



ST ELIZABETH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH SCARISBRICK

*A Mission of the Douai Abbey Parishes Trust
(Registered Charity № 1063237)
Within the Archdiocese of Liverpool*

*Parish Priest:
Fr Hugh Somerville Knapman OSB*

9 JUNE 2024 SUNDAY 10 (B) *per annum*

Saturday, 8/6	Mass – 5.30pm <i>Confessions 5.00pm</i>	† Brenda Cowie
Sunday, 9/6	Mass – 9.30am	† Audrey Mitchell
Wednesday, 12/6	Mass – 9.30am	† Special Intention (JC)
Friday, 14/6	Mass – 9.30am	† Holy Souls (JC)
Saturday, 15/6 <i>2nd Collection: Day for Life</i>	Mass – 5.30pm <i>Confessions 5.00pm</i>	Private intention (JC)
Sunday, 16/6 <i>2nd Collection: Day for Life</i>	Mass – 9.30am <i>Morning Tea after Mass</i>	† John & Rebecca Ann Brown
Wednesday, 19/6	Mass – 9.30am	<i>NB Fr Hugh may need to be at Douai</i>
Friday, 21/6	Mass – 9.30am	† Maureen Dobson

From the Pastor's Desk



LAST FRIDAY WAS THE feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This is the final big post-Pentecost feast day, and now we resume the normal course of the unhappily-named 'Ordinary' Time (in Latin it is rendered more elegantly as *[tempus] per annum*).

The Sacred Heart of Jesus was a devotion that grew from mystics' revelations in the later middle ages but really took off after the Reformation when the Jesuits propagated it. In this baroque period the devotion took on some baroque colouring, with some rather vivid, often confronting, imagery. In the nineteenth century the imagery became more sentimental and sugary. These developments are not always ideal but they do show the influence and depth of the devotion over a long period of time.

The devotion began out of a particular focus on the humanity of Christ, at a period in history when the Lord's divinity often totally overshadowed his humanity. God the Father may have a metaphorical heart, but Jesus Christ also had a real, human heart. It was in his human heart, united to his divine person, that divine love purified and perfected human love. Christ's love for humanity is both perfect divine love and perfect human love. Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is, at heart (pardon the pun), about the Christian aspiration and struggle to love both God and neighbour as Jesus did.

The three main symbols associated with the Sacred Heart of Jesus are fire, thorns, and its representation outside the chest of Jesus (he is sometimes shown holding it in his hand). **Fire** represents the fire of perfect love that consumes the dross of sin and the ice of hatred—"I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already" (Luke 12:49). **Thorns** represent the suffering Jesus endured for us and for our salvation, his broken heart healing our own wounded hearts, and the thorns remind us that our sufferings can have a healing, holy effect if we allow them to, with God's grace—"Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple cloak, and Pilate said to the people, "Behold, the man!" (John 19:5). Jesus' **externalised** heart, not merely 'worn on his sleeve' but even held out to us to touch, is a sign of the vulnerability that Jesus took upon himself out of love for both God and for humanity, a vulnerability that ultimately triumphs over everything, and abides with us to strengthen us in our own vulnerability—"This is my body, which will be given for you" (Luke 22:19).

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus—*have mercy on us!*

Fr Hugh

The infirm and others needing prayer

Terry Turner, Sue Carver, Tess and Eric Mills, Jean Olverson, Paddy Mott, Joe Ackers, Anne Bradfield-Kay, Andrew, C & J, Robert, Sue, a parish family in distress, *and all in need of grace.*

June anniversaries (within the last 10 years) — *May they rest in peace.*

Hannah Cain, John Halsall, Pam Bialeck, David Forshaw, Bernadette Caddick, Elizabeth Elliot, Justin Hunter, John Brown, Josephine Darragh

***Day by Day* Subscribers**

Both the June **and July** editions of *Day by Day* are at the back of church for those who have signed up for them. These seem still not be going; if they do not go the parish subscription will be cancelled.

The Douai Magazine* and *The Pic

Free copies of the latest editions of both are available at the back of church.

Gardening help urgently wanted

One of our parishioners, Corrine, is now less mobile than before, and is in real need of someone to help by cutting the grass and doing a little tidying in her garden. She is happy to pay for this. If you do not have a lawnmower etc, you can use the parish's gardening equipment. If you are able to help her out please let Fr Hugh know—she will be very grateful as it will be a huge help to her.

***The Visitation* restored & returned**

The marvellous Italian print of a Renaissance painting of the Visitation of Our Lady to St Elizabeth has been re-glazed with reflection-reducing glass and a new backing added, thanks to the generosity of Derek and Barbara Murphy. It has resumed its place above the votive candles.

Lectionary Donation

An anonymous donation towards the cost of the 4 volumes of the new lectionary that will be introduced in November has been received—thank you.

Morning Tea

Summer morning teas after Sunday Mass will return from next Sunday, 16 June. If you would like to help by offering some bites to eat or serving teas and coffees please see Derek & Barbara Murphy. It is, of course, weather permitting!

Upcoming events

In the church porch you will find posters for various upcoming events, including: the Eucharistic Pilgrimage to the cathedral in September; the Deanery novena of Masses for the feast of the Holy Cross; the bishops' guidance for the general election; a presentation on Aid to the Church in Need at Parbold next week; and the early-August New Dawn pilgrimage to Walsingham and a relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis, a holy youth of the internet age who has recently been cleared to be canonised as a saint when the Pope sees fit to do so.

Sunday Collection: 1/2 June: £674.12, including £415.30 Gift Aided
(25/26 May: £421.57, including £180 Gift Aided)

Need to get in touch?

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