

Acts 2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome - Jews and proselytes alike - Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Psalm 103(104):1,24,29-31,34

Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.

Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are,
How many are your works, O Lord!

The earth is full of your riches.

You take back your spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.

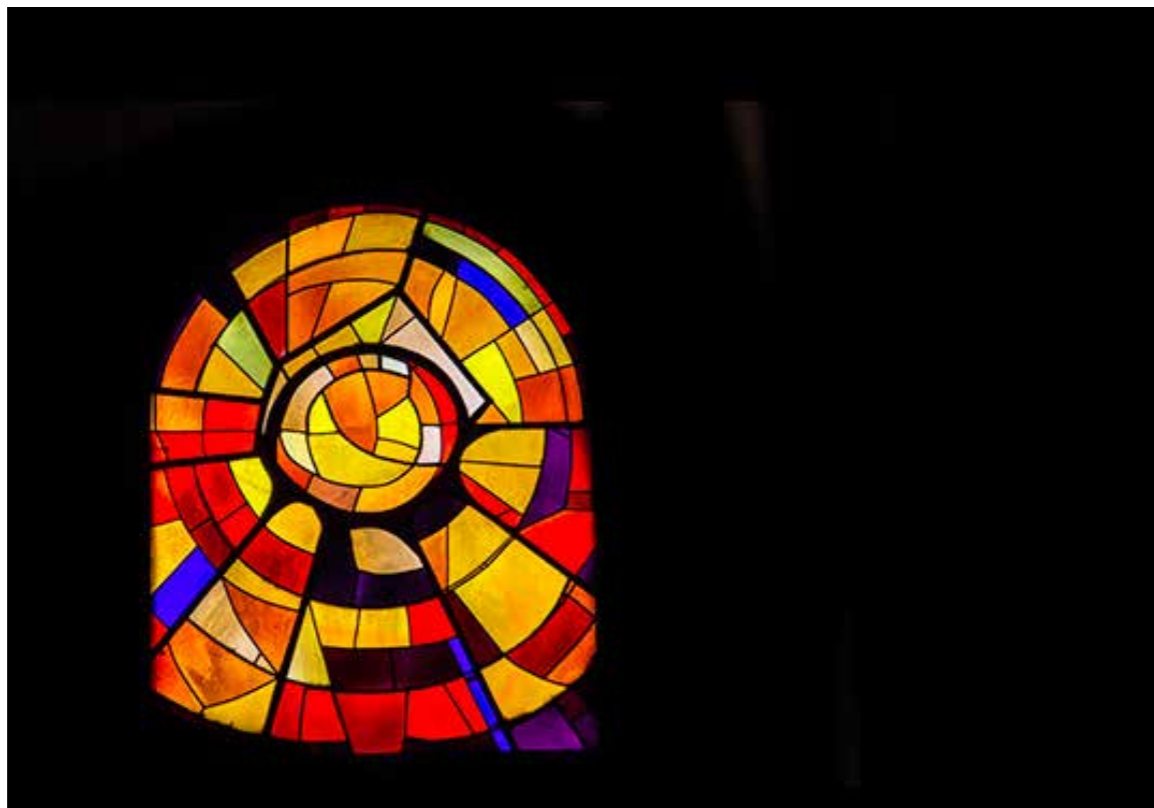
You send forth your spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord last for ever!

May the Lord rejoice in his works!
May my thoughts be pleasing to him.
I find my joy in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.



There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. *Alleluia!*

John 20:19-23

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

The Ordinary of the Mass is found on p200 ff of Laudate.
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Next Week: Trinity Sunday

Scripture readings: Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40 / Psalm 33:4-6, 9, 18-20, 22 / Romans 8:14-17 / Matthew 28:16-20



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Our Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

Living from God's blessing

We too easily forget that everything "depends not on human will or exertion, but on God who shows mercy" (Rom 9:16) and that "he first loved us" (cf. 1 Jn 4:19).

Beware the will that lacks humility

Those who yield to this pelagian or semi-pelagian mindset, even though they speak warmly of God's grace, "ultimately trust only in their own powers and feel superior to others because they observe certain rules or remain intransigently faithful to a particular Catholic style". When some of them tell the weak that all things can be accomplished with God's grace, deep down they tend to give the idea that all things are possible by the human will, as if it were something pure, perfect, all-powerful, to which grace is then added. They fail to realize that "not everyone can do everything", and that in this life human weaknesses are not healed completely and once for all by grace. In every case, as Saint Augustine taught, God commands you to do what you can and to ask for what you cannot, and indeed to pray to him humbly: "Grant what you command, and command what you will".

Ultimately, the lack of a heartfelt and prayerful acknowledgment of our limitations prevents grace from working more effectively within us, for no room is left for bringing about the potential good that is part of a sincere and genuine journey of growth. Grace, precisely because it builds on nature, does not make us superhuman all at once. That kind of thinking would show too much confidence in our own abilities. Underneath our orthodoxy, our attitudes might not correspond to our talk about the need for grace, and in specific situations we can end up putting little trust in it. Unless we can acknowledge our concrete and limited situation, we will not be able to see the real and possible steps that the Lord demands of us at every moment, once we are

Continued on page 3

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful
And kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created
And you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, to whom every heart is open
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the help of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
faithfully serve you,
and worthily praise
your Holy name.

We ask this
through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Masses Pentecost

Su	19	Pentecost (From Monday: 7th Week of Ordinary Time, Psalter Wk 3)	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession For the parish
Su	20		0900 1100 1800	Aidan Redmond RIP (Redmond) Elizabeth Bowen RIP Exposition and Evening Prayer (end of Easter season)
M	21	Mary, Mother of the Church	1000 * 1500	Fr Gabby - health (Wilkinson) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Rosary
T	22		1000 * 1430	Kathleen Leahy (Lawlor) Mass with St Nicholas school - all welcome
W	23		1000 *	Peter Fitzpatrick RIP (Devane)
Th	24	Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest	1000 *	Peggy Roberts - health (Kenny)
F	25	St Bede	1900 *	May Kerins RD (Leese)
S	26	Holy Trinity (From Monday: 8th Week of Ordinary Time, Psalter Wk 4)	1700 1800	Exposition and Sacrament of Confession Terence Devenney RIP (Devenney)
Su	27		0900 1100 1800	For the parish Michael Ward RIP (Ward) Exposition and Evening Prayer (4th Sunday of month)

Morning/Evening Prayer 20 mins before weekday Masses, as indicated above *.
Exposition: & Vespers 2nd & 4th Suns, 6-7pm; **& Benediction** Mon at 3pm

Reconciliation Sat. 1700-1730 (Exposition until 1740) and by arrangement.

Baptism, Matrimony, Anointing of the Sick: by arrangement.

Nourishing prayer at home: livingeucharist.wordpress.com/

Please pray for sick parishioners including Gino Mastroianni, Margaret Stroud, Philip Redmond, Jude Turner, Margaret O'Gorman, Peter & Olwyn Foster, Mary Gavin, Frank Kemp, Brenda Davies; Leah Burke, Tess Carnero, Joan James, Sarah Johnston, Bridie Moffatt, Bernie Morton, Danuta Evans, Michael McDermott - and Fr Gabriel Maguire, our Dean. **Please pray for all who have died** including Percy Bartrop, Eileen Hill, George Eaton, Leslie Stuchbury, Zacariah Rutherford and all whose anniversaries are at this time. **Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may they rest in peace.**

Parish

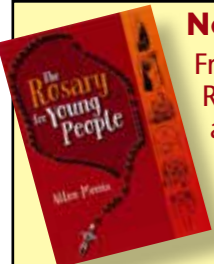
Thank you for your generosity to the collection for the Catholic Communications Network. £234.45 was raised. £32.45 has also been raised for Mary's Meals by donations for teas and coffees after Sunday morning Masses.

Afternoon for Ministers of Holy Communion. Sunday 20 May 4-7pm

Monday Rosary for Vocations. The Rosary group meets each Monday at 3pm to pray for all vocations in the Church. *This week we pray for vocations to the Religious life*

Travelling Solo Next meeting coincides with the parish lunch - Carpenter's Arms, Sunday 10th June after the 11am Mass. All who 'travel alone' - single, the divorced or separated, widows and widowers - are welcome.

New for May 2018
Fr Allen's guide to the Rosary for the young and the young at heart! On sale now in the Repository for £2.50



Parents & children's choir

Parents and children (any age!) are invited to a brief get together after the 6pm Mass on Saturday 16th June to help form a new parents and children's choir, (indeed possibly even three groups, one for each of the Sunday Masses.) To start with their role would be simply to lead the singing of a Communion song once a month. They would join with the existing musicians - where they exist. Children in the choir need to be accompanied by one or more parent/guardian.) At the meeting on 16th June we will look how best to support the group and when would be the most convenient time for a monthly rehearsal.



In Hospital or going there?

Roman Catholic Chaplains are appointed to all of the local hospitals.

Patients, and relatives of patients, are urged to make sure that Catholic patients admitted to hospital are registered as Roman Catholic on admission. If they wish to be visited by the Catholic Chaplain, they should ask the ward nurse to arrange this.

Data protection legislation means that unless this is done your details will not be passed to the Chaplain.

If you wish to be visited by Fr Allen as well as the hospital chaplain then please let him know. It is very helpful if you can give details of the ward the patient is on.

Many people find it helpful to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick when they experience serious ill health. If you would like to receive the Sacrament, please let Fr Allen know.

Preparation for Baptism of Infants.

The next preparation programme begins Sat 23 June from 11-12noon, in the Benedict Room. Pl see Fr Allen before hand and complete an application form.

Do you drive to church on Sunday morning? If so - and if you can - please

use the school car park, accessible at the end of Wakefield Close, the next turning on the right, away from Boldmere Road. This keeps the church car park is kept relatively free for those who most need to use it.

Refreshments in Benedict Room after Sunday 9 and 10am Masses (also after



Parish Lunch... All are invited to a shared parish lunch in the Carpenters Arms on Sunday 10th June, directly after the 11am Mass.

...with Children's National/Fancy Dress parade with prizes, including Best Costume in age groups Under 4; Under 6; Under 10.

The parish will provide drinks, but parishioners are all invited to bring a plate of food to share. (NB Please bring plenty to share! Families might like to cooperate and, for example, bring a particular course)

It would be lovely if at this celebration we were able to taste something of the national or regional foods associated with the various areas and nations from which our community comes. It would be good, too, to have live or recorded music for the celebration - again regional and national flavours would be especially welcome.

Thank you to those who have already volunteered to help. We could do with another 4 or 5 to look after the set-up. There is a sheet for those ready to volunteer to sign up in the porch.

For the sick and those who care for them

A simple and brief monthly service of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with prayer for the sick and for carers, and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Followed by light lunch.

11am on First Fridays. Next service is June 1st

Parish Book Clubs.

1. The next book for the **Monday evening Book Club** is the novel *The Cellist of Sarejovo* by Steven Galloway. Read the book and come to parish house at 8pm on Mon 18 June for glass of wine and a chat.
2. The first meeting of the new **Wednesday morning Book Club** will meet for coffee and cake and chat after the 10am Mass on Wednesday 13 June. The first book up for discussion is Cardinal Nichol's new book: *Faith finding a voice*.

Parish Scripture Study Groups

These groups are open to all parishioners and friends. No expertise in Scripture required, just an interest...

1. The next session of the **Wednesday Scripture and Cake group** will look at the Old Testament book of the Prophet of Hosea.: Weds 6 June at 7pm. Pl read through the book and consider what it says about love and relationships between human beings and human beings and God.
2. First meeting of the new **Scripture and Soup Monday afternoon group** is on Mon 21 May from 1.30-2.30pm. We will read Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. Please have a read through the letter in advance, and we will start our meeting with a look at the background to the Letter and its abiding relevance for us.

Pray with Pope Francis

The Pope's prayer intention for May is that the lay faithful may fulfil their specific mission, by responding with creativity to the challenges that face the world today.

To find the Pope's other current prayer intentions please visit <http://www.apostleshipofprayer.org/>



10am Mass on Tuesdays). All welcome.

Readers trip to London on 30th May. Joining instructions etc available in porch.

Diocese

Residential and Respite Care St Joseph's Home, Coleshill, offers residential care in a Catholic setting to older people and those living with dementia. Respite available for those who could benefit from a short stay. If you or someone you know might benefit from the care offered at St Joseph's, please call 01675 434500 for an informal chat or to arrange a visit.

Other

Adoremus, the Eucharistic Congress. You can still buy a ticket for *Adoremus*. Taking place in Liverpool from 7-9 September, tickets are £40 per day for Friday and Saturday, with seminars and speakers including Bishop Robert Barron and Cardinal Vincent Nichols. To find out more and to book a place visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/adoremus.

Lecture. Prof Gilfredo Marengo of the St. John Paul II Institute in Rome on *Humanae Vitae* 50 Years On. Maryvale Institute, 19 May at 7.30pm

Sacred Heart Novena & Pilgrimage to Shrine of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at Maryvale Institute. Thurs 31 May - 8

Continued from page 1

attracted and empowered by his gift. Grace acts in history; ordinarily it takes hold of us and transforms us progressively. If we reject this historical and progressive reality, we can actually refuse and block grace, even as we extol it by our words.

When God speaks to Abraham, he tells him: "I am God Almighty, walk before me, and be blameless" (Gen 17:1). In order to be blameless, as he would have us, we need to live humbly in his presence, cloaked in his glory; we need to walk in union with him, recognizing his constant love in our lives. We need to lose our fear before that presence which can only be for our good. God is the

June: Sermon and Novena each evening at 8pm; Confession 7-7.45 pm. Sunday 10 June, 3.00 pm Mass and Blessed Sacrament Procession.

A Lifeline for Marriages Is your marriage stressed, unloving, cold? Do you want to improve your communication? Have you separated, divorced, or are you thinking of doing so? Do you want to try

Father who gave us life and loves us greatly. Once we accept him, and stop trying to live our lives without him, the anguish of loneliness will disappear (cf. Ps 139:23-24). In this way we will know the pleasing and perfect will of the Lord (cf. Rom 12:1-2) and allow him to mould us like a potter (cf. Is 29:16). So often we say that God dwells in us, but it is better to say that we dwell in him, that he enables us to dwell in his light and love. He is our temple; we ask to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our life (cf. Ps 27:4). "For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere" (Ps 84:10). In him is our holiness.

Pope Francis *Gaudete et Exsultate*, cf 47-51

again? The Retrouvaille programme may be just what you need! More info from 0788 729 6983 or www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Maryvale scholarship for BD course for academic year 2018-19. Details from undergrad@maryvale.ac.uk

Prayer and Praise for Pentecost. Prayer at Oscott College SUNDAY 20 May, at 8pm. All are welcome.



Please pray for the people of Ireland as they prepare for the Referendum on Abortion on May 25th.
Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will guide the people of Ireland with wisdom and courage in the forthcoming referendum. In all circumstances may they show love and care for children and their mothers.
For more information visit: <http://www.chooselife2018.ie>

A Future for All...



Implementing the Christian imperative to care for our World

ECO CHURCH
A NA ROCHA UK PROJECT

Saturday 14th July 10.00am - 4.00pm
Priory Rooms, Bull Street, Birmingham, B4 6AF

An ecumenical day of worship, speakers, workshops and conversations.
We'll be learning from each other and discovering action we can take: individually and together.
Register at: centralenglandquakers.org.uk/futureforall

Organised by
Birmingham Anglican Climate Action Group
Central England Quakers Low Carbon Commitment Forum



A Future for All...

Saturday 14th July 10.00am - 4.00pm
Priory Rooms, Bull Street, Birmingham, B4 6AF

Speakers

- Bishop David Atkinson** - scientist, theologian and author of "Renewing the Face of the Earth: A theological and pastoral response to climate change"
- Paul Parker** - Britain Yearly Meeting Recording Clerk: Quaker's commitment to becoming a low carbon community and working for climate justice
- Rich Bee** - Engagement Director at A Rocha UK: A Rocha's vision of all churches caring for creation as an integral part of loving their neighbours and following God faithfully.

Workshops (TBC)

- Worship and teaching
- Growing children and youth
- A Rocha UK Eco Church Project
- Buildings issues
- Engaging with politicians
- Fossil fuel divestment
- Interfaith opportunities

Register at: centralenglandquakers.org.uk/futureforall