

Parish of St Mary, Middlewich & St Margaret Ward, Holmes Chapel

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Shrewsbury Diocese is a Registered Charity St Mary's School 01606 832164 E mail admin@2nd February

The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ, 14th June 2020

Sunday	14th June	10.30am	Lou Costello & Ronnie Dickenson
Monday	15th June	9.00am	Mark Preston RIP
Tuesday	16th June	9.00am	Andy Rylands RIP
Wednesday	17th June	7.30pm	Special Int.
Thursday	18th June	9.00am	Bishop Brian
Friday	19th June	9.00am	Ann Hitchcock <i>The most Sacred Heart of Jesus</i>
Sunday	21st June	10.30am	Mary Comer b'day

Sacrament of Reconciliation : On request in extreme need
Sacrament of Baptism On hold until further notice.

Please Pray for

ALL who are sick at home and in hospital: Stephen Grey, Margaret McCallum, Sara O'Brien, Jamie Connor, John Bomford, Nathan Carter, Larry Porter, Gillian Robinson, Tim Bradbury, Roy Yearsley, Peter Hannon, Stan Rosiak, Sadie Everard, Alex Randall Jenny Ogden, John Evans, Shirley Gaskell, Joan Upton, Karen Potts, Mary Morris, Michael McCluskey, Jan D, Margaret Scarlett, Fr Paul Hughes, Deacon Philip White, Martin Armitt, Fr Jim McGrath, Ursula Finn,



ALL who have died recently, especially Ann Hitchcock and Vincent Fanning

ALL whose anniversaries occur at this time: George Dean, Margaret Connolly, Lilian Mary Clarke, Frances Twiss, Phyllis Regan, Raymond John Davies, George Neild, Catherine Cannon, George Atkinson, Thomas Sweeney, Ellen Egerton, Lorenzo Cagna, Mary Jane McGarvey, Roy Bomford, Teresa Egerton, Owen Carolan, Joseph McCarthy, John McAllister, John Baker, Rev Kevin Moorhouse, Rev Patrick Down, Rev Hugh Birdwhistle, Rev William Doyle, Canon Francis Pullen, Rev Francis McLeod

Unite Against Coronavirus: As we cope with coronavirus in the UK, we think of our brothers and sisters in developing countries who are facing the pandemic with fragile health systems, some of which have almost no intensive care beds or ventilators. Food prices have already risen with borders closing, the poorest are losing their jobs and income with wholesale shutdowns. Furthermore, inadequate health care, lack of access to washing facilities and limited ability to social distance will result in loss of life on an intolerable scale. The likely impact will be devastating. We are one global family. Please will you sign the CAFOD petition to ask the government to work with other world leaders to help the most vulnerable people in our world to cope with this crisis? To sign the petition visit cafod.org.uk/coronaviruscampaign

The petition asks our PM to work with other leaders to: Make sure that any vaccine developed with UK public money is made available to everyone regardless of income or where in the world they live: Provide urgent financial and technical support to help developing countries deal with this crisis: Cancel all debt payments by developing countries in 2020 so that they can spend that money on much needed healthcare rather than debt repayments: Put plans in place to build a fairer, more just society after the crisis so that the world's most vulnerable people can live in dignity and restore our common home for future generations.

Dear Parishioners,

We are delighted that the government is allowing places of worship to open, subject to correct procedures being in place, from this Monday. This is for private prayer only, and exposition or organised prayer is not allowed. Because of the short notice and the complicated requirements it is likely that we shall not be ready until the following week.

Thank you all who have volunteered to be stewards. We now have enough to cover the proposed opening hours, on duty for an hour each, and a couple of "spares", but as the situation is likely to continue for some weeks, more would always be welcome. All stewards will receive instruction and will be provided with disposable gloves, aprons and masks and hand sanitising gel, soapy water and disposable cleaning cloths and sanitising wipes will be available.

Only 10 people are allowed in church at any one time, so we have decided to use only half the church for each session so that there is less cleaning necessary each day. There is a suggested time limit for prayer of 15 minutes, but this will only be enforced if there is a queue!!

It is not possible, as suggested, to have separate entrance and exit doors, but there will be a one way system inside the church, in down the side aisle and out down the centre aisle. Everyone will be required to sanitise their hands on entering and again on leaving., and benches will be sanitised between each use by the stewards. Some benches will be blocked off to ensure social distancing and we are also required to put up various signs and instructions.

Ken Page, who is our Health and Safety Rep, has agreed to be our Covid Co-Ordinator. He has already helped us to work out the best logistics for our building, and is currently preparing a Risk Assessment for the Diocese. Once this has been submitted and approved, and our supplies of barrier tape etc. have all arrived and been deployed, we shall receive official permission to open from the Diocese.

It sounds complicated.....it IS complicated, but it will be worth it to have our church open again. Please be patient with us whilst we try to follow the rules!

A reminder of proposed opening times: Monday and Thursday evenings, 7.00-9.00pm and Wednesday and Friday mornings 10.00am —12. Stewards must be under 70 and in good health.

If you can help, please email the parish office.

Fr Peter, Deacon Tony, Deacon Chris.

Online giving to the Parish

For those Parishioners who normally give in the collection at Mass and wish to help the Parish at this time, an online donation page to allow you to donate to the Parish has been added to the Parish website. Please be aware that a minimum donation of £5 is requested if giving in this way.

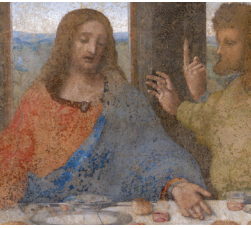
You can also Gift Aid your donation to help the Parish further. If you want to Gift Aid your donation, please tick the box shown on the screen even if you have previously completed a Gift Aid Declaration form in favour of the Parish for regular giving made by Offertory Envelope or Standing Order. Thank you for your support.

Fr Peter will stream Morning Prayer of the Church at 8.45 every Friday. Deacon Chris will stream the Rosary every Monday at 6.30pm. Because of the proposed opening of church for private prayer on Monday evening from 7—9, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will now be streamed after Mass on Wednesday evenings for half an hour and not on Monday evenings.

Thank you for your continued generosity. The past two weeks envelopes yielded



If you wish to set up a Standing Order either permanently or in order to continue to make your regular Offertory giving to the Parish during the period when Mass is not being celebrated in public, please contact Ken Worthington on 01606 737070



The Last Supper was the subject of choice by all the Renaissance masters who believed they were “worthy” of such a monumental scene in the history of the world; so why, among hundreds of depictions of this event, is the one by da Vinci the one the world knows best? In many ways it comes down to what so often singles out artworks of this period: Leonardo managed to combine the principles of the classical world of art with the new humanism for which this area of Italy would become famous. It is this humanism, this interweaving of human emotion with the ancient ways of portraying human beings, that is at the heart of why the Renaissance was so important; and on a monastery wall in Milan, da Vinci took that expression to new heights.

Until this work, Last Supper paintings tended to show their figures seated around a spacious table, with Judas the lone figure on our side. The inference was clear: Christ and his apostles were on one side, and we were on the other side with Judas, the betrayer. Leonardo, though, has another idea: his figures are crowded into a small space, almost jostling for position; and Judas is on the same side of the table as Christ, though his face is in a shadow. He is holding his bag of silver, although only he and Jesus would at this moment have any idea what that symbolised; but Christ has just announced to the table that one of their number will betray him, and the faces around him are reeling with shock.

HOPE IN DESPAIR

But something even more significant is taking place. Christ’s hands are reaching out across the table; one hand towards the wine, the other towards the bread. In the immediate aftermath of having announced that he is to be betrayed, Christ is reaching out for the elements of salvation. His body; his blood. It is yet to be broken and spilled, although both he and Judas know that is what lies ahead; but it will never die, and Christ knows that. In the midst of disaster, salvation; in the midst of despair, hope.

Mass text

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 8:2-3. 14-16

PSALM Psalm 147

RESPONSE **O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!**

Or **Alleluia!**

- O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! Zion, praise your God!
He has strengthened the bars of your gates, he has blessed the children within you. **R.**
- He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat. He sends out his word to the earth and swiftly runs his command. **R.**
- He makes his word known to Jacob, to Israel his laws and decrees.

He has not dealt thus with other nations; He has not taught them his decrees. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord.
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

GOSPEL John 6:51-58

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

Next Sunday’s Readings:

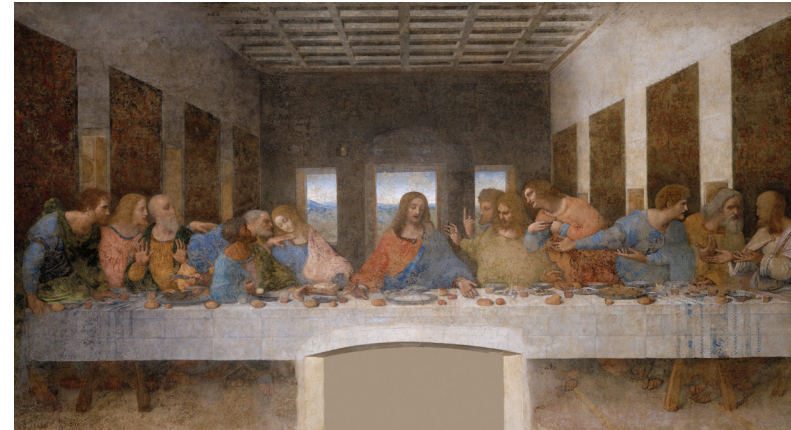
Jeremiah 20:10-13
Romans 5:12-15
Matthew 10:26-33



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LEONARDO DA VINCI, THE LAST SUPPER



It’s one of the most famous paintings in the world – alongside another work by the same artist, the *Mona Lisa* – and it hangs on a convent refectory wall in Milan. It is, of course, *The Last Supper* by the Renaissance giant Leonardo da Vinci; and it honours the first moment when bread was broken and wine shared by the apostles – the instigation of the Eucharist, which is remembered on this feast of Corpus Christi and indeed at every single Mass.

A refectory wall was a common place to find a Last Supper painting in Renaissance times; but in fact this room was not a dining room when the painting was commissioned. It was intended to be a mausoleum, and the work Leonardo was hired to do was conceived as the centrepiece of that space. However, alterations to the convent over time meant the large painting – it is fifteen feet by twenty-nine feet – ended up on the wall of the monastic refectory.

Today you’ll only see it if you book ahead online, and only small groups are admitted at a time. In many ways it’s a miracle there’s anything here at all because, though this work is often referred to as a fresco, and though it is certainly painted directly onto the wall, technically it is not a fresco as the paint, both tempera and oil, was brushed by Leonardo onto dry plaster, not the traditional wet wall required for a true fresco. The downside of wet plaster was that the paint had to be hurriedly applied, which Leonardo thought wouldn’t give him enough scope to include the detail he wanted to include. The upside, however, was that a true fresco would be more durable; and today, despite a huge renovation programme some years ago, the painting is in bad shape.

Divine images



Joanna Moorhead concludes this series on religious art by looking at one of the world’s most famous paintings – one especially appropriate for today’s feast day.

14 JUNE 2020

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)

YEAR A

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK III