



Ordinariate and Parish Church

MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD

a Catholic Parish in the Archdiocese of Southwark
in the Pastoral Care of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

25th August 2024



In the gospel reading today, we hear that Christ has the words of eternal life. Christ lives in his Church and in loving it we love him. Our faith deals with the person of Christ. He has the words of eternal life and there is no one else to whom we want to go. We show our love for him in our service of loyalty to the Church.

Holiday time! Vacation or stay-cation, be sure to go to Sunday Mass whilst you are on holiday; and tell the priest that you belong to MPB - he will have heard of us!

Holiday Mass - pick up the newsletter from the Church were you go for Sunday Mass whilst away - any language will be fine.

Bless your holiday accommodation whilst away; ask God's blessing on your return journey to keep you and your family safe; and thank him for a safe return.

Daily Mass at MPB resumes next week from 1st September. Why not make an effort to be at Mass, daily?

What are your thoughts on our summer Mass schedule. It goes very quiet in the city even on Sundays! We'll have a review during September for next year.

Congratulation to Bertrand and Daphne who were married here last Friday. Keep them in your prayers.

Fr Michael Cooley, known to many from when he was parish priest at OL of La Salette, sadly died on Monday last week. Please keep him in your prayers.

The sick and housebound are prayed for regularly and listed on this sheet. Please help keep it up-to-date. GDPR means we cannot print surnames, so it gets confusing.

The Sharing of the Peace is now well and truly restored. Please be mindful of those who still prefer to use a wave, a nod or a smile as a non tactile *sign* of peace.

Sides-people at MPB welcome folk to Mass, hand out Mass sheets, take the collection, organise the offering of the gifts (bread and wine) and help maintain an orderly queue for Holy Communion. Would you like to be a sides- person?

Do you read this on-line or the printed version? The photocopier is over ten years old and we are told parts are no longer available, so are advised to think about a replacement. The quote is £4,876. Would anyone like to buy this for the parish?

Sing up! Taking full part at Mass especially with music is a great community builder and sets the tone for worship. If you don't know the hymns or Mass setting would you like to arrive early, say 10.30 for a masterclass and familiarisation? *He who sings well, prays twice.*

Take the Mass sheet home. Re-read the readings, learn the hymns. Pass it to a friend.

The front garden has been weeded and tidied! Thank you to the temporary gardener, and to Judy who used to take care of the plants. Would anyone like to take this on?



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thursday is the martyrdom of St John the Baptist, the Precursor of Jesus. In the Roman Calendar, he is the only saint whose birth and death, through martyrdom, are celebrated on the same day. His role in relation to Jesus stands out clearly in the Gospels. St Luke in particular recounts his birth, his life in the wilderness and his preaching, while St Mark tells us of his dramatic death. John the Baptist began his preaching under the Emperor Tiberius in about 27-28 A.D., and the unambiguous invitation he addressed to the people, who flocked to listen to him, was to prepare the way to welcome the Lord, to straighten the crooked paths of their lives through a radical conversion of heart.

However, John the Baptist did not limit himself to teaching repentance or conversion. Instead, in recognising Jesus as the “Lamb of God” who came to take away the sin of the world, he had the profound humility to hold up Jesus as the One sent by God, drawing back so that he might take the lead, and be heard and followed. As his last act the Baptist witnessed with his blood to faithfulness to God’s commandments, without giving in or withdrawing, carrying out his mission to the very end. In the 9th century the Venerable Bede says in one of his Homilies: “St John gave his life for [Christ]. He was not ordered to deny Jesus Christ, but was ordered to keep silent about the truth”

And he did not keep silent about the truth and thus died for Christ who is the Truth. Precisely for love of the truth he did not stoop to compromises and did not fear to address strong words to anyone who had strayed from God’s path.

The entire existence of the Forerunner of Jesus was nourished by his relationship with God, particularly the period he spent in desert regions. The desert regions are places of temptation but also where man acquires a sense of his own poverty because once deprived of material support and security, he understands that the only steadfast reference point is God himself. John the Baptist, however, is not only a man of prayer, in permanent contact with God, but also a guide in this relationship. The Evangelist Luke, recalling the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, the Our Father, notes that the request was formulated by the disciples in these words: “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his own disciples”.

Dear brothers and sisters, celebrating the martyrdom of St John the Baptist reminds us too, Christians of this time, that with love for Christ, for his words and for the Truth, we cannot stoop to compromises. The Truth is Truth; there are no compromises. Christian life demands, so to speak, the “martyrdom” of daily fidelity to the Gospel, the courage, that is, to let Christ grow within us and let him be the One who guides our thought and our actions. However, this can happen in our life only if we have a solid relationship with God. Prayer is not time wasted, it does not take away time from our activities, even apostolic activities, but exactly the opposite is true: only if we are able to have a faithful, constant and trusting life of prayer will God himself give us the ability and strength to live happily and serenely, to surmount difficulties and to witness courageously to him. St John the Baptist, intercede for us, that we may be ever able to preserve the primacy of God in our life. Thank you.

Pope Benedict XVI
29 Aug 2012



March for Life UK

Saturday 7th September
LONDON

SPREAD THE WORD

2024 THEME

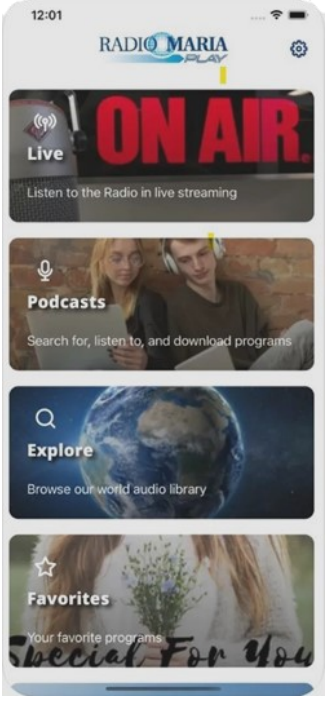
Abortion isn't Healthcare



If we restore Adoration at MPB, will you come?



Sky Chanel 589
or Google:
'EWTN live'



12:01

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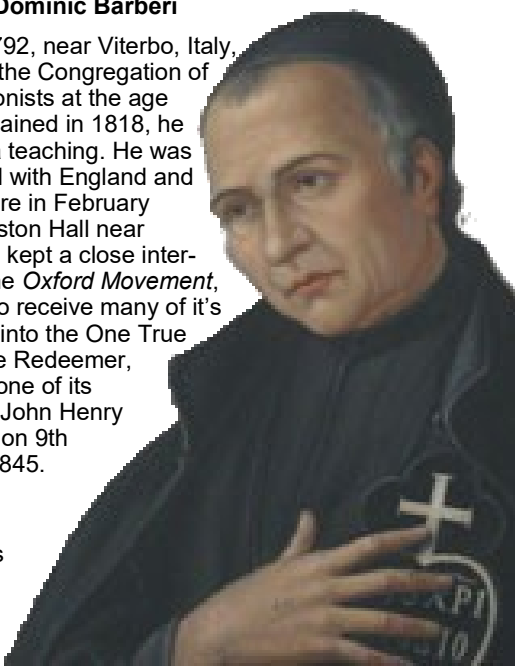
Your favorite programs

Special For You

Blessed Dominic Barberi

Born in 1792, near Viterbo, Italy, he joined the Congregation of the Passionists at the age of 18. Ordained in 1818, he followed a teaching. He was fascinated with England and arrived here in February 1842 at Aston Hall near Stone. He kept a close interest with the *Oxford Movement*, and was to receive many of its members into the One True Fold of the Redeemer, including one of its founders, John Henry Newman, on 9th October 1845.

Blessed Dominic's memory is kept tomorrow.



This Week: Mass & intentions

Day	Time	Intention
This Sunday 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	09.30 11.00	Paul Gibbons <i>priest</i> ✠ d.2002 Parishioners
<i>Mon 26th (Bl Dominic Baberi)</i>		
<i>Tue 27th St Monica</i>		
<i>Wed 28th St Augustine</i>		
<i>Thurs 29th Passion of St John the Baptist</i>		
<i>Fri 30th (St Margaret Clitherow et al)</i>		
<i>Sat 31st (St Aidan)</i>		
Next Sunday 22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	09.30 11.00	Amarantha and family Parishioners

Next Week's Readings Deuteronomy 4:1-2.6-8 James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8.14-23

Sacrament of Confession. *by appointment in August*

† **Mass in the Ordinariate Use** of the Roman Rite

Last week: **£941.75** (*cash £77.76; card £144.00; standing orders £720*); **Thank you!**

Safeguarding. The parish is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Safeguarding Officers: Richard Hughes, Justina Onuorah. 03330 509296

Holy Father's Intention for August 2024: For political leaders

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

For your prayers:

In priestly formation: Br Philip OP (Jeff Gerlomes)

Peace: In Ukraine, in the Holy Land, Syria

Those who are Sick: Mary, Monica, Chi Chi, Anne Marie, Rita, Chris, Richard, Hermon, Amaogechi

Recently Departed: Philip Dyson *priest*, Michael Cooley *priest*

Find us on: *Facebook:* "preciousbloodSE1"

YouTube: [youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge](https://www.youtube.com/preciousbloodlondonbridge)

Fr Christopher Pearson *OLW Parish Priest*

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