

PRAYING THE MASS

STARTING THIS WEEK

Deacon John's eight-week course, in which all the prayer group will be involved, will run across September and October 2021. There will be eight sessions, each one offered twice, on **THURSDAYS at 745pm** (after the Evening Mass) and on **FRIDAYS at 1245** (after the noon Mass). No session will last longer than **ONE HOUR**. There will be a break in the last week of September when Deacon John is away. The purpose of the course is to explore the prayers, biblical songs and readings we use every time we come to Mass. The aim is to deepen our awareness of the great mystery of the Eucharist and what it means to say that Christ is truly present with us, as he promised. As well as some exegesis, or explanation of the history and meaning of the texts, there will be time for prayer and quiet reflection and (for those who wish) sharing. The programme will be as follows

2/ 3 September The history and shape of the liturgy of the Mass going right back to the beginning

9/10 September From the opening procession to the homily

16/17 September The Creed and the Bidding Prayers

23/24 September From the bringing up of the gifts to the Holy Holy Lord God of Hosts

[30 Sept/1 Oct Break]

7/ 8 October Eucharistic Prayers 2 and 3 (the ones we most commonly use)

14/15 October Eucharistic Prayer 1 ('The Roman Canon')

21/22 October The Communion Rite (from the 'Our Father' to receiving communion)

28/29 October The concluding rites, including 'the dismissal' and final overview.

Since the same material will be provided on both the Thursday evening and Friday lunchtime, do feel free to swap between them as your schedule permits.

The meetings will be in the Bar or the Hall, depending on numbers. Those with rumbling tummies can bring something with them to eat on a Friday lunchtime.

Do feel free to bring friends and anyone who is not usually a member of our church family.