

FAITH AND COMMITMENT by Fr. Josaphat C. Ezenwa

Life is full of decisions, some decisions are more important than others' The decision highlighted in today's Liturgy is the most important decision that anybody could possibly make. Joshua got his people to make a fresh commitment to serve God - Jesus foretold a greater miracle of giving his own body and blood to men to be the supernatural food that would sustain their spiritual life and energy during their earthly journey. Some of his followers left him after hearing this while the inner circle of his disciples remained.

We made our first commitment at Baptism to serve God in the church through Jesus Christ. Through faith we believe that Jesus is the bread of life. We receive the Eucharist often at Mass and we say **Amen** to **'The Body of Christ.'** The **Amen** we say is an affirmation that the Bread we are receiving is really the Body of Christ. We say this sometimes as a matter of course and at other times with great devotion and conviction. Faith however has its dark moments in which sometimes it seems that God is absent in our lives. This sort of 'low' also happens in married life and the Religious life. Some great mystics refer to this as **'the dark night of faith'**. Wives and husbands are encouraged to grow always in love and forgiveness as they witness to Christ in their lives.

To avoid becoming lackadaisical in our every day life-style we should ask ourselves from time to time **"How committed am I in my priesthood, in my religious life and in my marriage? How committed am I to Jesus when his teaching appears too idealistic to be practised and too risky to be put into action? How often do I pray quietly to the Lord to support me as I plod on?"** If we are open and sincere we will discover that there are moments when our faith is challenged and some times some storm threatens to destroy us. During those moments we should endeavour to carry on quietly with confidence always focusing our attention on Jesus the Bread of Life.

SOUTHWARK PRAYER FOR THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Loving God, help us to be open to the freshness of your Spirit. Fill us with enthusiasm for the Good News. Invite us into a deeper relationship with your Son, Jesus Christ, truly present in the Eucharist. Make us more aware of where there is need for new life. Help us to reach out to those who feel lost or abandoned, those who are searching and questioning, those who have walked away from you and those who are eager to know your love. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

Note: Please take time to look at the lovely Adoremus display on the large board inside the church. Many thanks to those involved.

ROSARY INTENTION

For the harvest, the fruits of human work and for the reverent use of creation.

21st SUNDAY
Year B Psalter Week 1
PARISH MASS BOOK
Readings: from page 123
Preface: from page 68

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY 26th 21st Sunday Yr B, Ps Wk 1

7.00 pm Confessions in Polish

7.30 pm Mass in Polish

MSZA SWIETA 19.30

OUTREACH St John's Seminary Fund

The principal work of Womersley Seminary is the formation of students for the priesthood in the dioceses of Southern England and Wales. Currently there are about 30 students, aged between their early twenties and sixties, from nine dioceses. Please support this outreach as generously as possible.

MONDAY 27th Bank Holiday - Mass at 10am only then Church shut for the day

TUESDAY 28th St Augustine of Hippo
Noon Tuesday Lunch Group Hall

WEDNESDAY 29th St John the Baptist

**THURSDAY 30th Sts Margaret Clitherow,
Anne Line and Margaret Ward**

SATURDAY 1st September

5.30 pm Special Parish Mass followed by refreshments in Hall

SUNDAY 2nd September 22nd Yr B Wk 2

OUTREACH Kerala, join with the Capuchin mission for flood relief. By this time you may have already heard of the catastrophic rainfall and flooding in Kerala causing unprecedented damage to the land and the people in it. Death toll is about 370 and over a million have found refuge in relief camps. Prevention of health hazards and rehabilitation are the mammoth tasks ahead now. The Capuchins in Kerala (Fr Lixon's community) have opened 28 friaries as relief camps and the friars are now active in organising camps and cleaning the affected areas. This work will need to continue for some time and reconstruction to follow. Your prayers and financial help will support the people of Kerala where Capuchins are involved in the relief work.

OFFERTORY

Offertory £1,652.68

Outreach No 1 Showfields £477.82

Mitapeep £31.50

Thank you for your generosity



24 Hour Vigil in support of Adoremus, National Eucharistic Congress St Augustine's Church, 7th/8th September 2018

Please join us as we pray in support of the Adoremus Congress which will be focusing on the centrality of the Eucharist in our life. There will be prayers, readings and silent and communal support for the Congress, each other and the wider church.

We might not all be able to travel to Liverpool, but we can take part in this vigil

Sign up sheets are in narthex to volunteer for adoration of the blessed sacrament during the 24 hour vigil. We **need** parishioners to volunteer to be actively involved even for just one hour throughout the entire 24 hours.

Readers require during 24 Hour Vigil

If you would like to be a Reader during the 24 Hours, please email Mervyn Julio mervynjay1@gmail.com

******* SPECIAL PARISH MASS *******

Saturday 1st September at 5.30pm

We are proud to be an international church and we shall be celebrating the fact that St. Augustine's is a truly Catholic and Universal Church at this Mass. It is hoped that as many people as possible will make this their choice for Sunday Mass.

As usual afterwards, everyone is invited into the hall for refreshments. If you could bring a 'finger' dish representing your nationality this would be appreciated.

Could you help set up/decorate the hall on the Saturday afternoon before Mass and help during the party?

DIOCESAN DAY FOR CATECHISTS

Saturday 22nd September from 10:30am

All Catechists are invited to attend the day at St George's Cathedral. Please contact the office if you are interested. <https://tinyurl.com/ybcvvn2t>