

BULLETIN 36 – 15TH NOVEMBER 2020

My dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Bishop has recently written *“This is a time for us to show our strength. And by that I do not mean strength in defiance. I mean strength in mutual support; strength in service; strength in perseverance and hope. I mean, then, the strength of our faith in action.”*

The first act of faith is the praise of God in deep and constant prayer. This must be at the root of our lives, as individuals, as families, as households. I urge you, then, to stay faithful to daily patterns of prayer. Pray privately; pray together at home; come to church to pray; pray without ceasing. I thank God that we are able even in this “lockdown” to open our church for Adoration and private prayer, and that we have live streaming of the Mass, celebrated every Sunday and most weekdays in our church. Only by receiving the living water from the Lord will we pass through this arid time. Indeed, if we stay close to the Lord, we will be changed for the better by this time of crisis.

Next weekend should have seen the start of the International Eucharistic Congress in Budapest, this however has had to be postponed, yet another consequence of the pandemic. Cardinal Peter Erdo of Budapest-Estergom who would have hosted this event has asked that every parish in the world as far as possible keep a period of Adoration of Our Blessed Lord in the Holy Sacrament on Saturday 21st November, the vigil of Christ the King. Our own Cardinal has also asked that all parishes and dioceses to set aside some time on this date to have Adoration, to pray for the worldwide situation with Covid-19, and to enter into this preparation for the Eucharistic Congress next year.

I believe this is important, indeed vital, to our growth in our spiritual lives not only as individuals but as a parish. During the Lockdown there is much that we are not able to do, we cannot even visit our friends or loved ones in their homes or even their gardens. Yet there is one relative we can visit in His house, one friend, actually the greatest friend we will ever have, whom we can visit, Jesus in His Eucharistic Presence. We can come and share with him our sorrows and our joys, there is no need to give into feelings of loneliness and despair, we have in The Lord someone with whom a problem shared is not just a problem halved, but a problem well on the way to be solved.

Next Saturday there will be Adoration of the Exposed Sacrament in our church from 11am until 2pm. I hope that all who are able will come and visit the Lord if only for a short time, please, please come and join us. This will be silent and as individuals to comply with the Covid 19 regulations. Please wear a mask, sign in and sanitize your hands. We hope to have 3 day lasting lamps which can be lit and dedicated for any of your intentions and will remain burning long after you have left the building, these are only £2 each and there will be an honest box with the lamps in the porch.

God bless you all,

Fr. John

TIMES OF MASS AND ADORATION THIS WEEK

Sun	15	33 rd of the year	10:00 Mass People of the parish 10:40 Adoration (Church Open)
Tue	17	St. Elizabeth	19:00 Mass John Birchall (RIP)
Wed	18	Dedication of Ss. Peter & Paul	10:00 Mass John Hogan 10:20 Adoration (Church Open)
Thu	19	feria	10:00 Mass Holy Souls 10:20 Adoration (Church Open)
Fri	20	feria	10:00 Mass Holy Souls
Sat	21	Presentation BVM	10:00 Mass end to Covid 19 11:00 Adoration (Church Open) till 1400
Sun	22	Christ the King	10:00 Mass people of the parish 10:40 Adoration (Church Open)

BIDDING PRAYERS

Let us bring our needs and petitions before the Lord.

For the Pope: that he may protect and increase the flock that is entrusted to his care.

For bishops, priests, and all church leaders: that they may be granted strength and wisdom in the service of God's people.

For elected officials and world leaders entrusted with responsibilities both small and great: that they may be good and faithful public servants.

For young people: that they may be helped to find the unique giftedness with which God has graced every human person.

For ourselves: that we may be conscientious in the smallest of duties and given the support we need when our burdens weigh heavily.

Good and loving Father, hear the prayers of your servants, through Christ our Lord.

A PRAYER BY ALPHONSUS LIGUORI BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

This prayer before the Blessed Sacrament by St. Alphonsus Liguori (pictured above), the celebrated 18th century theologian and founder of the Redemptorists order, is a moving and fitting way to begin a visit of adoration and meditation with our Lord there.

My LORD Jesus Christ, Who because of your love for men remain night and day in the Blessed Sacrament, full of pity and of love, awaiting, calling and welcoming all who come to visit You, I believe that You are present here on the altar. I adore You, and I thank You for all the graces You have bestowed on me, especially for having given me Yourself in this Sacrament, for having given me Your most holy Mother Mary to plead for me, and for having called me to visit You in this church.

I now salute Your most loving Heart, and that for three ends: first, in thanksgiving for this great gift; secondly, to make amends to You for all the outrages committed against You in this Sacrament by Your enemies; thirdly, I intend by this visit to adore You in all the places on earth in which You are present in the Blessed Sacrament and in which You are least honoured and most abandoned.

My Jesus, I love You with my whole heart. I am very sorry for having so many times offended your infinite goodness. With the help of your grace, I purpose never to offend You again. And now, unworthy though I am, I consecrate myself to You without reserve. I renounce and give entirely to You my will, my affection, my desires and all that I possess. For the future, dispose of me and all I have as You please.

All I ask of You is your holy love, final perseverance and that I may carry out your will perfectly. I recommend to You the souls in Purgatory, especially those who had the greatest devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and to the Blessed Virgin Mary. I also recommend to You all poor sinners.

Finally, my dear Saviour, I unite all my desires with the desires of your most loving Heart; and I offer them, thus united, to the Eternal Father, and beseech Him, in your name and for love of You, to accept and grant them. Amen.

THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY

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