

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI (BODY & BLOOD OF OUR LORD)

“And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age” Matthew 28:20

The Feast of Corpus Christi (Latin for "Body of Christ") is the liturgical solemnity celebrating the **reality of the body and blood of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist**, known as **Transubstantiation**. It is celebrated on the Sunday after Trinity Sunday.

A Short History of Corpus Christi

Every Mass is a Feast of the Eucharist because, by participating in the Mass, and in receiving Holy Communion, we are honouring and celebrating the Eucharist. At the turn of the **11th Century**, the first heresies about the Real Presence of Christ's body in the Eucharist emerged in continental Europe. Great saints like St Norbert and St Anthony and others defended the belief in the Real Presence. The desire for a *specific* Feast began with St Juliana (1192-1258), a nun of Liège, Belgium, who had a strong devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, and who longed for a Feast in honour of the Eucharist. She was led to petition for this and in AD 1264, a bull of Pope Urban IV commanded universal observance of the Feast. Subsequently, at the Council of Vienne in 1311, Pope Clement V made Corpus Christi an obligatory Feast for Roman Catholics. By the 14th century, the Feast was universally celebrated in the West.

St Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) is given credit for many of the customs and hymns associated with Corpus Christi, including *Tantum Ergo* and *O Salutaris Hostia*, sung at Adoration or Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Why we have a Corpus Christi Procession

During the later ***Middle Ages (*5th Century -15th Century)** Processions developed, and were splendid pageants of devotion and honour to the Blessed Sacrament. Processions of great splendour are still held in some countries. When Pope John Paul II declared the *"Year of the Eucharist"* (**October 2004 through October 2005**) he urged all Catholics to participate in a procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi. Here are some points about the meaning and purpose of the Procession:

- It is a **Profession of Faith**, a public statement of belief that **Christ is truly present in the Eucharist** (Transubstantiation)
- It demonstrates our belief in the **power** of the Blessed Sacrament and its **centrality** to our Faith
- Through it we **pay homage** to Our Lord
- It goes above and beyond the walls of the Church. Christ is taken out into the streets of our town: it is a **public witness**.
- It is a symbol of the truth that Christ became flesh and **accompanies us** on the journey of life. *Walk with me O my Lord ...through the darkest night and brightest day*

The Teaching on Transubstantiation

The belief that Christ is **truly present** in the Eucharist goes back to the earliest Church. Medieval Christians, feeling the need for a clear explanation of this belief, turned to the philosophical language of Aristotle to help explain how the **bread and wine** of the Eucharist were not just *symbols* of Jesus presence but were the **real presence of His body and blood**. They combined two Latin words, “**trans**” meaning “*across*” and “**substantia**” meaning “*substance*” or “*essence*”. Thus, the characteristics/form (taste, texture, shape etc.) of the bread and wine remain, but the substance - the underlying matter of the bread and wine - is transformed into Christ's body and blood.

This belief in the true presence of Christ comes directly from the unequivocal teaching of Jesus that we must eat His body and blood: ***‘I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life ... For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him ... so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.’*** (There will be a simple Corpus Christi Procession at each of the weekend Masses to honour the Feast)

The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that the Eucharist is “*the source and summit of the Christian life... The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch*” (1324)

Images: Taken from Bishops Conference Flickr page: *Adoremus - Procession of the Blessed Sacrament through Liverpool 2018*
Credit: Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk



MASS TIMES WEEK COMMENCING 22 JUNE 2025 – YEAR C			CORPUS CHRISTI - YEAR C
Masses at St Peter's Church are also LIVE STREAMED via YouTube: https://youtube.com/@stpeterschurchscarborough			
SATURDAY VIGIL	21	5.30pm	St Edward's (short adoration after Holy Communion)
SUNDAY CORPUS CHRISTI	22	9.30am	St Peter's (Polish)
		9.30am	St Joseph's (short Adoration after Holy Communion)
		11.30am	St Peter's (short Adoration after Holy Communion)
Monday	23	10am	St Joseph's <i>St Etheldreda</i>
Tuesday	24	5.30pm	St Edward's <i>NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST</i>
Wednesday	25	10am	St Peter's
Thursday	26	10am	St Joseph's
Friday	27	10am	St Peter's <i>FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS</i>
Saturday	28	10am	St Peter's <i>Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>
MASS IN THE SYRO-MALABAR RITE celebrated monthly 9.30am on 4th Sunday of month at St Edward's Church			
CONFESSIONS: Normal times Sat: 10.30-11am at St Peter's & 5-5.20pm at St Edward's; Sun: 9-9.20am at St Joseph's; & by request			
ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT weekdays 9.30 - 10am at St Peter's, 1 hour before Mass at St Joseph's, 5pm St Edward's			
CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (Children only) St Peter's 1st Sunday monthly; St Joseph's Sundays, weekly			
HOLY FATHER'S JUNE PRAYER INTENTION: That the <i>world might grow in compassion: that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.</i>			
RECENT DEAD: Margaret Bennet, Karl Krüger. ANNIV'S: Frances Cranston, Mo Swales; MASS ATTENDANCE: St Edward's 82; St Joseph's 172; St Peter's 206; Polish 80 (est); Total 540; OFFERINGS: Loose plate: £707; Gift Aid Envelopes: £297; Av. Standing Orders: £740 (av.); Contactless £85; Polish: £30; Total £1,859; ONLINE GIVING Parish bank account: Barclays Bank Account No: 50003417, Sort Code: 20-56-90, Account name: Diocese of Middlesbrough. Include a reference. Sign up to Gift Aid your offerings if you can. OR donate online at https://donate.mydona.com/st-peters-church-scarborough OR use the QR code (see left). 300 CLUB WEEKLY WINNER: £25 No. 123; £10 No.74. £1 p/wk to join for 2 numbers.			



DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER this Sunday for those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights.

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI is this **Sunday 22 June**. See front of the newsletter. Short time of Adoration after Holy Communion

EACH SUNDAY after 9.30am & 11.30am Masses there is opportunity to get together with other parishioners over a cuppa. Do join us.

ST PETER'S SCHOOL GOVERNORS MEETING 2pm on Tuesday 24 June in the school.

ST AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL GOVERNORS MEETING 2pm on Wednesday 25 June in the school.

FEAST OF SACRED HEART OF JESUS is this **Friday 27 June**. *Litany of the Sacred Heart* recited after morning Mass at St Peter's.

INSTRUCTION FOR CONVERTS (RCIA) 11.30am to 12.30pm Sat 28 June in the office at St Peter's Church (back of car park). 4 people have expressed an interest in becoming a Catholic. Anyone else is welcome. We cover a theme each week about our faith.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING AND GOING FORTH for all the First Holy Communion children **11.30am on Sunday 29 June**. Congratulations to the 10 children (2nd cohort) who received First Holy Communion for the first time on Saturday 21st at St Joseph's.

51ST ANNUAL POSTGATE RALLY in honour of Blessed Nicholas Postgate, Priest of the Moors: **6 July** at St Hedda, Egton Bridge. Hymns 2:30pm, Mass 3pm, celebrated by Mgr Gerard Robinson VG. Preacher, Canon David Grant. Own transport. Take lunch.

JOSEPH'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY PARISH DINNER 6.30 for 7pm on Friday 1 August at North Cliff Golf Club. £25pp payable when placing order. Add names to the list to help indicate approximate numbers, and collect a menu order sheet from back of church. Those wishing to sit together, make a note on your order (max 8 per table). Deadline for returning menus and payments **Sunday 13 July**.

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL Fri 22 to Mon 25 August at Ampleforth College for 16–35-year-olds from across the UK. Exploring faith, social time, daily Mass, 24/7 Adoration and more! Register at: youth2000.org/events/summerfestival2025

JUBILEE OF HOPE 2025 PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM It is hoped to take a coach from Scarborough parishes and area to the ancient shrine of Our Lady, weekend of **6/7 September** (overnight stay). But first we need to know the level of interest. The approximate cost would be £120pp. Add names to list at back of church (no commitment at this stage).

CANONISATION OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS Pope Leo XIV has announced that Bld Carlo Acutis will be canonised together with Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati on **7 September** (originally scheduled for **27 April** by the late Pope Francis). Carlo was known for his devotion to the Eucharist, and for creating a website dedicated to cataloguing each reported Eucharistic miracle in the world, before succumbing to leukaemia, aged just fifteen. The exhibition of his Eucharistic Miracles was hosted by our Scarborough Parishes in 2019.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO ROME for the Jubilee Year led by Bishop Draine: **6 October for 5 nights**. More info and to book, go to <https://joewalshtours.co.uk/private-groups/middlesbroughpilgrimage-to-rome/>

ARCHBISHOP OF LIVERPOOL On 27 May, John Sherrington was installed as Metropolitan Archbishop of Liverpool, his seat being the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King. A metropolitan archdiocese is the **chief archdiocese within a regional, ecclesiastical province**. Middlesbrough diocese falls within the regional province of the archdiocese of Liverpool, which also includes dioceses of Liverpool (inc. Isle of Man), Lancaster, Leeds, Hallam, and Hexham & Newcastle. While the archbishop oversees the geographical area of the archdiocese, ordinary governance and administration of dioceses remain the responsibility of the local bishop. We keep Archbishop John Sherrington in prayer as he serves his Archdiocese and the wider Northern Province as our Metropolitan Archbishop.

LOURDES WATER available at St Peter's. It was brought back by Ann and James Seegoolam from Lourdes. Free to take some home

SECOND COLLECTION last weekend raised **£267** for the Church's **Day for Life Fund**. Thank you.

PHOTOS of recent events, inc. Confirmation, First Holy Communion and Enrolment of new Altar Servers on parish website/Facebook

PARISH SECRETARY is on leave this coming week. All queries to Fr Gubbins.

SUNDAY SMILE I spend a lot of time thinking about the hereafter: I go into a room to get something & I wonder what I'm here after!