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Twentieth Sunday



Dear Friends,

“If you do not eat the flesh of the son of man and drink his blood, you do not have life in you” (John 6:53). The listeners of Jesus were shocked at the idea of eating the flesh and drinking the blood, which was too repulsive for them. As we reflect on these words today, we can only say, “what great and wonderful wisdom!”

To eat the flesh and to drink the blood of Jesus is to take in the whole person of Jesus... To take Jesus in and let him transform us. In this eating and drinking, we are brought into communion with Christ and with the whole body of Christ.

The gift of Jesus as bread is a blessing and a challenge to all followers of Jesus. Eucharist is a sacred meal of communion, of togetherness, of thanksgiving, of sacrifice, of total giving. Eucharist is a life-altering, life-transforming gift. The Eucharist is a redeeming, transforming, life-giving, fulfilling, joy filled celebration. The Eucharist is, therefore, the completion, the crowning, and the fulfilment of Christ’s love. Let Jesus in and let him transform you!

Jesus broke bread with us and asked us not to forget...we haven’t! He asked us to remember, and we did, and we continue to remember... If there is any command we have not forgotten, if there is any command that have religiously observed, it is this command to “remember” and do it again and again!

We have broken bread again and again... we have done it with faith... we have done it with tears... we have done it even when our hearts felt nothing... we have done it without understanding... we have done it with profound sense of being fed by God... we are still trying to understand what it all means. But we haven’t forgotten... we have remembered!

In Basilicas, in Cathedrals, in big Churches, in small chapels, in small groups, with family, with friends, with strangers... we meet, we break bread... and something happens to the bread and much more, something happens to us! We remember and we remind each other that we meet again and again to celebrate the life that comes out of so much death... bread born out of brokenness, born out of death!

Our lives are a little like the wheat that becomes bread. We have similar experiences of dying and rising, being broken, shared together... Bread is born in the death of grains... the seed that falls into the ground dies and the wheat is born and new grains of wheat are born... they die again being ground into flour... the flour is sifted and changed into loaves for rising... Oh, what an awesome process of transformation!!!

Grain becomes bread in dying and in rising... only to die and rise again in being eaten and transformed into flesh and blood... unless the grain of wheat dies it just remains a grain, said the Master, Jesus!!!

This remembrance of Jesus in breaking the bread and sharing the cup continues to create a sacred “connection”, a “communion”, a “fellowship”, an eternal bond with the Lord and with one another. The Eucharist creates and sustains the Christian community. We remember, we celebrate, and we become one in Christ.

Twentieth in Ordinary Time (Year B)

When	Where	Masses Requested	Saints & Feasts
Sat 17 th Aug 5.30pm	St. Peter's	Nettie Caravana- RIP	Adoration followed by Mass
Sun 18 th Aug 9.00am 11.00am	St. Michael's St. Peter's	Nettie Caravana- RIP Bernadette Langton-RIP	Twentieth Sunday
Mon 19 th Aug	No Mass		
Tue 20 th Aug	No Mass		St Bernard, Abbot
Wed 21 st Aug	No Mass		St Pius X, Pope
Thu 22 nd Aug	No Mass		Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Fri 23 rd Aug	No Mass		

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

In St. Peter's Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm

In St. Michael's Wednesday 10.30am to 11.00am and by appointment, please ring to arrange.

Thank you.

A Warm Welcome: today is Sunday 18th August. As always, we welcome visitors and newcomers to join our "regulars," asking Almighty God to bestow His blessings and graces on us all. You are most welcome to join us for coffee and tea in the Parish Hall.

No Mass: as I will be away for a few days, there will be no Mass from Monday to Friday.

Curia Conference - Saturday 5th October 2024 - Save the Date - Following the successful event held back in September 2019, we will be hosting a Curial Conference this autumn to provide an opportunity for parish colleagues and volunteers to meet with members of the Curial departments and attend a variety of presentations and workshops. The event will be held on Saturday 5th October at St Bernadette's Secondary School, Bristol from 10.00am to 2.30pm and further details will be available at the beginning of September.

Education Sunday is celebrated, including a second collection, on the second Sunday of September each year. The Catholic Education Service has provided the following information: Education Sunday falls on the second Sunday of September (8th September, in 2024) just as the new academic year starts. It is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales, established 176 years ago in 1848, and provides an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks to all involved in making Catholic schools and universities places of enlightenment, as well as to look forward in anticipation of the year ahead. Resources for Education Sunday 2024 are now available at [Education Sunday \(catholiceducation.org.uk\)](http://Education Sunday (catholiceducation.org.uk))



Offertory Collection

Last Week:

St. Peter's: £518.52 (incl. via the Dona Machine)

St. Michael: £177.00



St. Peter's Hall is now blessed with a New Table Tennis table. All who are interested are warmly invited to come and play during the evening hours.

Thank You

