

Fisher House Newsletter

Sunday 10 June 2012 – Corpus Christi



Day	Time	Other Information
Sunday	10 June 9:00am 11:00am	Corpus Christi Sung Latin Mass – Fr Alban Sung English Mass – Fr Alban
Monday	11 June 12:15pm	St Barnabas Mass in Chapel
Tuesday	12 June 1:05pm	Mass in Chapel
Wednesday	13 June 12:30pm 1:05pm	St Anthony of Padua Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass
Thursday	14 June 1:05pm	Mass
Friday	15 June 1:05pm	Sacred Heart of Jesus Mass
Saturday	16 June 1:05pm 6:00pm	Mass Said English Mass – Fr Alban
Sunday	17 June 9:00am 11:00am	Leavers' Sunday Sung Latin Mass - Fr Alban Sung English Mass – Fr Alban

TODAY 10 June

**GRADUATE SOCIETY PUB LUNCH (INSTEAD OF PUNTING, DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER)
MEET IN THE FISHER ROOM AFTER THE 11.00AM MASS.**

Monday 11 June

12.15pm: Mass followed by lunch.

Tuesday 12 June

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch.

Wednesday 13 June

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch.

ANNUAL FISHER DINNER

ROBINSON COLLEGE

Speaker: Abbot Christopher Jamison OSB
Drinks 6.45pm on dining hall terrace.

Cost: £32.50 drinking, £27.50 non-drinking. Dress: Black Tie.
Tickets on sale for the last time after all Masses today

Thursday 14 June

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch.

Friday 15 June

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch.

Saturday 16 June

1.05pm: Mass followed by lunch.

Next Sunday 17 June

LEAVERS' BARBECUE

AFTER THE 11.00AM MASS ON THE ROOF GARDEN,
OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY.
ENTRY £2.50

VON HÜGEL INSTITUTE CONFERENCE

The Big Society and Catholic Social Thought
25-26th June at St Edmund's
Details on narthex noticeboard

INVOCATION 2012

3rd National Discernment Conference for Young People 18-35

Oscott College, 6-8 July

Info and booking online: www.invocation.org.uk
Cf noticeboard for details. If enough would like to go, Sr Ann will lead a group from Fisher House. Please see Sr Ann for further information.

QUIDENHAM WEEKENDS FOR YOUNG WOMEN

If you would like to spend a weekend at the Carmelite Convent, Quidenham, in Norfolk, 29 June – 1 July, please contact the Prioress, Sr Shelagh on prioress@quidenhamcarmel.org.uk

For your diary

FISHER HOUSE GARDEN PARTY

**Monday 18 June, 3.00pm at
The Margaret Beaufort Institute, Grange Road
Pimms, strawberries,
music & games
Entry: £5**

**THIS IS THE LAST NEWSLETTER OF
THE YEAR**

WE RECEIVE THE BODY OF CHRIST SO THAT WE MIGHT BECOME THE BODY OF CHRIST

You see on God's altar bread and a cup. That is what the evidence of your eyes tells you but your faith requires you to believe that the bread is the body of Christ, and the cup the blood of Christ. In these few words we say perhaps all that faith requires. Yet faith does crave understanding; so you may now say to me: "You have told us what we have to believe, but explain it so that we can understand it."

These things, my brothers and sisters, are called sacraments, because our eyes see in them one thing, and our understanding another. Our eyes see a material reality; our understanding perceives its spiritual effect. If you want to know what the body of Christ is, you must listen to what the apostle Paul tells the faithful: "Now you are the body of Christ, and individually you are members of it."

If that is so, it is the sacrament of yourselves that is placed on the Lord's table, and it is the sacrament of yourselves that you are receiving. You reply "Amen" to what you are, and thereby agree that such you are. You hear the words "The body of Christ" and you reply "Amen". Be, then, a member of Christ's body, so that your "Amen" may accord with the truth.

Yes, but why all this in bread? Here let us not advance any ideas of our own, but listen again to what the Apostle says when speaking of this sacrament: "Because there is one loaf, we, though we are many, form one body." Let your mind assimilate that statement and be glad, for there you will find unity, truth, devotion and love. Bear in mind that bread is not made of a single grain, but of many. Be, then, what you see, and receive what you are.

So much for what Paul says about the bread. As for the cup, what we have to believe is equally clear, though Paul does not mention it expressly. Just as Scripture describes the unity of the faithful in the words: "There were of one mind and heart in God," so the image of the wine functions in the same way as that of the kneading of many grains into one visible loaf. Think how wine is made. Many grapes hang on the vine in clusters, but their juice flows together into an indivisible liquid once they are crushed. It was in these images that Christ our Lord signified to us that we should belong to him, when he hallowed the sacrament of peace and unity on his table.

ST ANTHONY OF PADUA 1195-1231 FEAST DAY THIS WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE

St Anthony of Padua's canonisation, eleven months after his death in 1231, was the fastest in history. He was Portuguese by birth but joined the Franciscans in Assisi in 1221. He was the first official theologian of the Order, appointed in 1224 by St Francis himself. In the still extant letter in Padua written to St Anthony by Francis, he says: "Brother Francis sends greetings to Brother Anthony. I am pleased that you are reading sacred theology to the brethren, as long as you do not extinguish the spirit of prayer and devotion with study."

Anthony isn't a typical doctor of the Church: he didn't leave any ponderous theological treatises or great works of doctrine. His writings are extensive, but they are collections of model sermons based on the liturgical year. They weren't exercises in speculative theology but eminently practical sermons, full of amazing imagery and allegory, appealing particularly to the imagination of his hearers. Thousands attended his open-air preaching and his visits to various cities were renowned for bringing feuds to an end and for changing the hard drinking, hard gambling and even more colourful behaviour of the male citizens in particular.

He was especially hard on petty tyrants, ecclesiastical as well as secular; but he was always known, then as now, as a friend of the poor. He rapidly became known as Wonder Worker and is still the saint to pray to for finding important things we've lost, including our innocence. If you promise him money for the poor in return for a favour, he will never let the poor down: but you have to keep your side of the bargain by being as generous to the poor as he was.

Just as one of the legends about St Francis is that he preached to the birds, so it's said of St Anthony that on one occasion, while he was preaching on the sea shore at Rimini, the fish stuck their heads out of the water to listen to him.

But at the heart of all his preaching is the person of Christ, poor and humble, offering his love and peace to all. Anthony speaks of the preacher as fashioning a chariot on which the faithful can be carried upwards to heaven. But he says that, above all else, preachers should be "voices of joy".