

Ordinary Time (Year A)
The Month of June 2020
In the Year of the Word



*Flowing out of the great celebration of
the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
at Pentecost*

The month of June

What we can look forward to in the Church's Life:

Two recently instituted celebrations (for the week following Pentecost Sunday):

1st June – Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church

4th June – Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest

And some of the most beautiful and thought-provoking Feasts of the Church's Year:

7th June Most Holy Trinity

14th June The Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)

19th June Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

20th June Immaculate Heart of Mary

22nd June Ss John Fisher & Thomas More

24th June Nativity of St John the Baptist

28th June (transferred) Feast of Ss Peter & Paul

As well as other celebration that find a place in the hearts of individuals:

3rd June – St Charles Lwanga and the Martyr Saints of Uganda

13th June – St Anthony of Padua

And for our own Cathedral and the Churches of our Archdiocese:

18th June – Dedication of St Chad's Cathedral

What should not be overlooked is that we have just celebrated the greatest feast of Pentecost: the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit poured out upon Our Lady and the Apostles after Jesus' Ascension: the fulfilment of his promise.

We do not, therefore, *leave* Pentecost behind. We are 'launched' back into the Church's Year filled with the Holy Spirit and inspired by the Holy Spirit for all that God asks of us as individuals and as a Church community during the Time During the Year – known as Ordinary Time (Year A), listening to the Gospel of St Matthew, in the Year of the Word – the God who Speaks.

The Scriptures of Ordinary Time (Year A) 2020
In the Year of the Word – the God who Speaks

The Year of St Matthew resumes, but because of the various Sundays during this month of June that take us away from St Matthew's Gospel, we do not really get back to a semi-continuous reading of the Gospel of Matthew properly until July.

Pentecost Sunday began Week 9 of Ordinary Time (Year A).

The Weekday Readings are from Year 2 of the weekday cycle#

During this month of June, on Feria days (ie those without any other reason to change the readings to suit a particular Feast), the Scripture Readings will be from:

The Second Letter of St Peter (New Testament)

The Second Letter of St Paul to Timothy (New Testament)

The First Letter of the Kings (Old Testament)

The Second Letter of the Kings (Old Testament)

The Book of Lamentations (Old Testament)

The Prophet Amos (Old Testament)

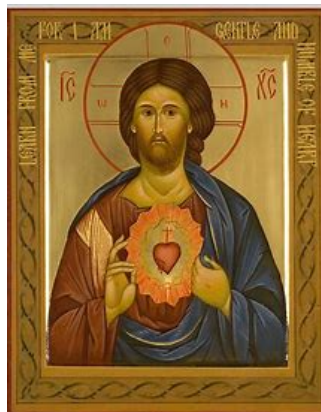
The Gospel of St Mark (Week 9)

The Gospel of St Matthew (Week 10 ff)

The Pope has a prayer intention each month of the year.

His prayer intention for June is:

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



Vatican Decree on the celebration of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of the Church
in the General Roman Calendar
Monday after Pentecost Sunday each year. (This Year, Monday 1st June)

The joyous veneration given to the Mother of God by the contemporary Church, in light of reflection on the mystery of Christ and on his nature, cannot ignore the figure of a woman (cf. Gal 4:4), the Virgin Mary, who is both the Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church.

In some ways this was already present in the mind of the Church from the premonitory words of Saint Augustine and Saint Leo the Great. In fact the former says that Mary is the mother of the members of Christ, because with charity she cooperated in the rebirth of the faithful into the Church, while the latter says that the birth of the Head is also the birth of the body, thus indicating that Mary is at once Mother of Christ, the Son of God, and mother of the members of his Mystical Body, which is the Church.

These considerations derive from the divine motherhood of Mary and from her intimate union in the work of the Redeemer, which culminated at the hour of the cross. Indeed, the Mother standing beneath the cross (cf. Jn 19:25), accepted her Son's testament of love and welcomed all people in the person of the beloved disciple as sons and daughters to be reborn unto life eternal.

She thus became the tender Mother of the Church which Christ begot on the cross handing on the Spirit. Christ, in turn, in the beloved disciple, chose all disciples as ministers of his love towards his Mother, entrusting her to them so that they might welcome her with filial affection.



As a caring guide to the emerging Church Mary had already begun her mission in the Upper Room, praying with the Apostles while awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit (cf. Acts 1:14). In this sense, in the course of the centuries, Christian piety has honoured Mary with various titles, in many ways equivalent, such as Mother of Disciples, of the Faithful, of Believers, of all those who are reborn in Christ; and also as “Mother of the Church” as is used in the texts of spiritual authors as well as in the Magisterium of Popes Benedict XIV and Leo XIII.

Thus the foundation is clearly established by which Blessed Paul VI, on 21 November 1964, at the conclusion of the Third Session of the Second Vatican Council, declared the Blessed Virgin Mary as “Mother of the Church, that is to say of all Christian people, the faithful as well as the pastors, who call her the most loving Mother” and established that “the Mother of God should be further honoured and invoked by the entire Christian people by this tenderest of titles”.

Therefore the Apostolic See on the occasion of the Holy Year of Reconciliation (1975), proposed a votive Mass in honour of Beata Maria Ecclesiae Matre, which was subsequently inserted into the Roman Missal. The Holy See also granted the faculty to add the invocation of this title in the Litany of Loreto (1980) and published other formularies in the Collection of Masses of the Blessed Virgin Mary (1986).

Some countries, dioceses and religious families who petitioned the Holy See were allowed to add this celebration to their particular calendars. Having attentively considered how greatly the promotion of this devotion might encourage the growth of the maternal sense of the Church in the pastors, religious and faithful, as well as a growth of genuine Marian piety, Pope Francis has decreed that the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, should be inscribed in the Roman Calendar on the Monday after Pentecost and be now celebrated every year.

This celebration will help us to remember that growth in the Christian life must be anchored to the Mystery of the Cross, to the oblation of Christ in the Eucharistic Banquet and to the Mother of the Redeemer and Mother of the Redeemed, the Virgin who makes her offering to God.

From the Congregation of Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 11 February 2018, the memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Lourdes



Scripture Readings for the two new liturgical celebrations after Pentecost

Mary, Mother of the Church (Memorial with Proper Readings)
Monday 1st June 2020

Genesis 3: 9-15, 20
Or Acts 1: 12-14

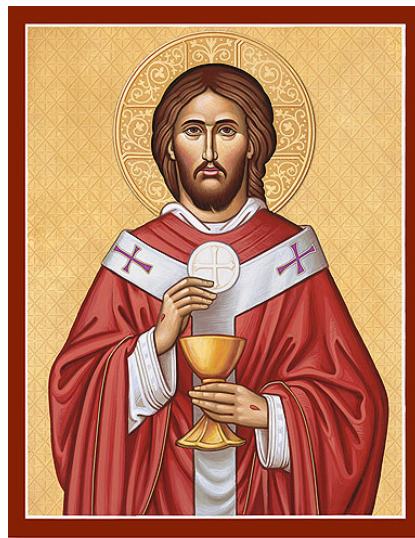
*The Mother of all those who live
They joined in continuous prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus*

Psalm 86

Of you are told glorious things, O City of God

John 19: 25-34

This is your Son; this is your Mother



Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, Year A (Feast)
Thursday 4th June 2020

Genesis 22: 9-18
Or Hebrews 10:4-10

*The sacrifice of Abraham, our Father in Faith
Lo, I have come to do your will, O God*

Psalm 40

Behold, Lord, I have come to do your will

Matthew 26:39-46

My soul is sorrowful to the point of death

Sunday 7th June – Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity (A)



Trinity Sunday is not a puzzle to be solved, but a relationship that we are invited to share every day of our lives: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Depicted here in a painting that dominates the wall of the chapel in the Venerable English College in Rome.

Exodus 34: 4-6, 8-9

Moses encounters the Lord on Mount Sinai

Daniel 3: 52-56

To you, glory and praise for evermore

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

All the saints send you greetings

John 3:16-18

God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved

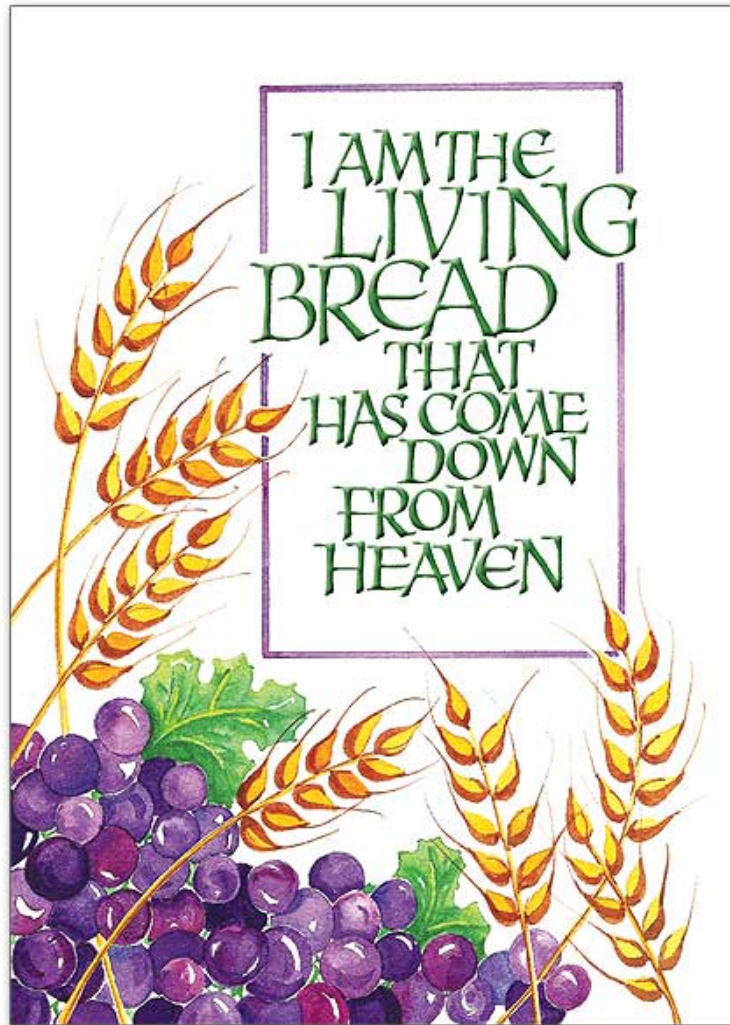
Phrases to look out for:

Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness & compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness & faithfulness.

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son

Sunday 14th June – Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (A)



This Feast which is often referred to as Corpus Christi is a day on which to celebrate Christ's abiding presence in the Eucharist: in our tabernacles, in our bodies.

Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14-16 *He fed you with manna*
Psalm 147 *O praise the Lord, Jerusalem*
1 Corinthians 10:16-17 *Though there are many of us, we form a single body*
John 6:51-58 *My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink*

Phrases to look out for:

He humbled you, he made you feel hunger,...to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

He established peace on your borders, he feeds you with finest wheat.

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ

How can this man give us his flesh to eat?



On this Sunday, we return to the Gospel of St Matthew which is the chosen Gospel for Year A. With the exception of next Sunday which is the Transferred Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul and of the Assumption in August, we shall now listen to St Matthew's Gospel until the end of the Church's year in November.

On this Sunday, the Annual Day for Life in our country, this year's theme is Choose Life. How can Catholic parishes and communities be places of welcome, assistance and support? On this 25th anniversary of St John Paul II's letter *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel of Life), we renew the call for respect and celebration of all life.

The parish is a 'family of families,' (Pope Francis, (*Amoris Laetitia*, 87) .

We ask our parishes to be places of welcome, where we can support pregnant women and celebrate the precious gift entrusted to them. We recognise that family is often 'a challenging mosaic made up of many different realities, with all their joys, hopes and problems.' (*Amoris Laetitia*, 57) .

We want to provide support for women and men who face difficult circumstances, as well as those who have experienced abortion and seek comfort in the Lord and their community.

Jeremiah 20: 10-13 Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy.

Psalms 68 In your great love, answer me, O Lord

Romans 5: 12-15 The gift considerably outweighed the fall.

Matthew 10: 26-33 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body

Sunday 28th June *Transferred Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul*



Acts of the Apostles 12: 1-11 Now the Lord really did save me from Herod
Psalm 33 From all my terrors, the Lord set me free
2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 17-18 All there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me
Matthew 16: 13-19 You are Peter and I will give you the keys of the Kingdom

Phrases to look out for:

All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittingly.

*I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips
Glorify the Lord with me, together let us praise his name
This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him in all his distress
Taste and see that the Lord is good*

I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish. I have kept the faith.
The Lord stood by me and gave me power.

Who do people say the Son of Man is? You are the Christ!

Memorials and Weekday Feasts during the month of June

Monday 1st June – *Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church*

Wednesday 3rd June – *Memorial of St Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs*

Thursday 4th June – *Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest*

Friday 5th June – *Memorial of St Boniface, Bishop and Martyr*

Thursday 11th June – *Memorial of St Barnabas, Apostle*



Saturday 13th June – *Memorial of St Anthony of Padua*

Thursday 18th June – *Solemnity of the Dedication of St Chad's Cathedral*
(Feast in all Churches of the Archdiocese)

On the evening of Thursday 18th June, St Chad's Cathedral will be hosting the weekly Thursday Mass for the intentions of Healthcare Workers of our country

Friday 19th June – *Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*

Saturday 20th June – *Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary*



Monday 22nd June – *Feast of Ss John Fisher & Thomas More, Martyrs*

Wednesday 24th June – *Solemnity of the Nativity of St John the Baptist*



THE
GOD
WHO
SPEAKS