



**THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI**  
Mass and Benediction

**Thursday 11 June 2020**  
**8pm**

## Welcome to St Francis' Church, Hammerfield, for this on-line Service.

Whether this is your first time you have joined us virtually for this on-line Service at St Francis', or you are a regular member of the congregation, you are most welcome. We hope you will be able to join in with the Hymns and everything that is in **bold** type. The recording of today's Service can be found at:

<https://stjohnsboxmoor.org.uk/suspended-services-resources>

You might like to light a candle before the Service and place it on a table to remind you of the light of the risen Christ shining among us.

The posture directions in this order of service are optional. Please stand, sit, or kneel as you prefer. A collection is normally received during the service. Due to the restrictions this is not possible. You might like to set aside your gift and bring it when the restrictions have lifted. UK tax payers are encouraged to complete a GiftAid form which can be found on website.

Corpus Christi (Latin for Body of Christ) does not commemorate a particular event in Jesus's life but celebrates the Body and Blood of Christ in the Mass. Its celebration on a Thursday is meant to associate it with the institution, by Jesus, of the Eucharist during the Last Supper, commemorated on Maundy Thursday, but because the primary focus of Maundy Thursday is the institution of the Eucharist and not a veneration of the Real Presence of Christ in the consecrated elements of bread and wine, Corpus Christi is observed after the fifty days of Easter are over. Therefore, it is observed on the first available Thursday after Paschaltide.

The appearance of Corpus Christi as a feast in the Christian calendar was primarily due to the petitions of the thirteenth-century Augustinian nun Juliana of Liège. From her early youth Juliana had a veneration for the Blessed Sacrament, and always longed for a special feast in its honour.

A new liturgy for the feast was composed by St Thomas Aquinas. This liturgy has come to be used not only on the Feast of Corpus Christi itself but also throughout the liturgical year at events related to the Blessed Sacrament. The hymn Aquinas composed for Vespers of Corpus Christi, Pange Lingua, is also used on Maundy Thursday during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the altar of repose. The last two verses of Pange Lingua are also used as a separate hymn, Tantum Ergo, which is sung at Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.  
**Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.**

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.  
**Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.**

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.  
**Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.**

Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.  
**Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.**

### Final Hymn

*All remain kneeling to sing the Hymn, during which the Blessed Sacrament is returned to the Tabernacle.*

Sweet sacrament divine,  
hid in thine earthly home,  
lo, round thy lowly shrine,  
with suppliant hearts we come;  
Jesu, to thee our voice we raise  
in songs of love and heartfelt praise:  
sweet sacrament divine.

Sweet sacrament of peace,  
dear home for every heart,  
where restless yearnings cease  
and sorrows all depart;  
there in thine ear all trustfully  
we tell our tale of misery:  
sweet sacrament of peace.

Sweet sacrament of rest,  
ark from the oceans' roar,  
within thy shelter blest  
soon may we reach the shore;  
save us, for still the tempest raves,  
save, lest we sink beneath the waves:  
sweet sacrament of rest.

Sweet sacrament divine,  
earth's light and jubilee,  
in thy far depths doth shine  
the Godhead's majesty;  
sweet light, so shine on us, we pray  
that earthly joys may fade away:  
sweet sacrament divine.

*Divine mysteries 307 NEH*

### The Voluntary

***Our worship has ended; let our service begin.  
Thanks be to God!***

*The minister then stands and sings*

Thou gavest them bread from heaven. Alleluia!

**Containing in itself all sweetness. Alleluia!**

Let us pray.

Almighty God,  
in this great sacrament we come into the presence of Jesus Christ,  
your Son, born of the Virgin Mary,  
and crucified for our salvation:  
may we who declare our faith in this fountain of love and mercy  
drink from it the water of everlasting life;  
through the same Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

### **Benediction**

*The Minister goes to the Altar and, taking hold of the Monstrance, turns towards the People to give the Benediction, making the sign of the cross.*

*The Minister then kneels and begins*

### **The Divine Praises**

Blessed be God.

**Blessed be God.**

Blessed be his holy Name.

**Blessed be his holy Name.**

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

**Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.**

Blessed be the Name of Jesus.

**Blessed be the Name of Jesus.**

Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.

**Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.**

Blessed be his most Precious Blood.

**Blessed be his most Precious Blood.**

Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

**Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.**

Blessed be the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

**Blessed be the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.**

## **THE GATHERING**

*A period of quiet prayer precedes the service as the organ is played.*

*When a bell sounds, all sing*

### **The Processional Hymn**

Alleluia, sing to Jesus!  
his the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia, his the triumph,  
his the victory alone:  
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of every nation  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia, not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
alleluia, he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how:  
though the cloud from sight received  
him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluia, bread of angels,  
thou on earth our food, our stay;  
alleluia, here the sinful  
flee to thee from day to day:  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia, King eternal,  
thee the Lord of lords we own;  
alleluia, born of Mary,  
earth thy footstool, heaven thy  
throne:  
thou within the veil hast entered,  
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;  
thou on earth both Priest and Victim  
in the Eucharistic Feast.

*Hyfrydol 271 NEH*

### **The Greeting**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

*A welcome is given and the Mass is introduced.*

### **The Prayer of Preparation**

As the Lord welcomes us into his presence, we pray together:

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Prayers of Penitence

As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of God's love,  
revealed in Word and Sacrament,  
let us call to mind our sins and ask for his forgiveness.

**Almighty God,  
our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you  
and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

## Absolution

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*We give praise to God as we sing*

## The Gloria

♪ **Glory to God, Glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest.** (\* Repeated as a refrain)  
**Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory. \***  
**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer. \***

## The Anthem

*During which the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the Altar in the Monstrance.*

Verily, verily I say unto you: except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

*Thomas Tallis (c 1505–85)  
St John 6: 53–56*

## The Prayer after Communion

All praise to you, our God and Father,  
for you have fed us with the bread of heaven  
and quenched our thirst from the true vine:  
hear our prayer that, being grafted into Christ,  
we may grow together in unity  
and feast with him in his kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament

*A time of silent prayer and praise is spent kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament.*

*Incense is offered once again as we sing*

## Tantum Ergo Sacramentum

Therefore we, before him bending,  
This great sacrament revere:  
Types and shadows have their ending,  
For the newer rite is here;  
Faith, our outward sense befriending,  
Makes the inward vision clear.

Glory let us give and blessing  
To the Father and the Son,  
Honour, might and praise addressing,  
While eternal ages run;  
Ever to his love confessing,  
Who, from both, with both is one. Amen.

*Pange Lingua 268 NEH*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour has taught us, so we are bold to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

### **The Giving of Communion**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

### **Agnus Dei**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.**

### **A Prayer to receive Spiritual Communion**

**In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every Altar of thy Church**

**where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated,**

**I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving.**

**I present to you my soul and body**

**with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you.**

**And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,**

**I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart.**

**I unite myself with you,**

**and embrace you with all the affections of my soul.**

**Let nothing ever separate you from me.**

**May I live and die in your love. Amen.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. \***

### **The Collect**

*Following a moment of quiet, a special Prayer for the Day is sung*

Let us pray,

Lord Jesus Christ,  
we thank you that in this wonderful Sacrament  
you have given us a memorial of your Passion:  
grant us so to reverence the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood  
that we may always know within ourselves,  
and show forth in our lives,  
the fruits of your redemption;  
for you are alive and reign with the Father  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

♪ **Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **Bible Readings**

A reading from the book Genesis.

King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine;  
he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said,

‘Blessed be Abram by God Most High,

maker of heaven and earth; and blessed be God Most High,  
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!’

And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

*Genesis 14.18-20*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

For I, Paul, received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For as

often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*1 Corinthians 11:23–26*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual Motet

Panis angelicus fit panis hominum:

dat panis caelicus figuris terminum.

O res mirabilis: manducat Dominum pauper servus et humilis.

*The bread of angels becomes the food of humanity:*

*the heavenly bread brings mere symbols to an end.*

*O what marvel: a poor humble servant consumes the Lord.*

*César Franck (1822–90)*

### The Gospel

Alleluia, Alleluia.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.

Whoever eats of this bread will live forever.

*St John 6: 51*

**Alleluia!**

Hear the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: 'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.' The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' So Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.'

*St John 6.51-58*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### The Sermon

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,

took bread and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks;

he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant,

which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup, so that we, in the company of *[N and]* all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever.

♪ **Amen**

### **The Preparation of the Table**

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest;  
make yourself known to us in the breaking of bread.

**Amen.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right and good,  
our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Jesus Christ our great high priest.  
He offered himself to you as the Lamb without blemish,  
the acceptable gift that gives you perfect praise.  
At the Last Supper, seated with his apostles,  
he left this memorial of his passion  
to bring us its saving power until the end of time.  
In this great sacrament you feed your people  
and strengthen them in holiness,  
so that throughout the world the human family  
may be enlightened by one faith  
and drawn together in one communion of love.  
We come to this foretaste of your heavenly banquet  
to be transformed by your grace  
and restored in the image and likeness of the risen Christ.  
Therefore earth unites with heaven  
to sing a new song of praise;  
we too join with angels and archangels  
as they proclaim your glory without end:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*We profess our faith in the Living God as we say together*

### **The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

### **The Prayers of Intercession**

Let us pray with thanksgiving to God, the giver of our spiritual food and  
of all grace.

Father, we thank you for your abundant grace, contained within the  
sacraments, by which the Church is sustained and nurtured. Keep us,  
and all Christian people, faithful to your command of remembrance,  
recalling the price of our redemption and the source of life. Teach us to  
serve you in others, bringing them the bread of life and the message of  
salvation.

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, give to all nations the hunger and thirst for righteousness through your living word. Make us understand the fellowship which we share in our common humanity, so that all life becomes a sacrament of your presence.

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, in the strength of the Holy Communion, send us out to make your power known to our friends and neighbours and colleagues. Although we are not able to receive you physically at this time, come to our hearts and supply us in our needs with the spiritual food and drink that makes us one with Christ.

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we thank you for all who have enabled us to receive our daily bread during these days of pandemic: for farmers, haulers, and supermarket workers. We pray for all who are starving in the midst of plenty: for all calling on the services of Food Banks; for nations where harvests have failed. Bring new hope for the relief of their suffering and move the hearts of the rich and powerful to relieve the poor and weak.

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, may the presence of Christ bring comfort and strength to the sick, the weak, and the dying. We pray for all named on our Newsletter, for all who are sick in hospital, and for all who care for them. And we give thanks for those who have been restored to health and wholeness.

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Father, we give thanks for all who have died sustained by the comfort of Holy Communion; for those named on our news letter; for those who taught us the faith, for those whom we love but see no-longer: may they rejoice for ever in the heavenly banquet where the forms of bread and wine give way to the full revelation of Christ.

Lord, hear us: **Lord, graciously hear us.**

In a moment of quiet let us bring our own prayers and praises before the throne of heavenly grace.

*A time of quiet is kept.*

Confident that we do not pray alone, but in communion with all the saints and martyrs, we offer these our prayers saying, merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### The Peace

We are the Body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace  
and builds up our common life.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

### The Offertory Hymn

*during which the bread and wine are brought to the Altar table and a Collection for the work of the Church is received.*

O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray  
that all thy Church might be for ever one,  
grant us at every Eucharist to say  
with longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done.'  
Oh, may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
one through this Sacrament of unity.

For all thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;  
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;  
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,  
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:  
thus may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
one through this Sacrament of unity.

We pray thee too for wanderers from thy fold;  
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,  
back to the faith which saints believed of old,  
back to the Church which still that faith doth keep:  
soon may we all one Bread, one Body be,  
one through this Sacrament of unity.

So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,  
may we be one with all thy Church above,  
one with thy saints in one unbroken peace,  
one with thy saints in one unbounded love:  
more blessed still, in peace and love to be  
one with the Trinity in Unity.

*Song 1 302 NEH*