



# Catholic Parish of King's Lynn

## Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation

London Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE30 5HQ

## Holy Family Church

Field Lane, Gaywood, King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE30 4AY

## DEACON SHAUN MORRISON'S WEEKLY BULLETIN

Sunday, May 14, 2023

Dear Friends,

Today is the **Sixth Sunday of Easter**.

*"Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him'"*

The YouTube link for the livestream for the 11.30am Mass from Our Lady's is:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/E33DmXoiPX0?feature=share>

### From the Office of Readings:

#### A reading from the commentary of St Cyril of Alexandria on the second letter to the Corinthians

*God has reconciled us through Christ and conferred upon us the ministry of reconciliation*

Those who have a sure hope, guaranteed by the Spirit, that they will rise again lay hold of what lies in the future as though it were already present. They say: "Outward appearances will no longer be our standard in judging other men. Our lives are all controlled by the Spirit now, and are not confined to this physical world that is subject to corruption. The light of the Only-begotten has shone on us, and we have been transformed into the Word, the source of all life. While sin was still our master, the bonds of death had a firm hold on us, but now that the righteousness of Christ has found a place in our hearts we have freed ourselves from our former condition of corruptibility."

This means that none of us lives in the flesh any more, at least not in so far as living in the flesh means being subject to the weaknesses of the flesh, which include corruptibility. *Once we thought of Christ as being in the flesh, but we do not do so any longer*, says Saint Paul. By this he meant that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us; he suffered death in the flesh in order to give all men life. It was in this flesh that we knew him before, but we do so no longer. Even though he remains in the flesh, since he came to life again on the third day and is now with his Father in heaven, we know that he has passed beyond the life of the flesh; for *having died once, he will never die again, death has no power over him any more. His death was a death to sin, which he died once for all; his life is life with God.*

Since Christ has in this way become the source of life for us, we who follow in his footsteps must not think of ourselves as

living in the flesh any longer, but as having passed beyond it. Saint Paul's saying is absolutely true that *when anyone is in Christ he becomes a completely different person: his old life is over and a new life has begun*. We have been justified by our faith in Christ and the power of the curse has been broken. Christ's coming to life again for our sake has put an end to the sovereignty of death. We have come to know the true God and to worship him in spirit and in truth, through the Son, our mediator, who sends down upon the world the Father's blessings.

And so Saint Paul shows deep insight when he says: *This is all God's doing: it is he who has reconciled us to himself through Christ*. For the mystery of the incarnation and the renewal it accomplished could not have taken place without the Father's will. Through Christ we have gained access to the Father, for as Christ himself says, no one comes to the Father except through him. *This is all God's doing*, then. *It is he who has reconciled us to himself through Christ, and who has given us the ministry of reconciliation.*

### Responsory

- ℟. We exult in God through our Lord Jesus,\* through whom we have now been granted reconciliation, alleluia.
- ℣. In him the complete being of God, by God's own choice, came to dwell. God chose to reconcile the whole universe to himself through him,\* through whom we have now been granted reconciliation, alleluia.

Thursday this week (18th May) is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. **A Holy day of Obligation.**

**Mass is at 9.30am at Holy Family Church & 7.30pm at Our Lady's Church.**

### From the Office of Readings:

#### A reading from the sermons of St Augustine

*No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven*

Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: *If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that*

are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth. For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.

Christ is now exalted above the heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: *Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?* and when he said: *I was hungry and you gave me food.*

Why do we on earth not strive to find rest with him in heaven even now, through the faith, hope and love that unites us to him? While in heaven he is also with us; and we while on earth are with him. He is here with us by his divinity, his power and his love. We cannot be in heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love.

He did not leave heaven when he came down to us; nor did he withdraw from us when he went up again into heaven. The fact that he was in heaven even while he was on earth is borne out by his own statement: *No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.*

These words are explained by our oneness with Christ, for he is our head and we are his body. No one ascended into heaven except Christ because we also are Christ: he is the Son of Man by his union with us, and we by our union with him are the sons of God. So the Apostle says: *Just as the human body, which has many members, is a unity, because all the different members make one body, so is it also with Christ.* He too has many members, but one body.

Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace. Thus, no one but Christ descended and no one but Christ ascended; not because there is no distinction between the head and the body, but because the body as a unity cannot be separated from the head.

### Responsory

- ℟. After his passion Jesus appeared to his disciples over a period of forty days and taught them about the kingdom of God,\* and while they looked on he was lifted up and a cloud took him from their sight, alleluia.
- ℣. While he was in their company he told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised,\* and while they looked on he was lifted up and a cloud took him from their sight, alleluia.

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The link to our YouTube channel is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8V030I7usRZiKoTlrwBAKq>

And the link to our Parish Website:

<http://www.catholicparish-kingslynn.org.uk/>

God bless

**Shaun**

**Deacon Shaun Morrison**



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