

"Every day, as long as this 'today' lasts,  
keep encouraging one another" (Heb 3:13)

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
**The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ**  
**Readings & Prayers p. 83**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Eucharistic Prayer p. 24**

**Genesis 14:18 - 20**

Gifts of bread and wine are blessed by the Hebrew priest of Old Testament times, Melchizedek.

**1st Corinthians 11:23 - 26**

Paul recounts the story of the Last Supper.

**St. Luke 9:11 - 17**

Luke's gospel paints a picture of the miraculous feeding of five thousand people with just five loaves and two fish.

"Jesus took five loaves and two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd."



**F**east of Love. Pope Benedict XVI once described today's feast as 'a day on which heaven and earth work together.' He said: 'Corpus Christi is an expression of faith in God, in love, in the fact that God is love. Love does not consume: it gives and, in giving, receives.' This is a wonderful way to approach Communion. When we receive the body and blood of Jesus, it is a gift of love. But if we keep this gift for ourselves, and do not give in return, that is not love.

The disciples in today's Gospel have a small amount of food, five loaves and two fish – maybe enough to feed themselves, at a stretch. But Jesus had a very different idea. Notice that Jesus hands this gift over to them to distribute among the hungry crowd. It is the disciples' responsibility to feed the hungry, to give to those in need, and to love the very crowds that they had earlier suggested sending away.

The Feast of Corpus Christi reminds us of our need to be in communion with the whole body of Christ. There is room for everyone at the banquet, especially the poor and the hungry, and it is up to us to help those in need. Having received this gift of love, we are expected to pass it on. There is more than enough bread for everyone. 'If there is hunger anywhere in the world, then our celebration of the Eucharist is somehow incomplete every where in the world... We cannot properly receive the Bread of Life unless at the same time we give the bread of life to those in need, wherever and whoever they may be.

Triona Doherty

**Today's Psalm**  
**Psalm 109**

This is a psalm for the coronation of a king. The consecrating priest speaks in God's name to the new king, *sit on my right*, as he pointed to the royal palace which was to the right of God's temple in Jerusalem. Victory over his enemies is promised. Then the new king is reminded that as mediator between God and his people, his role is priestly. He is not a cultic priest like the descendants of Aaron, but a king-priest like Melchizedek of old.

Melchizedek, in the first reading, offered bread and wine before blessing Abraham. This offering, recalled in the first Eucharistic Prayer, prefigured what Jesus did with the bread and wine at the Last Supper. In today's second reading, Paul writes of that Supper, with the injunction to 'do this as a memorial of me.'

Through anointing with Chrism in baptism we share in the kingship and priesthood of Jesus Christ, the true mediator between God and his people. We exercise our priestly privilege particularly in the celebration of the Eucharist.

*You are a priest forever,  
a priest like Melchizedek of old.*  
**Fr. Silvester O'Flynn OFM Cap**

## St. Mary's Catholic Church, Euxton - Tel: (01257) 262665

Mass Intentions for w/c Sunday June 19 2022

**Sun: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**

8.30.am. Mary Walsh

10.30.am. Parishioners

**Mon: Weekday in ordinary Time**

**9.30.am:** John Peter Taylor

**Tues: St. Aloysius Gonzaga**

**9.30.am:** Rev. Thomas Keeley

**Wed: SS.John Fisher and Thomas More**

**9.30.am:** Harold Fish

**Thurs: NO Mass Today**

**Fri: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus**

7.00.pm. Private Intention

**Sun: 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**8.30.am:** Parishioners

10.30.a.m: Moira Preston

0771 942 7926 (only for emergency use)

### Confessions

At your request

### **On Admittance to Hospital or Nursing Home**

Staff need to be made aware by you: that you, or the member of your family, or the person you accompany, are Catholic, and require the services of the Catholic Chaplaincy.

### **Cemetery**

All visitors are asked to help keep the Cemetery tidy and to use the appropriate waste bins.

### **Mass Intentions received upto 18/06/2022**

Moira Preston Ld

Fergus & Kieron Toman (21/7)

**We pray for the Sick**, especially the sick of the parish including Ryan Troop;

Catherine Thompson, Maureen Beardsworth, Desmond Gorman

Wednesday: Thomas More and John Fisher St. Thomas More. Beheaded on Tower Hill, London, July 6, 1535, he steadfastly refused to approve Henry VIII's divorce and remarriage and establishment of the Church of England. In 1521 John Fisher was asked to study the question of Henry VIII's marriage. He incurred Henry's anger by defending the validity of the king's marriage with Catherine of Aragon and later by rejecting Henry's claim to be the supreme head of the Church of England. He was condemned and executed, his body left to lie all day on the scaffold and his head hung on London Bridge. Two saints who teach us to stand up courageously for what is fair and just. Traditionally on this day, the Church asks us to pray for those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights.

Thursday - **The Birth of John the Baptist**. And this is not something which was only true once, long ago in the past. It is always true, because the repentance which he preached always remains the way into the kingdom which he announced. He is not a figure that we can forget now that Jesus, the true light, has appeared. John is always relevant because he calls for a preparation which all men need to make.

Friday – **The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus** The story of the Good Shepherd who goes in search of the one lost sheep tells us that there is not one soul that Jesus is willing to lose. There is not one of us that Jesus does not love. There is not one of us without value. The Friday that follows the Second Sunday in time after Pentecost is the Feast of the Sacred Heart. This is a devotion to Jesus himself, but in particular, to the loving heart of Jesus and all its manifestations of his love for us.

“Man is an animal which, alone among the animals,  
refuses to be satisfied by the fulfilment of animal desires.”  
(Alexander Graham Bell US (Scottish-born) inventor (1847 - 1922))