

11th June 2020

Hello friends today is Corpus Christi (Thanksgiving for the institution of the Eucharist). It's a Feast Day that is normally very well observed by Christians around the world. A time when we stop to give thanks to God for the great gift that is The Mass, The Eucharist, Holy Communion, The Lord's Supper, to give it some of the titles it's been known by over the years.

But this year, whilst we would still want to give thanks, the mood is a little different. The vast majority of Christians throughout the world have been denied the opportunity to share in this holy gift because of the C-19 pandemic. Participation in the Eucharist is central to the life of the Church, particularly one like ours, which is of the Anglo-catholic tradition. Many of our services are Eucharistic in nature, although we do enjoy other kinds of worship! It is, however, the gift that Jesus left his disciples at the last supper, as a means of remembering him. "Do this in remembrance of me" Jesus tells them and at that time it would have been at most meals.

There are different schools of thought about sharing the Eucharist. One holds that it should only be shared on a few occasions in the year (Christmas, Easter) because it is so holy. The other (to which we lean) that we are in such need of the strengthening presence of Jesus through the Eucharist that we ought to receive the bread and wine daily. Neither of these is right or wrong, they just express a difference of view about the way we approach the Sacrament.

I would imagine that there is a strong sense of loss for many people as we continue to make communion in a spiritual sense whilst not being able to physically receive the consecrated bread and wine. It may be that this has given some an opportunity to rediscover the real value of the Eucharist in their lives, as the saying goes "You don't know what you've got till it's gone".

Perhaps when we are able to return to Church for our regular services we may be a little more aware of just how fortunate we are to be able to meet regularly, to share the Eucharist together and to worship as the family of God.

Tom

And finally... What do you get when you don't pay the exorcist for his work?

Repossessed !!!!

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