

ST ETHELBERTS CHURCH, LEOMINSTER
& ST JOSEPH'S, BROMYARD

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Millar

Telephone: 01568 612238

Email: leominster@rcadc.org

7th June 2020: Feast of the Most Holy Trinity

We have reached that time of year when we celebrate a series of major feasts and this Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity. On this Feast we are reminded that the One Eternal God has revealed himself to us a Trinity of Persons, Father Son and Holy Spirit. No matter how hard we try to understand the Trinity we are left with the fact that the mystery of innermost life of God is something way beyond our human understanding.

I remember celebrating Mass on Trinity Sunday some years ago and after the Mass a parishioner came to me, thanked me for my homily and said: 'now I understand the Trinity' - I wish I could remember what I said!

Although we may not be able to comprehend what we might call the inner life of God, we can say that our knowledge the triune God has been made possible by God himself who has of who has revealed Himself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As Father, God has brought forth the created universe, including our own being. As Son, Jesus has made known a God who hears our cries, who cares for us, and who loves us so passionately that He became one of us in order to suffer for our sins, and even to die for us. As Spirit, God remains with us and within us.

Glory be to the Father,
Who by His almighty power and love created me,
making me in the image and likeness of God.

Glory be to the Son,
Who by His Precious Blood delivered me from sin,
and opened for me the gates of heaven.

Glory be to the Holy Spirit,
Who has sanctified me in the sacrament of Baptism,
and continues to sanctify me
by the graces I receive daily from His bounty.

Glory be to the Three adorable Persons of the Holy Trinity,
now and forever.

Amen.

When will our Churches be open?

I'm afraid we still do not have an answer to this question and nothing can happen until we receive explicit permission from the government, and also permission for each individual church from the Bishop. Furthermore, the situation is slightly complicated by the fact that, although we are in England, the Archdiocese is working with the Welsh Government who are on a slightly different path to the English Government.

This week we have received a rather long list of conditions with which we must comply before we will be given permission to reopen either of our churches and in the first instance this will be just

reopening for private prayer, not for the celebration of public Mass. Because both of our churches are small we may not be able to fulfil all these conditions but I am being optimistic and hope that we will be able to allow about 4 people/family units into the church at any one time.

If our churches are allowed to reopen we will need a bank of stewards to guide visitors and to ensure social distancing is observed. We will also need volunteers to clean the church according to the strict guidelines. If you can help in either of these areas please let me know by email - leominster@rcadc.org Sadly, offers to steward or clean cannot be accepted from those who have reached 70 years of age or have health issues. In the meantime, I will try to obtain the necessary PPE materials, which is an added expense to parish funds, and also complete the risk assessment questionnaire in the hope that we will receive the necessary permission from the Archdiocese.

Masses for this week

Although we cannot gather to celebrate the Mass, I will continue to pray for you all as I celebrate a private Mass each day at 12 noon. The mass intentions for this week are:

Sunday	Most Holy Trinity	People of our parishes
Monday		Holy Souls
Tuesday	St Ephrem	Catherine Stockford
Wednesday		Private Intention
Thursday	St Barnabas	Harrison Family
Friday		Sick of the Parish
Saturday	St Anthony of Padua	Holy Souls

Pope Francis: Catechesis on Prayer

Each Wednesday Pope Francis holds a general audience during which he gives a catechesis or reflection. A few weeks ago he began a series of catechesis on prayer which some may find helpful as prayer is something that many of us struggle with at times. The latest reflection titled 'the prayer of Abraham' is now available on the Vatican website.

http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/audiences/2020/documents/papa-francesco_20200527_udienza-generale.html



The Year of the Word - Bible Journaling

St. Jerome, St. Paula and St. Eustochium painstakingly wrote out the Scriptures, translating them from the original languages into Latin. Whilst most of us won't be working on a new translation of the Bible, you may find Bible journaling a helpful alternative to engage deeply with Scripture. The following

is a link to an article by the Bible Society on journaling.

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/bible-articles/12-ways-to-kickstart-your-bible-journaling-habit/>