



FAITH IN FOCUS: ON MEDICINE FOR LIFE

There can be nothing sadder than listening to someone who believes that they are not good enough to go to communion. They feel that they are unworthy and they simply stay put in their seat when the rest of the congregation gets up to eat and drink the body and blood of Christ during the celebration of Mass.

Of course none of us is good enough. That's why we say, "Lord, I am not worthy..." just before we approach the altar. We realise that we mere human beings cannot presume to receive such a gift without acknowledging our unworthiness. But beneath this idea of unworthiness there lies a fatal error.

Communion is not for good people. It's not for saints. It's for people who are not very good, who are sinners but who want to get better. Our feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus et Sanguis Christi) teaches us that communion is not a reward but a medicine.

When we eat and drink (both!) Christ's body and blood we are signing up to be better. Some of the Church's early hymn-writers used a lovely phrase to describe the eucharist: they called it food for the journey. An ancient hymn (O, Esca Viatorum: O, Food of Travellers) makes it clear that the eucharist is not some celebratory picnic on the journey but is the survival rations, the staff of life.

At the Last Supper when Jesus instituted the eucharist he commanded us to eat and drink and to do this in memory of his death and resurrection. God has made an agreement (a covenant) with us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. He will be our God and we will be his people by ratifying the covenant: by eating and drinking in memory of Jesus.

The eucharist is our way of signing-up again and again to the promises of God, showing our renewed commitment and gratefully receiving God's gift. Saint Ignatius of Antioch called the eucharist "the medicine of immortality, the antidote which prevents us from dying so we can live forever in Jesus Christ." On the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ we share in communion here on earth, and we pray that one day we may be found rejoicing together at the everlasting meal of heaven.



ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH COLWYN BAY

01492-532670

www.catholicchurchcolwynbay.co.uk

Sunday 26th June 2011 Corpus Christi

Prayer for the Parish

O God our Father and Creator

Where two or more are gathered together in your name
you are there in their midst.

We bring to you our parish of St Joseph's to ask your blessing
as we meet the challenges of our mission of witness and discipleship.

Give us courage and enthusiasm.

Give us spirit of initiative and originality of thought.

Give us charity and unity

and make us aware of each other as we work towards the renewal of our
parish.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

St Joseph pray for us.

MASSES

Saturday 5-30pm

Sunday 9-30am/11-00am

WEEKDAYS

*Monday 9-30am

Tuesday 7-30pm

Wednesday 9-30am (School Mass)

Thursday 9-30am

Friday 12noon

SATURDAY CONFESSIONS

11-00am to 11-30am

5-00pm to 5-30pm

EXPOSITION, ROSARY AND QUIET PRAYER

Saturday 11-00am to 12-00noon

**MASSES MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF A FUNERAL
OCCURS**

PLEASE REMEMBER in your prayers all those who are sick, especially :

Basil Sanders, Mary Derrick, Peggy Porter, Edward Burke, Bridget McLaughlin, Fr Colm O'Riain OMI, Wendy Swinton, , Mary O'Leary, Fr Chris Dunne OMI, Eddie Mann, Neil Hogan, Mike Tobin, John Lyon, Rose Bostock., Gay Merrick, Francis Shaw, William Richardson, Mary Bushell, Betty McCarthy, Peter Smith, Nancy Bowden, Anthony, Josie Canning, Eddie Hosker, Stacey Usher, Anne Boyle, Claire Carlson, Ernie Speakman, Derek Hughes, Annie Quinn, Annie O'Neill, Heather Hillis Maxwell.

All whose Anniversaries occur around this time including

Mary Peddar (1984), Thomas Pedder (1983).

Recently Deceased

Mary Cafferkey, Nora Ryan, Derek Hughes, Drina Watts.

Last Week's Offertory Collection

Was

£564-22

(including £217-22 loose)

REPOSITORY

The Repository is open after both the Saturday and Sunday Masses And also from 12-30pm till 1-00pm weekdays.

NOTICE BOARD

Information or notices for the parish notice board should be given to Sr Clare in advance

Oblate Missions

Fr Paschal Dillon will be making An appeal over this weekend 25th/26th June On behalf of Oblate Missions

WORD FOR TODAY

Contrary to popular thought, going to Communion is not a sign that we are good. It's a sign that we need to be better. Eating and drinking the body and blood of Christ is the spiritual medicine that helps us stay close to our God.



Wednesday 29th June

There will be an additional Mass held at 7-30pm for SS Peter and Paul.

PARISH NEWS

Social Committee

We have had very little response to our suggestion of a BBQ on 9th July. If you are keen for us to go ahead with this please come to our special meeting at 7pm on Monday 27th June in the Presbytery.

Parish Holiday

The next parish holiday will be to Bideford. Departing 16th April 2012. Cost will be £165-00. Additional accommodation has been obtained. See John (Organist) or Tel: 517038.

Would you like to help families in your Parish/School?

Would you like to learn the skills to deliver the Family Caring Trusts' parenting programmes? The Marriage and Family Life Commission and the Family Caring Trust are to hold a one day training to prepare volunteers to deliver the Family Caring Trusts parenting programmes including—Noughts to Sixes, Five to Fifteen and Parenting Teenagers. This will take place in August on a date between 15th and 26th. Date and venue will be determined by demand. Places are limited so if you would like to attend the course or want more information please contact Margaret Hinton, development worker by e-mail margaretmfl@hotmail.co.uk or on 07842596878 or by post c/o Bishop's House asap.

S.P.U.C

Next meeting will be Thursday 30th June in the Presbytery.

Sacramental Preparation Group

We have arranged a meeting for everyone involved in any of the Sacramental Preparation programmes and for anyone interested in becoming involved with helping with Baptism, Holy Communion or Confirmation preparation. The aim of the meet will be to welcome new helpers and set goals for the next 12 months. The meeting will be held on Wednesday 29th June after the 7-30pm Mass.

Choir at the 9-30am Mass

Further to a recent parish meeting if anyone is interested in taking the matter the matter further please contact John at the organ.

Christmas Market

Now booking for a day trip to the Christmas market held in Manchester on Saturday 26th November. Seats are £10-50 each. Please see John (Organist).

The Meaning of Life—The Gerry Hughes SJ Talk

The AFF group were delighted that so many parishioners came along to this event. The feedback was very positive and encouraging. Many people asked for more talks of this nature and the AFF will aim to repeat the experience or a similar one later in the year. A memorable feature of the afternoon was the delicious confectionary made by Maureen. Thank you to all.