

# The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ — 7th June 2026

St Benedict's Parish Newsletter Stratton-on-the-Fosse (find us on Facebook)

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## Sunday Masses

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>St Benedict's</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Abbey Church</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>St Benedict's</b>

**Corpus Christi** Akin to the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, today's celebration is a festival of wonder, inviting us to contemplate the reality of what we believe and practise throughout the year (almost unthinkingly!) Some of the deepest mysteries of our faith are accessible to mere children, and there are many who will be making their First Communion today. First Communion day in our parish (July 5<sup>th</sup> this year) is still a month ahead, and the names of the children who are preparing for this day are printed below so we can pray for them. 'For what we receive may we be truly thankful': the gift is priceless because it unites us in faith, as well as in other virtues, so we can more deeply enjoy the Christian vision of what life is all about

**Bread from Heaven** The Saviour has been given to us as food: it is a food that truly restores and nourishes, satisfies to the highest degree not the body, but the heart; not the flesh, but the spirit; not the viscera, but the soul. Man was in need of spiritual nourishment, and the merciful Saviour provided, with pious attention, the nourishment of the soul with the best and noblest delicacy – *Pope Urban IV (1264)*

**Downside Abbey Festival 16-19 July.** There will be a series of concerts by artists including David Bednall and the Bristol Brass Consort, the Choir of St Mary's, Wimbledon and the Tenebrae Associate Artists. The highlight of the four-day festival will be a 'Come and Sing', directed by Sir John Rutter – full details and information to book tickets is available on the website [Downside Abbey Festival 2026 | Downside Abbey](https://www.downsideabbey.co.uk/festival2026)

**St. Benedict's Catholic Church is now on Facebook.** To find out about events, mass & other service times & Catholic news here is the link <https://www.facebook.com/share/18BDPVFu7m/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

**Parish Safeguarding— Parish Representative** – Hettie McDermott is the Parish safeguarding representative and she can be contacted on [mcdermotthj@outlook.com](mailto:mcdermotthj@outlook.com)

## Weekday Masses

Tuesday 9th June — Week 10 in OT	9.30am	Holy Ghost
Thursday 11th June — St Barnabas, Apostle Rosary	6.30pm 7.00pm	St Benedict's
Friday 12th June -The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus	9.30am <b>6.30pm</b>	Holy Ghost <b>St Benedict's</b>
Saturday 13th June —St Anthony of Padua	9.30am	St Benedict's

**11th July Parish Outing/Pilgrimage Belmont Abbey**— We will leave St Benedict's church at 9.30am and will return approximately 7.45pm. There is a planned stop at Tintern Abbey at 11.00am. Please **bring a packed lunch** which we will have in the grounds at Belmont. We will join Belmont Parish for Mass at 4pm and aim to leave Belmont at 5.30pm. **Bookings will be taken on the weekends of 13/14th and 20/21st June.** Envelopes will be available for payment and both cheque and cash is accepted (payable to Trustees Downside Mission Trust). You will need to provide contact details and add your name to the list advising the number of places you have paid for. **Seats are £20 per person and can only be booked on payment**

**Sacred Heart** There will be an extra Mass in St Benedict's at 6.30 this Friday (June 12<sup>th</sup>), Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The month of June – often thought of as Sacred Heart Month – begins and ends with feasts of Martyrs for whom Jesus Christ was and is first of all. Remember all the holy martyrs of English and Wales!

**Saints' Days** The third Saturday after Pentecost is widely observed as the Memorial day for the Immaculate Heart of Mary and so we shall be celebrating a Mass of Our Lady, as is usual on a Saturday in St Benedict's. June 13<sup>th</sup> (the same Saturday) may also be kept as the Memorial of St Anthony of Padua: these are 'optional Memorials' and parishioners are free to ask – a month or so in advance please! – for optional Memorial celebrations of Saints and other holy days where these are indicated in the Benedictine calendar. (The tabula at the head of this page indicates days and weeks so we can follow the weekday cycle of readings, while the prayers of the Mass can be made with the particular Saint – of choice – fully in mind)

**First Holy Communion** Classes resume today (after half-term) and will continue weekly, during the first half of Sunday Mass in St Benedict's, until First Holy Communion day – **Sunday July 5<sup>th</sup>** this year. Please keep all of the children in your prayers: Nikolas Asquith, Dara Breddy, Wilfrith Carter, Jeanna Galera, Rowan Goldstrom, Namaali Liedong, Alfred Medlicott, Samantha Medrana & Sairose Ryan (please let Fr Martin know if any names are missing or incorrect)

**First reading—Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a**

**‘He fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know.’**

Moses spoke to the people: You shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

Do not forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the flinty rock, who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know.

**Responsorial Psalm—Ps 147: 12-13. 14-15. 19-20. R12a**  
***O Jerusalem, glorify the LORD!***

O Jerusalem, glorify the LORD!

O Sion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates;  
he has blessed your children within you.

He established peace on your borders;  
he gives you your fill of finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth,  
and swiftly runs his command.

He reveals his word to Jacob;  
to Israel, his decrees and judgements.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his judgements.

**Second reading—1 Corinthians 10:16-17**

**‘Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body.’**

Brothers and Sisters: The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

**Memorial Acclamation**

**When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again**

*The shorter form of the sequence*

\*Angels’ bread made pilgrims’ feeding  
truly bread for children’s eating,  
to dogs not to be offered.

\*Signed by Isaac on the altar,  
by the lamb and paschal supper,  
and in the manna figured.

\*Jesu, food and feeder of us,  
here with mercy feed and friend us,  
then grant in heaven felicity.

\*Lord of all, who here do feed us,  
heav’nly guests, heirs, fellows make us,  
in eternal company.

Amen. Alleluia.

*St Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), translated by St Robert Southwell (c.1561-1595)*

**Gospel Acclamation—John 6:51**

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.

If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever.

Alleluia.

**Gospel—John 6:51-58**

**‘My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.’**

At that time: Jesus said to the Jews, ‘I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.’

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’

So Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live for ever.’

**Prayer Corner** O Sacred Heart of Jesus, pour down Thy blessings abundantly upon Thy Church, upon the Supreme Pontiff, and upon all the clergy; give perseverance to the just, convert sinners, enlighten unbelievers, bless our parents, friends and benefactors, help the dying, free the souls from Purgatory, and extend over all hearts the sweet empire of Thy love. Amen.