Thursday of Lent 1 2021

On this day in 1393 Caius College Chapel was first consecrated.

The God of peace and love remain with us always.

COLLECT
Almighty God,
to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer:
we praise you for the many blessings
you have given to those who worship you here:
and we pray that all who seek you in this place may find you,
and, being filled with the Holy Spirit,
may become a living temple acceptable to you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

Reading   Revelation 21.19-23
The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every jewel; the first was jasper, the second sapphire, the third agate, the fourth emerald, the fifth onyx, the sixth carnelian, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysoprase, the eleventh jacinth, the twelfth amethyst. And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass. And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

GOSPEL   John 10.22-30
It was the feast of the Dedication at Jerusalem; it was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered round him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly.” Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name, they bear witness to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”
Lord in your mercy
Hear our prayer

In trust and faith we pray:
for the Church universal,
of which the chapel building is a visible symbol:

for all who use our chapel, remembering your promise
that when two or three are gathered in your name
you are there in the midst of us:

for ourselves, that we may be still and know that you are God,
our desires and petitions may be fulfilled according to your will:

for this house of prayer as the dwelling of the Holy Spirit,
and for all who receive here the Spirit’s gifts:

for the absolution of our sins here, when we fall short of your glory,

for a foretaste of your eternal kingdom
in the sacrament of the altar,

for the blessing of our vows
and the crowning of our years with your goodness,

for loved ones who have gone before us
and for our benefactors who have died in the peace of Christ,
especially Edmund Gonville, William Bateman, and John Caius:

O God, as living stones you build us into a living temple;
grant that the grace of the Holy Spirit may rest upon us
who have served you here, and upon those who are yet to come;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please let me know if there is anything or anyone you would like included in Chapel prayers.

MAKING AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Take time to be still, silent, at peace; remember going to take communion;
reach out your hands to the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Picture the praying of communion that is still going on around you,
though you cannot be there. Then say:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the sacrament of your body and blood.
I love you above all things; I long to receive you.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there,
and unite myself wholly to you.
Let me never be separated from you. Amen.

POST COMMUNION

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me;
and I give them eternal life. Let us pray:

Father in heaven,
whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace,
an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem:
grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage
that, fed with the living bread of heaven,
and united in the body of your Son,
we may be the temple of your presence,
the place of your glory on earth,
and a sign of your peace in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.