

# Abbeyleix & Ballyroan Parish NEWSLETTER



Parish Office 057 87 30844

June 14th, 2020

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## Feast of Corpus Christi

In 1263, a German priest, Fr. Peter of Prague, made a pilgrimage to Rome. He stopped in Bolsena, Italy, to celebrate Mass at the Church of St. Christina. At the time, he was having doubts about Jesus being truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. He was affected by the growing debate among certain theologians, who, for the first time in the history of the Church began introducing doubts about the Body and Blood of Christ being actually present in the consecrated bread and wine. In response to his doubt, when he recited the prayer of consecration as he celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, blood started seeping from the consecrated host and onto the altar and corporal.

Fr. Peter reported this miracle to Pope Urban IV, who at the time was nearby in Orvieto. The Pope sent delegates to investigate and ordered that the host and blood-blood corporal be brought to Orvieto. The relics were then placed in the Cathedral of Orvieto, where they remain today.

In the Gospels, there are plenty of times when Jesus is with people eating and drinking and today's Gospel is no exception. As always, Jesus is concerned with people and their real needs. They are hungry, so he feeds them. He is gracious in his abundant giving. But he feeds them not only with food; he also feeds them at a much deeper level. He teaches them, he welcomes them and he heals them. He treats us in the same way; when we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, Jesus welcomes us, he speaks to us and through his Body and Blood, we are nourished and we are healed. The Eucharist is God's greatest gift to us. But is it not our right and we cannot demand it. Pope Francis reminds us of this when he says, 'the Eucharist is not a prize for the perfect, but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.' That's all of us and each of us!

Today, we are not only celebrating receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, we are called to remember that we are the Body of Christ, the Church as St. Paul reminds us, 'Now Christ's body is yourselves, and each of you with a part to play in the whole.' (1 Cor. 12.27). Today reminds and challenges to realise that we are the living Church, the Body of Christ, whose head is Jesus himself. Through our communion with Jesus and each other we are called to be living stones making a spiritual house.

St. Augustine, the great church writer said, 'become what you receive.' If we celebrate the Eucharist with each other and receive the Body and Blood of Christ, then we are called to be the Body of Christ, the Church today. And we are asked to be a missionary church. At the end of every celebration of the Eucharist we are sent out with this great prayer of mission, let us go now to love and serve the Lord. If we share in the gift of Jesus' Body and Blood, then we are also asked to share this with others when we leave church. Today on this wonderful feast, may each of us be fed, nourished and healed through the Body and Blood of Christ.

### *Anima Christi*

*Soul of Christ, sanctify me.*

*Body of Christ, save me.*

*Blood of Christ, inebriate me.*

*Water from the side of Christ, wash me.*

*Passion of Christ, strengthen me.*

*O Good Jesus, hear me.*

*Within your wounds, hide me.*

*Permit me not to be separated from you.*

*From the wicked foe, defend me. At the hour of my death, call me and bid me to come to you.*

*That with your saints I may praise you.*

*Forever and ever. Amen*

Join Fr. Paddy for Sunday Mass through the Parish Website, on the Parish Facebook page or on Fr. Paddy's twitter or facebook page. Live Masses and messages of hope are all posted daily.

 [Abbeyleix and Ballyroan Parish](#)

 [@frpaddybyrne](#)

 [Fr. Paddy Byrne](#)

The Parish Office hours for this week are Monday - Friday 10am - 1pm

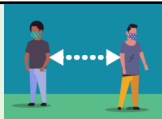


Our WebCam is back up and running! To login please visit Abbeyleix Parish Website [abbeyleixparish.ie](http://abbeyleixparish.ie) and simply click on the WebCam link!



Public Masses will resume from **Monday 29th of June for a 9am and 10am Mass** in the Parish Church Abbeyleix. We look forward to re connecting in a safe way with one another.

Signed Mass Cards are available in the Parish Office, SuperValu and Clelands for €6 each. Please call the Parish Office during opening hours to leave your intention for Fr.Paddy



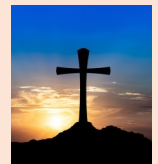
The Parish Church is now open daily. Please remember to use Social Distancing, and be mindful of hand hygiene. Please feel welcome to come light a candle. The Church is a place of prayer. It is a living sanctuary of hope at this time.

### Anniversary Masses

Please continue to book loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time with Gráinne on 057 87 30844 and Fr. Paddy will remember your loved ones during Masses and name them as usual at our Sunday celebration. We remember the following whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Eddie Sherlock, Abbeyleix  
Jim & Dympna Tierney  
Declan Doocey (Months Mind)  
Ann O'Mahoney (Months Mind)

Pat Lalor, Cashel  
Hazel Anderson, England (Months Mind)  
John Brennan, New Terrace



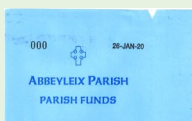
### Baptisms for May 2020

If anyone would like to book a Baptism over the coming weeks, Fr. Paddy is most accommodating in relation to time or any other needs. If you wish to arrange a Baptism please contact Fr. Paddy on 087 9948505 or Gráinne on 057 87 30844



Donation Buttons on Kandle Website: There are now two electronic 'Donate Buttons' on the front page of the diocesan website [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie). 'Parish Collections': This button allows a donor to donate to any of our Parishes towards the Weekly collection or the Clergy Collection.

### Parish Contributions



A sincere word of appreciation to all who made contributions in this very difficult time to our Parish. If you wish to make any contribution to the Church during this time, please do so by posting a sealed envelope marked for the attention of Fr. Paddy Byrne through the letter box of Knocknamoe House. Outside office hours, please post your envelope through Fr. Paddy's letter box. Thanking you.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul offer direct, personal assistance that is non judgemental and based on the need of the individual or family.

Confidential Helpline Number: 087 6247868

