

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST PANCRAS, IPSWICH

Deum diligere et quæ sunt Dei

'To love God and the things of God'

The Presbytery
1 Orwell Place
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Parish Administrator:
Fr Joseph Welch

Sundays: Yr B
Weekdays: Yr 1

July is dedicated to
the Precious Blood of Jesus



Sunday 4th July 2021

14th Sunday of the Year

09:30 — Helen Berina's ints.

11:00 — Anne Abbott's int.

Monday 5th July

S. Anthony Maria Zaccaria

10am — Corazon Requina RIP &
Herbert Godbold RIP (3)

Tuesday 6th July

S. Maria Goretti

8am (EF) — Maria Giuseppina Antoinetta de Pasquale RIP

Wednesday 7th July

Feria

6pm — for the election of a bishop

Thursday 8th July

S. Withburga

12:15pm — Corazon Requina RIP &
Herbert Godbold RIP (4)

Friday 9th July

Ss Augustine Zhao Rong & Comps.

10am — Evangeline Ehileme's ints.

Saturday 10th July

Our Lady on Saturday

10am — Evangeline Ehileme's ints.

Vigil of 15th Sunday of the Year

6pm — Holy Souls

CONFESSIONS:

Mon — Fri: 20 minutes before each Mass

Sat: 9:30 — 10:00 & 5pm — 5:45pm

ADORATION: Sat: 5pm — 5:45pm

ROSARY: Mon — Fri: after Mass

DEVOTIONS TO O.L. OF IPSWICH &

S. PANCRAS: Sat after 10am Mass

EF Masses: 2nd Sunday of the month at
8am. (Next 2nd Sunday Mass: 11th July.)

DURING THE PANDEMIC

Please...

- *sanitise your hands as you enter and leave the church;*
- *wear a face mask at all times unless you are exempt;*
- *maintain a social distance of 1m from members of other households;*
- *allow yourself to be guided by the instructions of the stewards and priest;*
- *scan your COVID-19 App or complete the track-and-trace slip;*
- *spray whatever you have touched with the sanitizing sprays dotted around the church, especially whenever you pay a private visit to the church;*
- *at Communion time, allow those receiving in the hand to come up first.*

Thank you.

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REQUIEM ÆTERNAM DONA EIS, DOMINE

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

There seems to be a developing and rather troubling trend of families not arranging for their deceased Catholic loved ones to be given a requiem Mass. Perhaps cost is a factor (it's cheaper to go straight to the cemetery or crematorium and cut out the church), or maybe a lack of awareness of the importance of Catholic burial rites.

Once, at a national meeting of headteachers, one speaker proudly declared that 'Our schools prepare our students for life.' The headteacher of a prominent Catholic school replied, 'At our school, we prepare our students for death.' The truth is that the single most important moment in our lives is the moment of our death, and a good Catholic spends a whole lifetime preparing for that moment. Far from being a morbid thought, the moment of death is something that every saint looks forward to. Just as a bride anticipates her wedding day with joyful expectation and excitement, and spends a great deal of time preparing for it, so a soul longs for the day when she* will meet the loving God who made her for exactly that purpose, namely to be with Him for all eternity. (*Traditionally, all souls—men's, women's, children's—are regarded as feminine.)

Yet every soul knows that she is not worthy to meet her Maker, and looks to the Church for every possible assistance in being cleansed of the stain of sin. The requiem Mass is the last act of Our Holy Mother the Church in preparing Her children for the final journey from this world to the next, the journey that every soul was created for in the first place, and for which each soul has spent a lifetime in preparation. It is an essential part of this journey that every Catholic receives the Last Rites just before dying (don't wait until someone has died before calling a priest), and is then committed into the care of a loving God through the sacred rites of the requiem Mass.

So, please, I beg you, make sure you leave written instructions for your family!

*For it is the duty of a priest to remind people that
'life is short, death is certain, eternity is long.'*

St John Henry Newman

Please consider making a **STANDING ORDER** instead of a weekly cash contribution to the parish. Thank you.

BANK: Barclays ACCOUNT NAME: St Pancras Catholic Church SORT CODE: 20-44-51 ACCOUNT NUMBER: 00775843
St Pancras Catholic Church is part of the East Anglia Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: registered charity no. 278742

Fr Joseph has been granted an extension to his leave of absence from the Oxford Oratory, and is very pleased that Bishop Alan wishes him to remain at St Pancras beyond the end of August.

The SPUC is holding a Mass lobby of MPs on **Friday 16th July** and **Saturday 17th July 2021**. We are asking pro-life supporters up and down the country to organise a meeting with their MP, at the MP's constituency office, on one of these dates. The DIY abortion policy is still in place, and there is a renewed threat of assisted suicide being legalised. Please ask your MP to lobby the Health Secretary to **end DIY abortion**. Please ask your MP to **vote against assisted suicide**. SPUC has produced dedicated briefings to help you lobby your MP. Please go to www.spuc.org.uk/MassLobby2021

Holy Water

Covid restrictions still do not allow us to have a holy water stoop at the entrance to our churches. However, parishioners are encouraged to have their own stoop at home, just inside the front door perhaps. If you bring a small empty bottle to church, it can be filled with already blessed holy water.

Apostleship of the Sea

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Apostleship of the Sea.

Donate online

It is now possible to make donations to the parish, to the Poor Box, and to second collections, via our website. Please go to the 'Donate' page and make a donation the same way that you would if you used the 'Dona' machines at the back of church.

Work continues

In the church, electrical wonders were performed last week in the choir loft, in preparation for the long-awaited work on the organ to begin on Monday of this week. In the house, work on the kitchen has come on apace. White goods and units have been installed, work surfaces have been put in place, and ceiling, walls, and woodwork have been painted. Nearly there!

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Sick List

Prayers are asked for Lee Porter, Judy Fell, Jim Convey, Simon Marriage, and Mary Driscoll.

Of your charity

Please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently, especially Christopher List and Neil Ward, as well for all whose anniversaries occur at this time: John Lynch, Ernesto Zagni, Francis Borg, Helen White, Florence Morgan, Gertrude Box, Francis Skibinski, Marrion Jarvis, James Green, Joan Eyton, Eva Kerby, Mary McAtamney, Mary Barnes, Florence Downard, Catherine Messier, Edith Sawyer, Mary Clapham, Fred Major, Martin Brophy, and Robert Rofix. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Fr Joseph writes: The Mass-Pt IV If, as we have seen, the Mass is chiefly something Christ does, rather than something we do, and if the offering Christ makes is the supreme sacrifice of *adoration, thanksgiving, atonement, and supplication*, to God the Father, and if the Mass, like Calvary, opens to us a window onto heaven itself, then it follows that the temple in which these gifts are offered should reflect some of the majesty, beauty, and splendour of heaven.

Just as Christ gives His all, so we, His disciples, should give our all. Second best (as Cain discovered) isn't good enough. Bland, sloppy, and casual will not do. Only the best is good enough. Down the ages, generations of Catholics have given the best they could to beautify the houses of God and make their places of worship — cathedrals, abbeys, priories, and parish churches alike — fitting spaces in which to offer the supreme sacrifice of our redemption.

To this end, churches were decorated with gloriously coloured frescoes, baldacchinos, statues, and paintings. Altars were built of marble, reredoses carved of finest wood and then gilded, chalices, ciboria, and pattens were crafted of the most precious metals, and vestments woven from the finest silk. In our incarnational religion, where the Creator makes use of the things He has created to redeem His creatures, God uses the things of earth as a means of reaching down to His creatures, of revealing Himself to them, and of drawing them back up to Himself in heaven.

It is for this reason that religious art, like our religion itself, should reveal God's glory, and not obscure it. Abstract art that needs interpretation, or that needs a key before we can understand it, hides the beauty of God, leaving His people unsure what aspect of God is supposed to be being revealed. By contrast, the great art of, for example, the fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, serves magnificently to make known to us something of the splendour of God and the things of God.

In their contempt of all things Catholic, and especially of anything that suggested the Mass was a sacrifice, the Protestant reformers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries stripped the churches of beauty, took a hammer to the altars and replaced them with tables, white-washed the walls, and decapitated statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints. The results of this vandalism may still be seen in many pre-Reformation Anglican churches today. But what has horrified many Catholics in living memory is that similar things have been done in the name of renewal in many of our own churches also. (In our own church of St Pancras, frescoes were covered up, engravings painted over, and statues removed.) Ours should be to restore and add to the beauty of God's house, not to take away from it. *Domine dilexi decorem domus tuae et locum habitationis gloriae tuae.* 'O Lord, I have loved the beauty of thy house, and the place where thy glory dwells' (Ps 25:8).

God does not want empty show of course, as Our Lord points out when He quotes the prophet Hosea, 'I will have mercy, and not sacrifice' (Mt 9:13 and Hosea 6:6). But as is clear from Christ's many condemnations of Pharisaic behaviour, it is hypocrisy that is an abomination not ceremony. There should be a harmony between what we believe and say with our hearts on the one hand, and how we behave outwardly on the other. It is not *either* glorious churches and ceremonies *or* purity of heart, but glorious churches and ceremonies *and* purity of heart.

As Pope Benedict XVI said, "Beauty, then, is not mere decoration, but rather an essential element of the liturgical action, since it is an attribute of God himself and His revelation. These considerations should make us realize the care which is needed, if the liturgical action is to reflect its innate splendour."