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28th May 2023

DAY OF SPECIAL PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

PENTECOST SUNDAY

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 27 May	5.30 pm	St George's	Elen & Thomas O'Reilly RIP
Sun 28 May	9.30 am	St George's	People of the parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Thomas Callaghan RIP birthday anniversary
	6.00 pm	St George's	For refugees and asylum seekers
Mon 29 May	9.30 am	St George's	Priest's own intention
Tue 30 May	9.30 am	St George's	Sp. Intention, St Anthony
Wed 31 May	9.30 am	St George's	Colum Keenan RIP, 21 st Anniv. and Kath Keenan RIP
Thu 01 June	9.30 am	St George's	Holy Souls and donor's intention GD
Fri 02 June	9.30 am	St George's	For the recently dead of war
Sat 03 June	9.30 pm	St George's	Recently deceased clergy of the diocese
	5.30 pm	St George's	For those suffering in sickness and pain and waiting for operations
Sun 04 June	9.30 am	St George's	People of the Parish
	11.15 am	Holy Spirit	Michael Cunningham RIP, MC & family
	6.00 pm	St George's	For all sufferers with addictions

GOSPEL REFLECTION

We have seen the true Light...have received the heavenly spirit... have found the true faith: we adore the indivisible Trinity, who has saved us' (Byzantine liturgy). Fifty days after the historical event of Jesus' resurrection, another historical event happened which changed the world forever. It was as if witnessing the resurrection first-hand, and touching the risen Lord directly and personally, wasn't enough to change the world. Jesus had promised throughout his ministry that the Holy Spirit would come upon his disciples, empowering them to be witnesses and martyrs for him, and on the day of Pentecost he fulfilled his promise.

But what actually happened at Pentecost? We know the facts, for sure. The apostles and Mary were gathered in the Upper Room when a seismic event occurred. There was a noise like the blowing of a violent wind, which filled the whole house, what seemed like tongues of fire descended on them and they all spoke in other tongues. Those who witnessed this incredible happening asked the right question: "What does this mean?" (Acts 2:12). Others didn't adopt such a reflective point of view but just concluded the apostles had had too much to drink!

This gift of the Holy Spirit 50 days after Jesus' resurrection was an outpouring of God's love. For God is love and love is his first gift containing all others, as Paul so eloquently affirms: 'God's love had been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us' (Rom. 5:5). Pentecost means that God's love, which changes everything, has been poured out. His love lives in us, not outside of us: it lives, breathes and resides within each one of us.

Today we fan the flame of God's love. Today we renew our commitment to love: of our neighbour, our enemy, the gospel and the Church. For surely, if the Church is to be a witness, it must first witness to love. Nothing is more winning, compelling and irresistible than love, which in essence is putting into practice Jesus' teaching in our daily lives.

CANDIDATES FOR 1ST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

Please keep our young people and their families in your prayers as they get ready for these very important Sacraments.

NOTTINGHAM DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE is now full and no further bookings can be made. Apologies to parishioners who have missed out, who wanted to go this year.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGES: Our local pilgrimage to Roodsley in honour of St Ralph Sherwin will take place on Sun. 25th June. We meet at Roodsley at 3 pm.

THE PADEY PILGRIMAGE is on Sunday 9th July in honour of local martyrs Nicholas Garlick, Robert Ludlam and Richard Simpson who were executed at Derby in 1588.

THE WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE in honour of Our Lady is on 17th June.

CONFESSIONS: SATURDAY ONLY: 10:15 – 10:45

ADORATION before the Blessed Sacrament daily before the 9.30 am Mass and then other times as announced.

SAINTS THIS WEEK:

Mon 29th May: Mary Mother of the Church

Wed 31st May: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Thurs 1st June: Our Lord Jesus Christ Eternal High Priest

Fri 2nd June: Saints Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs

Sat 3rd June: Saints Charles Lwanga & Companions,
Martyrs of Uganda

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY

Celebrant:

On this feast of Pentecost, we have gathered together to celebrate the glorious conclusion of the Easter mystery and of the Easter season. We ask that, as Jesus' disciples today, we may be given the strength and the vision to carry on the work of our Redeemer.

Intercessions:

We pray for the Church: may we have the strength and the wisdom to be true and authentic witnesses to Jesus and his Gospel in the circumstances of the world in which we live today.

We pray for all those who have lost their faith or their way in life: may the Christian community offer them hope and a way back.

We remember anyone in our community who is suffering in mind or body at this time.

We present before the Lord those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Celebrant:

God our Father, we present to you these and all the unspoken prayers and intentions of our hearts, confident that you will hear and answer, in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

COME, HOLY SPIRIT

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Acts 2:4

My friend Sara has run a parish women's Bible study for eight years. She doesn't think what she does is a big deal. My friend Colleen has a husband, four adult children, eight grandchildren, a busy day job - and is a daily communicant. She doesn't think what she does is a big deal.

You probably don't think what you're doing in the way you live your faith - day in and day out - is a big deal. But it is. We all proclaim differently - in the words we write or speak, publicly or to an audience of two in the work of our hands, whether it's in creating a masterpiece of art, hugging a grieving friend or assisting at a pregnancy centre. We proclaim in the way God has perfectly suited us to proclaim.

Recognise your gifts, thank God for them and use them as the Spirit directs.

Holy Spirit, show me how to help you set the world ablaze.

Melanie Rigney