

First Reading*Deuteronomy 8:2-3,14-16*

Moses tells the people to remember how God delivered them from slavery in Egypt.

Second Reading*1 Corinthians 10:16-17*

Though many, we are one body when we partake of the Body and Blood of Christ.

Responsorial Psalm*Psalm 147:12-15,19-20*

Praise God, Jerusalem!

Gospel Reading*John 6:51-58*

Jesus says: "I am the living bread."



Patrickswell
&
Ballybrown
Parish

Background on the Gospel Reading:

This Sunday we celebrate a second solemnity during this period of Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar. Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. This day was once called *Corpus Christi*, which is Latin for "Body of Christ." In the revised Lectionary the name for this day is expanded to reflect more completely our Eucharistic theology.

Today's Gospel is taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading is part of a discourse between Jesus and a crowd of Jews. The discourse comes shortly after the miracle of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and fishes. In John's Gospel, miracles such as this are identified as "signs" through which people come to believe that Jesus is the Son of God. These signs are followed by dialogue, or discourse that interprets and explains the miracle. In John's Gospel, the multiplication of the loaves is said to have occurred near Passover, thus linking it to the Exodus story and God's saving action toward the Israelites.

Having seen Jesus multiply the loaves and fishes, the crowd pursues him, perhaps seeking more food, but also looking for another sign. Jesus tells the crowd that he is the bread of life. He explains that, just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert, so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life. It is in this context that Jesus repeats those words in today's Gospel and tells them again that he is the living bread which came down from heaven.

Jesus' words are not well understood by the crowd; they argue that Jesus is not from heaven but born of Mary and Joseph. The crowd also has trouble understanding how Jesus could give them his flesh to eat. Jesus tells them that when they eat his flesh and drink his blood, they will remain forever connected to him. These are difficult words, but they are important because they seek to show us our intimate connection with Jesus.

This is the mystery at the heart of our Eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus' Body and Blood are truly present. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ's Body in the world. (*Loyola Press*)

PARISH NEWSLETTER

11 JUNE 2023

THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST, YEAR A (CORPUS CHRISTI)

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Mike Cussen Tel. 061 353711 Mobile 087 1279015

Parish Office: Monday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm

Tel: 061 353454 Email pwbbparishoffice@gmail.com

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The Pope's Monthly Intention

For the abolition of torture: We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.



CORPUS CHRISTI: We celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi today. At the Last Supper, the night before He died, Jesus gave His Body and Blood to His disciples and to us, saying, "Take this and eat it, this is my body, take and drink, this is my blood". (Matthew, 26:28). This was the first Mass. Since then it is our privilege to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion. The people of Ireland always had a great love and reverence for the Mass. During the time of the Penal Laws (1695-1746) attendance at Mass was prohibited, so the Eucharist was celebrated in isolated places using a boulder as the altar. These are now known as Mass Rocks. Jesus left us the Mass so that we can keep his memory alive for ever.

PRAYER BEFORE EXAMINATIONS

O God, help me during my examinations.

To remember the things which I have learned and studied.

Help me to remember well and to think clearly.

Help me not to be so nervous, or excited, that I will do myself an injustice.

Keep me calm and clear headed.

Help me try my hardest and to do my very best.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Remembrance books to inscribe the names of your young people who will be sitting exams along with prayer cards are available in both Churches.

Monday 12th June: World Day against Child Labour

Tuesday 13th June: Feast of Saint Anthony of Padua (patron saint of the poor and a Doctor of the Church, asking for his aid, particularly in finding lost articles)

Friday 16th June: World Day of Prayer for Priests

Weekly Offertory Collection: €1,408.50

URGENT APPEAL FOR BLOOD DONATIONS

WE ARE SHORT OF BLOOD. The Blood Transfusion Service will be at the Greenhills Hotel, Ennis Road, Caherdavin Limerick on Monday 12th June from 4.20pm to 7.40pm. This is an appointment clinic. Appointments may be booked on 1800 222 111.

NEW DONORS ARE WELCOME! THANK YOU. More info at <https://giveblood.ie/>



Ballybrown Choir Are On Summer Break

Thank you Fr Mike, Monsignor Lane and Fr. Eamonn and all Ballybrown parishioners for your great support since coming back after Covid. We will look forward to the autumn to greet once again the old faces, and give a big welcome to the new ones!

Have a great summer! [Ballybrown Choir Website](#)



ESB Networks: Have advised it will be necessary to interrupt supply of electricity to Ballybrown Church, Clarina on **Tuesday 13th June from 09:00am to 17:00pm.** These times are approximate.

Citizens Information will hold an Outreach Clinic in **Patrickswell Resource Centre on Monday 12th June from 11am - 12noon.** It is a free and confidential information service, just call in, no appointment necessary! Advice on social welfare, Housing, Health, Employment rights and Family matters available. Call 061-320303 for any further information.

PARISH WEEKLY MASSES

PATRICKSWELL: Weekdays - Mass at 9.30am (unless there is a funeral scheduled).

Weekend Masses: Saturday 6.30pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday 11.30am

Adoration: Saturday from 8.00am to 11.30am.

BALLYBROWN: Weekdays - Mass at 10.30am (unless there is a funeral scheduled).

Weekend Masses: Saturday 8.00pm (Vigil Mass), Sunday at 10.00am.

Churches open daily for quiet prayer from 11.00am to 5.30pm.

Baptisms may be booked one month in advance with the Parish Office.

For Patrickswell Church you may also book with the sacristan Maria.

Patrickswell Baptisms: Saturdays at 2.00pm and Sundays at 12.30pm

Ballybrown Baptisms: Saturdays at 3.00pm and Sundays at 12.30pm.