta Dei'—the 'holy common people of God'." Amen.

Please take some time to reflect on the Homily and to just 'be' with God, then when you are ready, conclude this period of Listening, Reflection and Prayer, by offering to God, the following collect:

Post Communion Collect:

All praise to you, our God and Father, for you have fed us with the bread of heaven and quenched our thirst from the true vine: hear our prayer that, being grafted into Christ, we may grow together in unity and feast with him in his kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



'Trinitarian' by Tony Bellows

The whisper of the wind, just heard
And the dawn chorus of each bird
Between the object and the ear
The wild goose is flying here

Fragrance coming from a flower
Arising after morning shower
From branch and through root
Blessings in the lovely fruit

A beam of sunlight catches dust
Golden blaze that does not rust
Inscribed in book of nature's Tao
Vision connecting I and Thou

Hands hold, and senses touch
Healing throws away a crutch
Reaching between, together now
And herein lies a holy vow

We kiss and taste the otherness
Connect, and hold, therein bless
In threefold, Spirit sets us free
Passion of the Godhead Three

'Easter weekend 2020' by Judith Taylor

I have been saving this poem for when there is the start of the relaxation of things. Though written for Easter the last verse is particularly relevant *now too*, in the light of the news about reopening (see later in this Newsletter).

News paralysing; Endeavours unimaginable;
Compassion overwhelming; Pain unbearable;
Sorrow all-consuming; God isn't listening?

Silence deafening; Normality abandoned;
Separation hurting; Grief inconsolable;

Realisation shocking; The Spirit is missing?

Dawn awakening; Birdsong beautiful;
Hope glimmering; Footfall cautious;
Love enduring; Jesus is living!

“Funnies from Church Pew Sheets” from around the world!
I think we all need cheering up at the moment: I hope these raise a smile. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services!

The sermon this morning: **'Jesus Walks on the Water.'**
The sermon tonight: **'Searching for Jesus.'**

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?'
Come early and listen to our choir practice.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM .. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.



LEPROSY MISSION STAMP COLLECTION BOX

Please keep putting aside any used stamps from your mail and due course bring them to church, once we reopen and put them in the special LEPROSY MISSION STAMP COLLECTION BOX at the back of the church. The Mission can redeem these stamps for its funds. This is a wonderful Anglican charity. The stamps may still be attached to the envelope paper: please cut around the stamps. Jersey stamps have more value than those from the UK as *comparatively* they are rarer: a much smaller number are produced.

Thank you to all who have given already: please keep it going! Father Michael

WAYS TO WORSHIP IN YOUR OWN HOME:

SERVICES FROM THE PARISH CHURCH or ST PETER'S RECTORY or GARDEN:

Go on www.stpeterschurch.org.je and click on the Church Facebook page. The service for each Sunday will be placed on there at **1030 on the Sunday** and can be viewed at any time of day after that: it will remain on the Face book page.

You do not need to have Facebook yourself to view these services, provided you view them via the Church website: a number of people have asked me about this.

SUNDAYS Radio & TV:

0800 Each Sunday during the emergency there will be a Service on **Radio Jersey** linked in with the national UK radio.

1315 Songs of Praise (BBC 2, TV)

1500 As always, *every week of the year* on **Radio 3** listen to the glories of **Choral Evensong** from a different Cathedral or Abbey each week which is a repeat from the previous Wednesday 1530 broadcast. Available for 30 days on BBC Sound.

WEDNESDAYS on Radio 3

1530 As always, *every week of the year* on **Radio 3**, listen to the glories of **Choral Evensong** from a different Cathedral or Abbey each week, repeated on the following Sunday at 1500. Available for 30 days on BBC Sound.

CROSS, PALM CROSS especially at this time, CRUCIFIX, ICON

Use these as a focus for your prayers in your own home. Thank you for the many calls of appreciation about the Palm Crosses being sent to you at home.

A PRAYER FOR USE AT THE END OF THE DAY: SALVE REGINA

The Marian Devotion 'Salve Regina', is traditionally used at the end of the day. I have put it here, so that you can use this at home if you wish in your daily devotions,

before going to bed. Both the words and music are truly beautiful, to listen too and to use: at the end of each day and of life itself.

*Regina, mater misericordiae:
Vita, dulcedo, et spes nostra, salve.
Ad te clamamus, exsules, filii Hevae.
Ad te suspiramus, gementes et flentes
in hac lacrimarum valle.
Eia ergo, Advocata nostra,
illos tuos misericordes oculos
ad nos converte.
Et Iesum, benedictum fructum ventris tui,
nobis, post hoc exilium ostende.
O clemens: O pia: O dulcis
Virgo Maria.*

Queen, mother of mercy:
our life, sweetness, and hope, hail.
To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To you we sigh, mourning and weeping
in this valley of tears.
Turn then, our advocate,
those merciful eyes
toward us.
And Jesus, the blessed fruit of thy womb,
after our exile, show us,
O clement, O loving, O sweet
Virgin Mary.

PRAYERS ABOUT THE CURRENT VIRUS EPIDEMIC

I hope that you will find these prayers useful in your own prayer life at home. Prayer is at the heart of any Christian's life, just as much as it is at the heart of our communal life as the Body of Christ, which is The Church. These prayers have been specially produced by the Church of England, for use at the present time.

FOR ALL WHO WORRY

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us

from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amenor.....
Lord Jesus Christ your taught us to love our neighbour,
and to care for those in need, as if we were caring for you.
In this time of anxiety give us strength to comfort the fearful,
to tend the sick and assure the isolated of our love and your love,
we ask this for your name's sake. Amen

FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Merciful God, we entrust to your care those who are ill or in pain,
knowing that whenever danger threatens
your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe.
Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR HOSPITAL STAFF, CARERS & MEDICAL RESEARCHERS

Heavenly Father we ask you to give skill, sympathy and resilience
to all who are caring for the sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.
Strength them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to
health, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAY FOR THE SICK: Suzette Bradshaw; Dave; Elis; Donald English; Audrey Gem;
Peggy Harrison; Jonathan Harvey; Peter Heath; Lester Huelin; Jack Johns; Robin
Mallet; Molly; Stephan Mauger; John Le Riche; Riley.

Also, please pray for all those who are ill with the coronavirus.

PRAY FOR THE DEPARTED:

Also, please pray for all those who have died from the coronavirus.

STATEMENT FROM FAITH LEADERS REGARDING THE OPENING OF CHURCH IN STAGE 2 LOCKDOWN: 11th JUNE 2020

Following a meeting of faith leaders with Jersey Govt policy makers on 8th June, we
are pleased to announce that churches may choose to open from 12th June 2020
onwards with the following restrictions in place:

- Govt guidelines on physical distancing, currently at **2 metres**, are to be followed at all times.

- Those people in the vulnerable or **severely vulnerable categories or with a pre-existing health conditions** who wish to attend worship, should obtain medical advice beforehand.
- Churches may open at the **discretion of the Priest** for private prayer and/or Sunday worship, with a **maximum upper limit of 40** people in attendance.
- Church buildings should be **cleaned after each service**, in accordance with govt guidelines. Hand sanitizer should be used on entry and exit to church buildings. It is preferable to have a **separate entry and exit** point if your building has that facility.
- Service outlines should be available on digital **screens** wherever possible. Where **printed** media is used, it should be for single use only.
- **Weddings and funerals** will be able to take place in churches **from 1st July**, subject to the guidelines on physical distancing and cleaning and with the **maximum numbers of 40**.
- **Baptisms** (also known as Christenings) will **not be available until** Stage 1 of the easing of lockdown.
- Government advice at this time is that we **do not engage in any live singing** in our gatherings.
- **Outdoor services** may take place but are subject to the same conditions regarding numbers and physical distancing.
- **Contact details of all those entering churches for worship on a Sunday will need to be collected during Stage 2, for purposes and tracking and tracing** but not for opening of churches for private prayer, although you may wish to encourage people to let you know by phone, text or e-mail.
- We advise each church to undertake a **risk assessment^^** of their buildings, staff and premises before opening.

“These guidelines are designed to be permissive rather than prescriptive, so that individual churches can choose how to proceed within these guidelines. We recognise that some churches may choose not to re-open buildings at this stage and should not feel compelled to do so, or they may choose to open buildings in a limited way only at this time. We recognise that many may continue with online services and other creative ways of worshipping that have used during the past months.”

Very Revd Mike Keirle, Dean of Jersey; Revd Canon Dominic Golding, Roman Catholic Dean; Revd Danny Wheadon, Methodist Superintendent; Revd Drew Waller, Chair of Jersey Evangelical Alliance; Revd Graeme Glover, Chair of Churches Together in Jersey. Thursday 11th June 2020

^^ this is a very thorough document of 18 A4 pages



Jersey Deanery

Administration of Holy Communion during the easing of lockdown from Covid 19 into Stage 2

To ensure that Holy Communion can be safely given and received when the danger of infection with Covid-19 remains a possibility.

1. The priest is responsible for preparing the altar, having ensured that the chalice and paten and containers for the bread, wine and water, have been washed in hot soapy water.
2. Before beginning the service, the priest washes his or her hands with sanitiser (at least 70% alcohol) or with soap and hot water, if the facilities are available in the church.
3. There is to be no physical contact when the Peace is shared.
4. No offertory plates are to be brought up. Offertories should be blessed from a distance. At the offertory hymn, the priest washes his or her hands with sanitiser before preparing the altar for the Eucharistic Prayer. Servers are NOT to assist with the preparation of Communion.
5. After the invitation to Communion, the priest again washes his or her hands with sanitiser before and after receiving Communion in both kinds.
6. The priest stands in an appropriate place that will allow people to approach easily; Holy Communion will be received by the people, standing and strictly in one kind – **only the bread**.
7. The people intending to receive Communion line two metres apart along the aisle; they should only leave the pew, or row of seats, in which they are sitting when necessary, so as to avoid long queues in the aisle.
8. Each person intending to receive Communion approaches the priest, extending their arms as far as reasonably possible; the person receives the consecrated bread in his or her hand, turns away from the priest to consume the bread, and returns to his or her seat using a different aisle, where possible – to avoid proximity to those waiting to receive Holy Communion.
9. The priest consumes any consecrated bread or wine, washes the paten and chalice in the usual way (without the assistance of a server), and washes his or her hands with sanitiser.
10. Clergy are not required to wear gloves or mask for the distribution of Communion unless they wish to do so.

Mike Keirle, Dean of Jersey
11th June 2020

**THE NEXT SERVICES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC in Church
WILL BE ON SUNDAY 28 JUNE, which is the FEAST OF
ST PETER, our Patronal Festival, as follows:**

0800 Mass; (max 40 people!)

1030 Mass with Music (max 40 people)

Each Sunday after that, there will be services at those times.

Evensong is sadly discontinued.

**Each Monday, starting 29th June the
Church will be open for Private Prayer from Noon until 1300**

Each Wednes, starting the 1st July, there is Mass at 1000.

**Each Friday, starting 3rd July the
Church is open for Private Prayer from Noon until 1300**

75th Anniversary Liberation Badge



If you have not yet received one of these, the remainder will be given out on the Feast of St Peter, during each Mass. I hope you will wear it with pride, during this particular year.

This week's Mass,

can be seen on the Church Website Facebook page, www.stpeterschurch.org.je and will come from the church itself.

How to contact me:

Father Michael Phillips,

Rector of St Peter, & Hon Chaplain for the Mission to Seafarers, Jersey

Telephone: 01534-481805

email address: rector@stpeterschurch.org.je

Address: The Rectory, La Rue du Presbytere, St Peter, Jersey. JE3 7ZH

Church Website: www.stpeterschurch.org.je

Church Facebook: go on the website and click on the Facebook to see Mass from The Parish Church of St Peter. All previous services are also available on the website.