Renagh Parish Rews 11 June 2023

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Fr Michael Geraghty

Weekend Masses: Lituray of the Word with

Holy Communion | Saturday 10am Saturday Vigil Mass | 6.15pm Sunday 8am | 12 noon | 6pm Weekday Masses

**Mass Times** 

St Mary of the Rosary

8am | 11am Adoration | Weekdays 5-7pm Confessions | Sat after Liturgy Parish Radio: 106.2FM St John the Baptist, Tyone

Saturday | 7.30pm Sunday | 10.30am

(Text courtesy of Galway Cathedral)



# The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

St Juliana of Liège (1193-1258)

Juliana and her twin sister Agnes were born in the village of Retinnes near Liège Belgium in 1193 in the Prince Bishopric of Liège. This was an autonomous state of the Holy Roman Empire, governed by a bishop who was also a prince. The sisters were orphaned at the age of five and placed in a newly-founded hospice at Mount-Cornillon, right outside Liège. It seems to have been a double monastery, with both canons and canonesses living in their own wings. They were placed initially in a small farm near the canonry. Juliana entered the order at the age of thirteen and worked for many years in the leprosarium. It is probable that Agnes died as there is no further mention of her in the archives. Juliana must have had a very good education for she read the writings of St Augustine and St Bernard in Latin.

Juliana always had a great devotion to the Eucharist (as did many of the women of Liège) and longed for a special feast day in its honour. When she was sixteen she had her first vision. This was of the full moon in its splendour crossed diametrically by a dark stripe. God gradually helped her to interpret the moon as the life of the church and the darkness the lack of a feast in honour of the Body and Blood of Christ. For a long time she confided this only to Blessed Eve, whose cell adjoined hers, and to a few trusted sisters. She was unable to act any further on her vision. This is illustrated on the historiated initial letter (an enlarged letter containing a picture at the beginning of a paragraph or part of a text) of her Vita as it appears in Paris, Bibliotheque de l'Arsenal

Around 1225, she was elected prioress of the double canonry and spoke about her visions to her confessor, Canon John of Lausanne, who was a secular canon of the collegiate chapter at St Martin Basilica. He talked to many of his eminent contacts which included a bishop, a Dominican prior and the Archdeacon of Liège, Jacques Pantaleon of Troyes, who later became Pope Urban IV. They agreed that there was nothing to prevent such a feast being established and to endorse its institution. Juliana, working with Canon John composed the initial version of the first office, Animarum cibus. This can be seen in the composite manuscript The Hague, National

Library of the Netherlands (KB70. E. 4) In 1246 Bishop Robert of Liège instituted the first feast of Christ's Body and Blood for his own diocese. He died the same year and never saw it completed, though it was celebrated by the canons of St Martin.

Juliana suffered much as a consequence of political rivalries and demands for new rights among the citizens. She reestablished strict Augustinian rules when she became prioress. In 1240 the canonry and leprosorium came under the supervision of a corrupt man called Roger, who had used very underhand means to gain his position. He disliked Juliana and her reproaches and incited the citizens against her, accusing her of stealing the hospital funds. She was forced to flee to her friend Dame Eve and then obtained shelter in Canon John's house. She was vindicated with the help of Bishop Robert but when he died in 1227 Roger was reinstated under the new bishop. Juliana had to flee, going to various places before settling in the Cistercian Abbey of Salzinnes with the help of Abbess Imene, sister of the Archbishop of Cologne. Her final destination was Fosses la Ville in the county of Namur where she lived in seclusion till her death in 1258.

In 1261 the Archdeacon of Liège, Pantaleon, became Pope Urban IV. He instituted the Solemnity of Corpus Christi on the Thursday after Pentecost as a feast for the entire Latin Church, and commissioned his chief theologian Thomas Aquinas to write a new office. His approach differed from that of Juliana and John as his emphasis was more on the priest as celebrant, the representative of Christ the eternal High Priest. Juliana on the other hand saw it as a community festival, with the faithful gathered in church, proclaiming their communion with one another. In modern thinking on the Eucharist both saints would be correct but it was Thomas Aguinas' office that was accepted. However the subsequent popularity of Corpus Christ processions meant that Juliana's concept of a community festival did in fact happen. The feast was not widely celebrated until 1317 during the pontificate of John XXII.

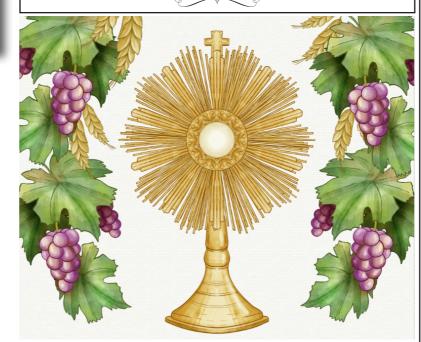
Juliana of Liège was a shy person, although very determined to pursue the things she believed in. For a medieval woman she was very talented, not only being well read and conversant with Latin but able to compose an office and set it to music. She deserves to be better known, like Hildegard of Bingen and Hilda of Whitby. The main source of her life is the Vita, written by an unknown author, claiming to be commissioned by John of Lausanne and produced probably between the years of 1261 and 1264. He claims he is translating a fragmentary French source through a religious person close to Juliana, possibly Blessed Eve. Its emphasis is on her importance in being the means of the Feast of Corpus Christi being established rather than on promoting her cult as a saint. A critical edition of the Vita was published in French by the Belgian scholar Jean-Pierre Delville, Bishop of Liège.

## This Week We Offer A Special Prayer For... ...safe travel this summer



O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: preserve those who travel; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



As we celebrate this great feast of faith, let us worship what St. Thomas Aquinas did not hesitate to call, "the greatest miracle that Christ ever worked on earth ..... My Body ......

My Blood". Before the greatness of this mystery, let us exclaim with St. Augustine, "O Sacrament of devotion! O Sign of unity! O Bond of charity!" Let us also repeat St. Thomas Aguinas' prayer of devotion in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament: "O Sacrament most holy! O Sacrament Divine! All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine!"

#### Thank You!

Ciara and Mary wish to thank everyone who donated so generously to their fundraising for Special Olympics World Games over the past few months. We are delighted to say we have exceeded our target.

**Silver Arch** is delighted to offer two opportunities to all men over 18 in our communities to celebrate Men's Health Week; Monday 12th June from 2pm to 4pm there will be a Free Arts Workshop for men to come and enjoy creating some easy and relaxing pieces. On Thursday 15th June there is a wonderful opportunity for men to come and get their health screened - this screening is usually €80 per person, but Silver Arch FRC are offering this at a subsidised low rate of €10 per person. Please book your places for both these at reception by calling 067-31800.

## **Life Lessons**

At Sunday Mass during his homily, the priest looked down and noticed a niddle-aged man who he had not seen at Mass before, sitting in the front rov of the church. He thought to himself, I must introduce myself to this chap at the end of the service. When Mass was over he hurriedly moved to the back

door in an effort to catch the attention of the man as he was leaving. The priest moved towards the man and introduced himself. "I'm sorry, I don't know your name. Is it your intention to attend church on a regular basis?" "Oh no father," the man said, "I'm the local bus driver and wanted to see how you manage to get the parishioners to sit up the back!"

## Those We Remember | Sat 10 - Sun 18 June

St Mary of the Rosary

Sat 10th 6.15pm Mindaugas Svanas (MM) Sun 11th 12noon Michael Burke (MM)

Margaret (Peg) McLoughlin (MM) & her husband Willie (A) Malachy Quigley (A) & family

Nora Ryan (A) John Slattery (A)

Frank & Mona Tipping (As)

Sun 11th 6.pm Shay Spain (MM) Mon 12th 8am Eddie Murphy (A) Mon 12th 11am

Deceased members of the Quigley

& O'Brien families

Patrick Darcy & Hilda Archer (As)

Wed 14th 11am Tony Liddane (A) Thurs 15th 8am PJ McCarthy (A)

Thurs 15th 11am Arthur & Una McCarthy (As) & their

son Seamus

Sat 17th 6.15pm Tim Maher (MM)

Michael McCarthy (MM)

Sun 18th 12noon John Shoer & his father Jimmy Shoer

Denis Butler (A) James White (A)

Una & Paddy Rohan (A) Bert Ward (A)

Sun 18th 6pm Neil Keating (1st A)

Joseph McLoughlin (A) St John the Baptist

Sat 10th 7.30pm Patrick Sheehan (A) & his son Eamon

Sheehan

Sun 11th 10.30am Sadie Looby (A)

Sat 17th 7.30pm Paul White (A) & deceased family

Uliana Leahu (A)

**Our Faithful Departed** 

Kelly Ann Foran May She Rest In Peace. Amen.

## Readers | 17-18 June 2023

6.15pm Joan McCarthy 7.30pm Patricia Finn 8am Margaret Grace 10.30am **Donal Mackey** 12noon Mary Slattery Martin O'Brien Readers: Missal Page 518

## NOTIGE BOARD

Weekly Collection €3,068

Thank you as always for your generosity.

Pharmacy on Duty Kelly's Parish Office Opening Hours Mon-Fri | 9am-5pm

## **Graveyard Masses**

**Tyone Graveyard** Wed June 14th @ 7.30pm Mon June 19th @ 7.30pm Lisbonev Gravevards St John's Well Mass Fri June 23rd @ 8.30pm Kenyon/Barrack Street Graveyard Wed June 28th @ 8pm

## **Blood Donation Clinic**

Sunday 11th June Abbey Court Hotel 11.15am - 3.10pm

Existing and New Blood Donors Welcome To make an appointment please phone 1800 222 111