

SUNDAY BULLETIN

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, JUNE 7TH, 2020

CATHOLIC CHURCH IN BURSLEM & TUNSTALL,	MASS TIMES	Sacred Heart	Saint Joseph's		Mass Intention
	The Sacred Heart Tunstall Queens Avenue ST6 6EE thesacredhearttunstall@gmail.com www.thesacredhearttunstall.org.uk	Saturday June 6 th <i>Easter feria</i>			Mass in Private
Saint Joseph's Burslem Hall Street ST6 4BB stjosephburslem@gmail.com www.stjosephsburslem.org.uk	THE MOST HOLY TRINITY			Mass in Private	Anne Platt RIP
Fr. Stanislaus Chukwube, CSSp. Parish Priest parishpriestsht@gmail.com	Monday 8 th Feria			Mass in Private	Special Intention
<i>Parish Secretariat:</i> Carol Critchlow Office hours: Wed, Thurs and the Fri 10 am to 2pm 13 Queen's Avenue Tunstall ST6 6EE 01782 838357	Tuesday 9 th Feria			Mass in Private	Special Intention
<i>Safeguarding:</i> Mrs May Algar 07817212552 Mrs Ellen Churchill 07859916416	Wednesday 10 th Feria			Mass in Private	Anne Platt RIP
	Thursday 11 th St. Barnabas, Mem.			Mass in Private	Anne Platt RIP
	Friday 12 th Feria			Mass in Private	Special Intention
	Saturday 13 th <i>St. Anthony of Padua, Mem</i>			Mass in Private	Special Intention
	THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST			Mass in Private	People of the Parish

THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS, TUNSTALL. 90th ANNIVERSARY – JUNE 2020

Last year, we started to make plans to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of our parish church of the Sacred Heart, which occurs this month. Friday the 27th of June 1930 was the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, when a Concelebrated Mass was held to mark the official opening of our parish church.

As it is a moveable feast, occurring nineteen days after Pentecost, the Feast of the Sacred Heart this year falls on 19th June 2020, and this is when we had planned to hold our celebratory Mass. However, at the time, we had no idea that, by this date, the whole world would be in lockdown after the emergence of the deadly Corona Virus. And so, our plans had to be abandoned, and the Mass postponed to a later date when, hopefully, the world returns to a sense of normality.

The parish has an extensive archive collection which we had hoped to display in the church over the coming months. To enable this to take place, a parishioner with links to a local business generously provided us with four large display boards which were placed in situ around the church. As soon as we are able to gain access to our church again, we will begin to fill the boards to provide the history of our church for all to see and enjoy.

In the meantime, we are providing a separate sheet with the Bulletin for the next two weeks outlining the history of our parish from its creation in 1853, which we hope you will enjoy. If anyone comes across any memorabilia relating to our church which we can add to our archive please contact the parish office, Father Stan, or Don Henshall.

TOWARDS REOPENING OF CHURCHES VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are currently looking forward and preparing for the reopening of our parish churches for private prayers, at this phase. The Archdiocese of Birmingham have issued strict guidelines in order for us to be in compliance with the government safety regulations. These include sanitization and cleaning of the church pews and furniture. Markings will also be put in designated places in the church; and there must be people present whenever the church is open for private prayers. We need many helping hands of parishioners who are younger than 70 years. If you would like to help please contact Paul Lamb or Carol Critchlow at the Parish office.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS of Marion Ruth Pittaway, Ann Platt and all those whose anniversary occur at this time.

BAPTISM AND MARRIAGE

For all enquiries for Catholic Marriage and Baptism, kindly contact the Parish Priest at the parish office.

PRAYER A DAY FOR VOCATIONS

Please email or Facebook Carol to choose a day in June to pray for vocations during the month on behalf of the parish.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE. The Way of the Heart:

We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

SACRED HEART CHURCH, TUNSTALL @ 90 A CALL FOR NOVENA PRAYER

The celebration of the anniversary of any Church building is always a moment of grace. We not only thank God for the gift of faith in our locality, but we call to mind the wondrous blessings that has come to us through this sacred building. We are, therefore, invited to join from our homes the 9 days Novena to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus beginning from Thursday, June 11, 2020. Novena Prayer to the Sacred Heart can be found in any regular Catholic prayer book. We can also assist from the parish office.

Those who have access to the internet can also join the online Annual Novena to the Sacred Heart at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart at Maryvale Institute. There will be a Mass, Sermon and Novena live streamed from Maryvale each evening at 8pm from Thursday 11 June to Friday 19 June 2020 (Feast of the Sacred Heart).

Full details, and how to access each event, are available on the Diocesan website:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/join-online-maryvale-sacred-heart-novena> and Maryvale Institute website: <https://www.maryvale.ac.uk/novena-2020.html>

WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS

(A message to the United States (June 3, 2020) in the wake of violence following the tragic killing of Mr George Floyd)

Dear brothers and sisters in the United States, I have witnessed with great concern the disturbing social unrest in your nation in these past days, following the tragic death of Mr George Floyd.

My friends, we cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life. At the same time, we have to recognise that "the violence of the recent nights is self-destructive and self-defeating. Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost".

Today I join the Church in St. Paul and Minneapolis, and in the entire United States, in praying for the repose of the soul of George Floyd and all those others who lost their lives as a result of the sin of racism. Let us pray for the consolation of their grieving families and friends and let us implore the national reconciliation and peace for which we yearn. May Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of America, intercede for all those who work for peace and justice in your land and throughout the world.

Pope Francis

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9; Daniel 3; 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13; John 3: 16-18

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, the idea that the one God exists in three persons – the father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. They are not three gods but one God. It is defined as a mystery. In other words, with our human faculty we cannot comprehend the Trinity or logically explain it.

When the missionaries came to Africa, they had great difficulties trying to explain this doctrine to the Africans. In the popular novel Things Fall Apart, we read how a young missionary tried to explain the Trinity to the gathered villagers. He talked about the respective persons of the Trinity. The idea of the God the Father and God the Son was clear enough, but they were expecting the missionary to tell them that the Holy Spirit was the wife of God the Father, which would have made sense in the example of the family model, but the missionary explained to them that the Holy Spirit proceeded from the Father and the Son; and that there is one God, not three. Of course, the elders could not comprehend how the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit could be one. They were disappointed and refused to accept the new teaching. But the children around were not interested in the logic of the Trinity. They were rather captivated by the unity and working relationship of the three-in-one. They immediately composed a song out of it and as they went home that evening, they sang that song of the Trinity and danced together in a friendly atmosphere, welcoming the new religion of love.

It is this love relationship and harmony between the three persons in one God that should captivate our attention today. God revealed himself as a Trinity perhaps to remind us that we must imitate the Trinity because we are made in the image of God. The more we understand God the more we understand ourselves. Experts in religion tell us that people always try to be like the god they worship. People who worship a warrior god tend to be warmongering, people who worship a god of pleasure tend to be pleasure seeking, people who worship a god of wrath tend to be vengeful, and people who worship a god of love tend to be loving. Like a god, so the worshippers.

God is a family. God is unity. In the economy of salvation, they worked in harmony – no jealousy or envy, no infighting. At creation the Godhead was there together, at incarnation and after, they were there, always working together and upholding each other. The type of strong hatred which made a Minneapolis police officer and his accomplices to squeeze life out of the 'I can't breathe' pleading George Floyd cannot exist in the Godhead. Never, God is love and wants all humanity to live in love as brothers and sisters. The selfishness, arrogance and prejudice of the modern time may not offer us the much-needed happiness that all human beings seek. I am because others are. I am not living in a separate world than other people. God does not exist in solitary individualism but in community of love and sharing. God is not a loner. The ideal Christian spirituality is not to run away from others. No, in contact and involvement with people and society we are happy and find salvation.

Mother Theresa declared that the most terrible form of poverty is loneliness, and the feeling of being unloved. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit – one indivisible entity, one in love and operation, One mind and one heart.

May this celebration of the Blessed Holy Trinity increase the bonding and love between families and the human family.

Happy Feast of the Most Holy Trinity!

This Parish is part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity 234216. Served by the Congregation of the Holy Ghost Fathers and Brothers (**SPIRITANS**).